Greetings Heart of America Rotary Leaders,

The Rotary Red Stick Rendezvous is now a fond memory, and what an incredible time was had by all. Everywhere I travel in Zones 30-31, I hear comments about what a great Institute it was, both in terms of fellowship (who will ever forget the amazing Louisiana Food Fest and dancing in the parking lot) and Rotary content. We asked our DGEs and DGNs to summarize their experiences and DGE Randy Feldman (D6840) spoke eloquently on behalf of the group. His comments appear on page 6, and eloquently sum up the week.

It truly takes a large village to put on an event like this and many, many Rotarians were involved in the planning and execution of the event. I am grateful to all of them. I am especially grateful to the Rotary Club of Baton Rouge and its Executive Director Sherry McBeath. They coordinated the logistics for visitor welcome and transportation, the loan of a color copier/printer for the Institute office, the registration for the Friday all club Luncheon, and the members provided generous financial sponsorship support. Rotarians in District 6200 played key roles in all local arrangements, the beautiful decorations, and the service project for the Greater Baton Rouge Food bank.

The clubs of District 6200 put on the Louisiana Food Fest that showcased the unique culture and cuisine of the area. A special thank you goes to all the participants. We had a record registration of just over 400. Everyone present shared in the fellowship, celebration of achievements, and motivational sessions. “Thank you” to all!

The 2016 Institute will be held in Cincinnati, Ohio, October 13-16 with Pre-Institute Training Seminars October 11-12. It will be a celebration of the 100th anniversary of our Rotary Foundation, of the achievements in polio eradication, and of our Peace Centers and Peace Fellows. (continued on the following page)
Membership is growing in the Heart of America! The end of September data shows our districts have collectively added a net 337 members – 177 in Zone 30 and 160 in Zone 31. This is the best start we’ve had in many years. Congratulations especially to District 6880 in Alabama (DG Michael Chambers) who leads the way in Zone 30 with net 33 new members, and Districts 6150 in Arkansas (DG Paul Ford) and 6200 Louisiana (DG Mike Hayes) in Zone 31 who also show a net gain of 33 members each. See the Membership statistics on page 9 of the newsletter for results from all districts. The gift of Rotary membership changes lives and that’s why it is such a high priority.

Thank you Rotarians in the Heart of America. You are a Gift to the World.

TRAVELS WITH RID KAREN AND RON

I am frequently asked about my travels for Rotary and it has been suggested that I put a brief travel diary in the newsletter as a regular feature. Below is a review of our travels for the first three and a half months of the Rotary year.

There were many weekend meetings in July and August. We attended two Rotary Leadership Seminars (Erlanger, Kentucky and Saint Louis, Missouri), two Rotary Institute planning meetings (Baton Rouge, Louisiana and Cincinnati, Ohio) and a “Train the Trainer” seminar in Nashville, Tennessee.

In September we attended two club Centennial celebrations (Knoxville, Tennessee and Lexington, Kentucky), the Rotary Zones 28-29 Institute in Detroit Michigan and our own Institute in Baton Rouge, Louisiana. The Zones 28-29 Institute was convened by my Board colleague and friend RID Jennifer Jones. Ron and I both served as trainers and presenters there.

October has been an extremely busy month thus far. We spent a couple of days in District 6540 in northern Indiana with DG Roger Sims and his leadership team learning about their excellent projects and plans for 2015-16. As part of that visit we celebrated the 100th anniversary of the Rotary Club of Fort Wayne and I was privileged to participate in the ribbon cutting for their centennial clock tower and served on a panel for a program on the local PBS television station. It was a wonderful two-day celebration culminating with an elegant gala with RIP Ravi Ravindran as the keynote speaker.

