

Rotary



District 6670 Newsletter

rotary6670.org | January 2015

District Leaders

Eric Marcus

District Governor

William Shula

District Governor-Elect

Mike Kelly

District Governor-Nominee

Doug Buchy

Lead Assistant Governor

Grants Chair

Greg Birkemeyer

Assistant Governor

Michael Chapman

Assistant Governor

Rob Degenhart

Assistant Governor

David Edwards

Assistant Governor

John Haller

Assistant Governor

Mike Ivory

Assistant Governor

Mike Kelly

Assistant Governor

Mark Mabelitini

Assistant Governor

Assistant Lead Governor-North

Anil Marifatia

Assistant Governor

Chrissy Miller

Assistant Governor

Grace Neal

Assistant Governor

Terry Pope

Assistant Governor

Frank Scott

Assistant Governor

Michelle Sherril

Assistant Governor

Sigrid Solomon

Assistant Governor

Don Walls

Assistant Governor

Bob Young

Assistant Governor

John Applegate

District Treasurer

Peter Weiglin

Membership Chair

Chris Celek

District Communications Officer

Orville Bantz

Foundation Chair

Terri Schneider

Interact Chair

Laura Erbaugh

Newsletter Editor

Beth Huber

Four-Way Test Speech Chair

Üte Pöpke

Rotaract Chair

Carol Hughes

RYLA Chair

Michael McNeil

Greetings from the District Governor



Taking Flight With Rotary District Conference 2015

April 17-18 at the Hope Hotel

The 2015 District Conference is nearly upon us. Your District Conference Committee, headed by PDG Orville Bantz has put together what I feel will be an outstanding District Conference. The conference dates are April 17-18, 2015.

The District Conference will be held at the Hope Hotel & Richard C. Holbrooke Conference Center, which sits on the edge of Wright-Patterson Air Force Base, right outside Gate 12A. Centrally located in our district, the conference will be no more than a 90 minute drive from anyplace in District 6670. Most Rotarians will be less than one hour away. Hotel reservations may be made by calling the Hope Hotel at 937-879-2696. We have a special conference rate of \$109 per night plus tax which includes breakfast. There is also a special rate for those who have served in the military, so please ask when making a room reservation.

The conference weekend will begin with the traditional golf outing, to be held at the Beavercreek Golf Club. Details on the golf outing will come out soon. This year we are offering a free extra: a tour of the National Museum of the United States Air Force followed by a short tour of Wright Flying Field at Huffman Prairie, a short drive from the museum. Following the optional tours, the actual conference will begin at the Richard C. Holbrooke Conference Center at 5 PM.

The Friday focus will be on the Birth of Aviation, as Dayton is where the first controllable airplane was developed and tested. Our Friday night speaker will include Inventing Flight and former Space Shuttle Pilot Greg Johnson. A fantastic hospitality suite is being planned and hosted by the Beavercreek Rotary Club following the close of Friday's program.

The Saturday program will focus on peace, as the Hope Hotel was the site of the Bosnian peace talks and the place where the Dayton Peace Accord was signed. Speakers include author and peace advocate Paul Chappel, former Rotary Peace Scholar Cameron Chisholm and the Executive Director of the Dayton International Peace Museum Jerry Leggett. Saturday afternoon will feature a Project Fair, where Rotary clubs, Interact clubs and Rotaract clubs can display the service projects they are involved with in our district. Our Exchange Students will have displays featuring their home or future country and will perform for us as well. The Saturday night hospitality suite will be hosted by the Fairborn Rotary Club.

Sunday, you will have an opportunity to participate in a district project, 1000 Cherry Trees. Our goal is to plan 25 Japanese cherry trees on the grounds of the Air Force Museum. Each club is asked to sponsor a tree at a cost of \$125 each. A matching District Grant has been obtained so your money will be automatically doubled.

Registration for District Conference 2015 is now open. The cost is low, only \$129 covered the whole weekend of activities.

To register using DACdb go to: <http://bit.ly/1AJpK5r>

To register without DACdb go to: <http://bit.ly/1AJq7wT>

Don't delay. This promises to be an exciting weekend and I hope to see you at our conference this coming April.

All Ohio PETS

Share Your Club's News

We encourage all Rotary Clubs in District 6670 to share their news and events on our website and in the District Newsletter, which is distributed monthly by email.

Send articles, announcements, events and photos to us at chris@celekmedia.com. Your club's info will be shared with the District Newsletter editor.

District Conference 2015

April 17-18 at the Hope Hotel
Fairborn, Ohio

April 19, 2015
District Service Project

Save the Dates

Rotary Calendar

Learn what's coming up at Rotary Clubs throughout southwest Ohio and for District 6670.