The Rotary International Board of Directors and Rotary Foundation Trustees held a very productive two-day meeting in Evanston on October 9-10. Then our Board of Directors met October 12-14 with committee meetings on October 11. It was a very productive week with the Trustees and Directors working together as we look at our future. A summary of Trustee and Board decisions will soon be posted on the RI website and a link to that site is provided in a special box in this newsletter.
On the way to the Board meeting we stopped for a day in District 6560 (central Indiana) and had a very good meeting with DG Mark Blade and his leadership team. While there, we visited the Gleaners Food Bank, which is a partnership of the Rotary Club of Indianapolis and the Feeding America network. We will feature more about that partnership in a future article of the *Heartbeat*.

After leaving the Board meeting we headed south in Illinois to Macomb and the western-themed District 6460 Conference, where we were warmly welcomed by DG Steve Hopper and all of our Rotarian friends there. Ron presented on the Heart 2 Heart program and I talked about the Code of the West *and* its relationship to Rotary. I even got a chance to wear my red cowboy boots!

From Macomb we continued south to Fairview Heights, Illinois, District 6510 and a day at DG Tom Guebert’s Conference. During the conference the Rotarians raised more than $16,000 for PolioPlus using a matching Rotary Foundation Recognition points program.

After a few days at home we head for Director Brad Howard’s Institute in Waikoloa, Hawaii (I can hear the commentary about that now) and a few days of vacation. Brad is putting us to work doing some training, and I am participating on a panel on diversity in Rotary. So it will not be all play!

Our visits to our Heart of America districts have been so rewarding. We are welcomed warmly by the leadership and Rotarians and we are constantly amazed by the innovative ideas and impacts of our Rotary clubs. We learn a great deal during every visit and watch with humble amazement as our Rotary leaders at all levels join together, exchange ideas, and take action.

**END POLIO NOW HIGHLIGHTS – SOME REALLY GOOD NEWS**

- Nigeria was removed from the list of polio-endemic countries on 25 September at the Polio Oversight Board Meeting in New York. Africa is now polio-free!

- Type 2 Polio Certification – In an important step towards a polio-free world, the Global Commission for the Certification of Poliomyelitis Eradication (GCC) has concluded that wild poliovirus type 2 (WPV2) has been eradicated worldwide. There has not been a case of Type 2 since the mid-1990s.

- WPV type 3 not being seen anywhere in the world for nearly three years.

With these developments, the End Polio Now program is seeing exciting strides towards ending polio for good.

Remember that on October 23 there will be a special Livestream event to promote awareness about polio eradication for World Polio Day. It is a great opportunity for clubs and districts to organize events to focus attention on polio eradication and need for continued funding and advocacy. For more information go to page 13.
Coming Attractions

ROTARY INSTITUTE

October 13-16, 2016
ZONES 30 & 31
Cincinnati, Ohio
Hyatt Regency

October 11-13
Governors-elect, Governors-nominee and Spouses/Partners Seminars

October 13
District Governors and Spouses/Partners Seminar

TBA
Emerging Rotary Leaders Seminar

What’s Inside This Issue?

Director’s Message
Director’s Message (continued)
Director’s Message (continued)
Coming Attractions
What’s Inside This Issue?
RI Director Selection 2017-19
DGE Training Review
Red Stick Photos
Red Stick Photos
Membership Stats
Vocational Service/Economic Development
International Assembly for PDGs ???
Presidential Conferences
Celebrate Rotary, Cincinnati Style
World Polio Day
RI Board and TRF Trustee Decisions
Important Dates (PETS)
Important Dates (District Conferences)
Contact Information

1
2
3
4
4
5
6
7
8
9
10
11
11
12
13
13
14
15
16
Gregory F. Yank Selected as RI Director 2017-19

Greg Yank, from the Rotary Club of O’Fallon in District 6510, is the choice of the Zone 31 Nominating Committee for RI Director for 2017-19. He will succeed RI Director Karen Wentz from the Heart of America. If no challenges are received by December 1, 2015, Greg will become the Director-nominee.

An active Rotarian since 1978, Greg has been a member in three different Rotary Clubs – Kirkwood, MO, Muskegon, MI and O’Fallon, IL. He served as President of the O’Fallon, Illinois Rotary club in 1992-93. He has been Governor of District 6510 twice, in 2001-2002 and again in 2010-11. District 6510 is comprised of 48 clubs and 1600 members in Southern Illinois.

He currently is the Regional Membership Plan Project Plan Lead (Membership Chair) for Zones 30 and 31 and the Chair of District 6510’s Club Visioning Initiative. He served as an International Training Leader twice, and Membership Coordinator for Zone 29 and Rotary Institute Chair.

Greg is married to Past District Governor Catherine Taylor Yank. The Yanks are members of the Arch Klumph, Paul Harris and Bequest Societies. Greg was honored to receive the Service Above Self Award in 2014.

The Yanks are avid St. Louis Cardinal Baseball fans. Greg has been a proud Green Bay Packer fan since 1957, and owns one share of the team. Catherine is the owner of Jim Taylor Inc. a roofing contracting company located in Belleville, IL. The Yanks have three grown children, one who works in the family business, and three grandchildren.

Professionally, Greg is a business coach working with seven business owners on a monthly basis. He is the principal in GY Consulting & Facilitation Services, specializing in business coaching, strategy, facilitation, strategic governance and board development/education.

Greg is also actively involved in his community. He is a member of Memorial Hospital’s Foundation board and its investment committee; a Commissioner of the Metro East Parks and Recreation Board; the community facilitator BEST (Building Educational Success Together); the Advisory Board for the Nielsen Healthcare Group in St. Louis, and is a Board Member of the O’Fallon Shiloh Chamber of Commerce and Chairperson of its strategic planning committee.
At the closing session of the Institute, DGE Randy Feldman, D6840 gave the following comments, summarizing the DGE training:

First, I am eternally grateful for the confidence placed in me by my Governor-Elect colleagues in recommending me - while I was out of the room - to give this summary of our training.

Second, to Ed Hardesty and his fellow trainers, let me just say how much we appreciated his teaching technique which is closely akin to forcing us to drink from a fire hose ... while drowning in the Mississippi ... during a category 5 hurricane.

Let’s hear it for Ed and his team.

Now given that, here in principle is what we learned.

We the District Governors-elect of Zones 30 and 31 believe in the heart of Rotary, that is, it is our firm conviction that we can change people’s lives.

We believe that it is not good enough for us to do good, but to do good well, which means that we can prove quantitatively that we have done good.

We believe that it is our responsibility to give clubs the tools to provide services that will allow them to demonstrate to their members, potential members and the community as a whole that what we do is worthy of their investment of time and resources.

We believe that even if not one of us had personally rebuilt a flooded home in New Orleans, that because we are in Rotary, each one of us was there.

We believe that even if not one of us had personally placed a drop of polio vaccine in the mouth of a child in Jaipur, India, that because we are in Rotary, each one of us was there.

We believe that even if not one of us had used conflict resolution skills in the Amazon River basin, that, as Eduardo da Costa said, because we are in Rotary, each one of us was there.

We take it as an article of faith that we are the living legacy of Paul Harris and believe in service above self.

We take it as an article of faith that we are the living legacy of those Rotarians, who in 1985 determined that polio could be eradicated from the face of the earth and that we would mobilize to do it.

And we take it as an article of faith that we are the living legacy of Ravi Ravindran’s call, to be a gift to the world.

We are the Governors-elect of Zones 30 and 31, and we take it as an article of faith that we believe in the power of Rotary and that with that power we can change the world.

Just watch us.
Red Stick Rendezvous

Photos by Donna Landry — first installment, see more next month
Red Stick Rendezvous

Photos by Donna Landry — first installment, see more next month
# September Membership Stats

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Zone Rank</th>
<th>District</th>
<th># of Clubs July 1 2015</th>
<th>Membership July 1 2015</th>
<th># of Clubs Sept 30 2015</th>
<th>Membership Sept 30 2015</th>
<th>YTD Net Change in Membership</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Zone 30</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3</td>
<td>6560</td>
<td>45</td>
<td>2,295</td>
<td>45</td>
<td>2,323</td>
<td>28</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>6580</td>
<td>37</td>
<td>1,715</td>
<td>36</td>
<td>1,683</td>
<td>(32)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>6670</td>
<td>52</td>
<td>2,986</td>
<td>52</td>
<td>3,000</td>
<td>14</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>6690</td>
<td>59</td>
<td>3,577</td>
<td>59</td>
<td>3,609</td>
<td>32</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>6710</td>
<td>57</td>
<td>2,760</td>
<td>56</td>
<td>2,774</td>
<td>14</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>6740</td>
<td>38</td>
<td>1,583</td>
<td>38</td>
<td>1,599</td>
<td>16</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>6760</td>
<td>61</td>
<td>3,372</td>
<td>61</td>
<td>3,399</td>
<td>27</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>6780</td>
<td>65</td>
<td>3,155</td>
<td>65</td>
<td>3,172</td>
<td>17</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>6800</td>
<td>40</td>
<td>1,876</td>
<td>40</td>
<td>1,894</td>
<td>18</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>6860</td>
<td>53</td>
<td>3,496</td>
<td>52</td>
<td>3,497</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>6880</td>
<td>51</td>
<td>2,435</td>
<td>51</td>
<td>2,468</td>
<td>33</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Totals</td>
<td></td>
<td><strong>612</strong></td>
<td><strong>31,677</strong></td>
<td><strong>609</strong></td>
<td><strong>31,854</strong></td>
<td><strong>177</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Zone 31</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3</td>
<td>6110</td>
<td>79</td>
<td>4,280</td>
<td>79</td>
<td>4,312</td>
<td>32</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1T</td>
<td>6150</td>
<td>40</td>
<td>1,913</td>
<td>40</td>
<td>1,946</td>
<td>33</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>6170</td>
<td>36</td>
<td>1,484</td>
<td>36</td>
<td>1,508</td>
<td>24</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>6190</td>
<td>33</td>
<td>1,417</td>
<td>33</td>
<td>1,431</td>
<td>14</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1T</td>
<td>6200</td>
<td>49</td>
<td>2,448</td>
<td>49</td>
<td>2,481</td>
<td>33</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>6460</td>
<td>50</td>
<td>2,307</td>
<td>50</td>
<td>2,323</td>
<td>16</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>6490</td>
<td>52</td>
<td>2,244</td>
<td>52</td>
<td>2,239</td>
<td>(5)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>6510</td>
<td>48</td>
<td>1,549</td>
<td>48</td>
<td>1,545</td>
<td>(4)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>6820</td>
<td>48</td>
<td>2,342</td>
<td>48</td>
<td>2,337</td>
<td>(5)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>6840</td>
<td>52</td>
<td>2,178</td>
<td>52</td>
<td>2,182</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Totals</td>
<td></td>
<td><strong>690</strong></td>
<td><strong>31,200</strong></td>
<td><strong>690</strong></td>
<td><strong>31,360</strong></td>
<td><strong>160</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total Both Zones</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td><strong>1,302</strong></td>
<td><strong>62,877</strong></td>
<td><strong>1,299</strong></td>
<td><strong>63,214</strong></td>
<td><strong>337</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
**Rotary Vocational Service, and . . .**

*October is Economic and Community Development Month*

---

**Growing local economies through vocational service**

Last month, the United Nations reaffirmed its commitment to sustainable development by unanimously adopting 17 Sustainable Development Goals. Using our skills and expertise, the Rotary family already addresses many of the global priorities set by the UN:

In the career counseling project run by the Rotary Club of Phoenix, Mauritius, members of the Rotary family counsel secondary students on their career choices.

Using a global grant and working with local organizations, the Rotary Club of Pag-Asa Davao, Davao del Sur, Philippines, founded a demonstration farm to teach advanced farming skills and improve producers’ access to larger markets.

The Rotary Club of Omole-Golden, Lagos State, Nigeria, partnered with a beautician and cosmetology training program to outfit four outstanding graduates with the equipment they need to launch their careers.

Celebrate Economic and Community Development Month this October by checking the Rotary Service Connections blog for tips, resources, and success stories to inspire you to plan club and district projects that strengthen local economies and communities.

---

Rotary website
**International Assembly for PDGs ???**

**Yes, you can go back . . .** There are three exciting opportunities coming up in January around the International Assembly in San Diego. You may be interested in participating in one, two, or all three events.

PDGs can register as “Observers” to the International Assembly. This gives you access to all the plenary sessions. The dates are January 18 to 22, 2016. The cost is $65. RI has a new online registration system for observers: click here to register. This event is held at the Manchester Hyatt in San Diego.

The Past Officers Reunion (POR) is an event for PDGs held in conjunction with the International Assembly. This is great to get the latest Rotary information, and have private access to the senior Rotary leaders. The dates are January 16 to 18, 2016. The cost is $225 which includes a Banquet Dinner with RI President-Elect John Germ. Click here for more information, and to register. This event is held at the Manchester Hyatt in San Diego.

A Peace Presidential Conference will take place on January 15 to 16, 2016 in Ontario, California (a 2-hour drive from San Diego). The registration cost is $245 (prior to September 30). Click here for more information, and to register.

If you want to do both the Presidential Conference and the POR there is an overlap of the Saturday Dinner. These dinners are optional at both event registrations, so you can pick one or the other. We will soon have a link to book a room at the Manchester Hyatt at the RI rate. The link will be posted on the POR website, and we will make an email announcement to everybody who is registered.

We hope to see you there. Don’t hesitate to contact me if you have any questions about these events.

Philippe Lamoise Philippe@Lamoise.net, (H) 858-999-0088, (M) 619-300-6060

---

**Presidential Conferences**

**Attend one of five presidential conferences**

Find new and innovative ways to improve your community by attending one of five presidential conferences this year, hosted by RI President K.R. Ravindran and Foundation Trustee Chair Ray Klinginsmith. The conferences, to be held around the world between January and March, will highlight Rotary’s areas of focus. Use these links to learn about each of the programs and to register to attend:

- **Peace and Conflict Resolution, 15-16 January in Ontario, California, USA**
- **Disease Prevention and Treatment, 19-20 February in Cannes, France**
- **Economic Development, 27 February in Cape Town, South Africa**
- **Literacy and WASH in Schools, 11-13 March in Kolkata, India**
- **WASH in Schools, 18-19 March in Pasay City, Metro Manila, Philippines**

All five conferences will be led by local Rotary districts and are open to nonmembers as well as Rotary members. Conferences will feature engaging speakers, informative general sessions, and hands-on workshops. Attendees will have the opportunity to network with fellow leaders and take away new ideas and strategies to put into action.

Whether you’re already working to improve your communities through these areas or would like to learn how to do so, you won’t want to miss this unique opportunity. From Rotary News
World Polio Day

Save the date: 23 October, Rotary’s World Polio Day event

Celebrate our remarkable progress toward a polio-free world with the Rotary World Polio Day event, streamed live from New York City on 23 October.

Co-hosted by UNICEF, the event will highlight recent milestones: In July, Nigeria marked one year without a case of polio caused by the wild poliovirus, and in August, the entire African continent celebrated one year without a case. Jeffrey Kluger, health and science editor at Time magazine, will serve as moderator, joining other health experts, including UNICEF Executive Director Anthony Lake and polio ambassadors.

The event, which drew 23,000 viewers in 24 countries last year, will be available on social media and will be rebroadcast immediately on endpolio.org. Clubs can host their own activities to help raise awareness and funding for our final push to eradicate polio worldwide.

World Polio Day, which officially is observed on 24 October, was established by Rotary International more than 10 years ago. The timing in late October is in honor of the birthday of Dr. Jonas Salk, who led the team that developed the first polio vaccine.

Here are ideas for promoting and marking World Polio Day:

- Promote the streaming event on social media
- Host a viewing party in your community.
- Share your club’s celebration on social media, using #endpolio.
- Show a recording of the streamed event at your next club meeting, along with an update on Africa’s progress toward polio eradication.

Promote the event with the World Polio Day tool kit
Watch the event live
Contribute to End Polio Now

Rotary News

RI Board and TRF Trustee Decisions

June, 2015 TRF Trustees action highlights on line now
July, 2015 Board Decisions on line now

BE INFORMED ABOUT OUR RI BOARD AND TRF TRUSTEE DECISIONS
Summary and minutes of recent Rotary International Board Decisions
Summary and minutes of recent Rotary Foundation Trustee Decisions
October is Economic and Community Development Month
November is The Rotary Foundation Month

Important Dates

PETS Training Events for Heart of America Districts — 2016

February 24-28 — Lone Star PETS, Dallas, TX (D5830)
March 4-6 — Midwest PETS, Itasca, IL (D6460)
March 4-6 — Ole Man River PETS, Natchez, MS (D6190, D6200, D6800, D6820, D6840)
March 10-12 — Great Lakes PETS, Kalamazoo, MI (D6540)
March 10-12 — Mid-America PETS, Fort Smith, AR (D6110, D6150, D6170)
March 11-13 — All Ohio PETS, Columbus, OH (D6670, D6690)
March 12 — District 6560 PETS, Indianapolis, IN
March 12-13 — Land of Lincoln PETS, Effingham, IL (D6490, D6510, D6580)
March 18-20 — Mid-South PETS, Nashville, TN (D6740, D6710, D6760, D6780, D6860, D6880)
April 1-2 — Show Me PETS, Jefferson City, MO (D6040, D6060, D6080)
DISTRICT CONFERENCES 2015

October 23-24 — District 6690 Conference, Lancaster, OH (Governor Tara Craaybeek)
October 24 — District 6080 Conference, Lake Ozark, MO (Governor Steve Dulle)

DISTRICT CONFERENCES 2016

March 30-April 2 — District 6200 Conference, Lake Charles, LA (Governor Michael Hayes)
April 1-2 — District 6800 Conference, Oxford, MS (Governor Cary Vaughn)
April 7-10 — District 6840 Conference, Gulfport, MS (Governor John Cornwell)
April 8-9 — District 6540 Conference, Merrillville, IN (Governor Roger Sims)
April 8-9 — District 6580 Conference, Bloomington, IN (Governor Jim Bright)
April 21 -23 — District 6820 Conference, Ridgeland, MS (Governor Barbara Travis)
April 21-23 — District 6880 Conference, Orange Beach, AL (Governor Michael Chambers)
April 22-23 — District 6560 Conference, Carmel, IN (Governor Mark Blade)
April 28-29 — District 6780 Conference, Pigeon Forge, TN (Governor Beth Stubbs)
April 28-May 1 — District 6670 District Conference, Northern Cincinnati, OH (Governor William Shula)
April 29-30 — District 6490 Conference, Normal, IL (Governor Surinder Sethi)
May 5-7 — District 6860 Conference, Huntsville, AL (Governor Pat Cross)
May 12-14 — Districts 6150 and 6170 Conference, Hot Springs AR (Governor Paul Ford and Governor Charles DeVore)
May 13-14 — District 6740 Conference, Prestonsburg, KY (Governor Cindy Legg)
May 20-21 — District 5830 Conference, location TBD (Governor Tom DeWitt)
June 10-11 — District 6710 Conference, Louisville, KY (Governor Michael Kull)
June 17-18 — District 6760 Conference, Franklin, TN (Governor William Jones)
Karen Wentz
Rotary International Director 2015-2017
Zones 30-31
kwentz42@yahoo.com

Rotary International
One Rotary Center
1560 Sherman Ave. Evanston, IL 60201
847-866-3000
www.rotary.org

Heart of America Rotary Zones 30-31
www.rizones30-31.org

Send Rotary stories and photos of Interesting events related to Zones 30-31 to News Magazine Editor, Jane Molloy jabmolloy@bellsouth.net