[Full Calendar >>](#)

On March 13-14 2015 our Presidents-Elect from all of our 52 clubs are invited to meet Presidents-Elect from the State of Ohio at the Renaissance Hotel in Columbus, Ohio. The purpose of this mandatory seminar is to help prepare and train our Presidents-Elect, so they have a successful Rotary year.

For the first time, our District 6670 President-Elect Training (Pre-PETS) will be held the afternoon of March 13, 2015 starting at 12:30 pm. Doug Buchy and Kelley Campbell will facilitate this training.

These training sessions are mandatory for Presidents-Elect. More information including registration materials will be available on line on January 10. You will be able to register now on line using DaCdb. If you are having difficulty in logging in for registration contact Mac Hickman. Mac Hickman will be coordinating registration for All Ohio PETS.

The link to the webpage for AOP registration is: <http://allohiopets.org/registration/seminar>

Be sure to register early, fees go up \$35 starting February 9.

The link to the webpage for a HOTEL reservation is:

<http://allohiopets.org/registration/hotel>

Be sure to register early, the Hotel rate is \$125 +tax is effective only through February 26

Presidents-Elect are requested to bring their club's list of officers and leaders for 2015-16 to Pre-PETS. This information will be used in the development of the 2015-16 District Directory. Bob Young will be taking photographs of the Presidents-Elect for the Directory on Friday March 13.

Mark Mabelitini Nominated for District Governor

The district nominating committee selected Mark Mabelitini as the District Governor Nominee Designate. Mark will serve as District Governor in 2017-2018.

Mark has been a Rotarian since 2006 and has held various club and district-level positions, including Assistant Governor from 2011 to present. Mark is the owner and Chef of AT HOME BISTRO, providing a unique in-home dining experience and other culinary offerings. Mark is a former Library Director and Executive Director of the Miami County (OH) Habitat for Humanity. He received his B.A. in Public Administration from Capital University, Columbus (OH), and a Master of Library Science at Indiana University in Bloomington (IN). Mark is married to Aliana, also a member of the Sidney Rotary Club.



Club News

Batavia



Amid the hustle and bustle of the busy holiday season, Batavia Rotary took time to give back to the community by serving as Salvation Army Red Kettle Volunteers at Eastgate Mall. Four shifts of Rotarians collected donations on December 13 in support of the many wonderful programs that are operated by the Salvation Army each year.

One week later, Batavia Rotary members enjoyed a fellowship networking meeting on December 18. Held at The Lodge of Clermont County, over 40 guests were treated to an enjoyable evening of food, fun, and fellowship. Dinner was provided by Golden Rule Catering, and there was a bit of magic in the air as everyone reflected on the memories of the past year.

London

It is always refreshing to end the year on a high note—giving of oneself, spending time with good friends, and looking forward to a new year filled with additional gifts. "Service above Self" never seems closer to Rotarians than at the holidays.

Wishing you a bright New Year from all of us at Batavia Rotary!

The holiday season tends to bring out the goodwill-for-all-men spirit in people, so when the London Rotary Club recently asked for volunteers to take shifts ringing the bell for the Salvation Army's red kettle, I printed my name on the sign-up sheet with little hesitation.

The instructions were simple: show up at Kroger for an hour or so, stand beside the swinging bucket and ring the bell.

"I think I can do that", I thought to myself.

Nearly 30 million Americans receive assistance from The Salvation Army each year through an array of social services that range from providing food for the hungry, relief for disaster victims, assistance for the disabled, outreach to the elderly and ill, clothing and shelter to the homeless and

opportunities for underprivileged children.

My shift began at 5 p.m. Tuesday evening. In preparation, I made sure to wear flat shoes and a warm coat. And, to keep things fun, on my way out the door that morning I also grabbed some red and green reindeer antlers from the box of Christmas decorations. My mother bought them for me as a joke during high school, along with matching elf and Santa hats. The antlers are my favorite because there are little bells sewn on the tips of each point.

I wasn't sure if I would wear them or not. I brought them just in case the mood strikes.

Upon my arrival, Rotary President Mary Ann Webb greeted me with a smile. She re-explained the instructions in about 10 seconds: give calendar cards and candy suckers to anyone who would like one, stand by the kettle, ring the bell.

"Is that it?", I asked, suddenly nervous about my ability to stand in one place for an hour without looking like a dumbo who was wearing felt reindeer antlers on their head.

"That's it," she said, promising to return in an hour.

"Cute antlers," she added, handing me the bell.

The next 60 minutes were spent doing some of the best "people watching" I've performed in years.

- "Wow, Kroger really is the busiest place in London"
- "Do I look dumb wearing these antlers? I feel pretty dumb wearing these antlers."
- "Boy, a lot of people wear pajamas to the grocery store."
- "I'm afraid to make eye contact with people, because I don't want them to think I'm pressuring them for the .67 cents. I'm going to make a point to purposefully look the other way, and when I see them in the corner of my eye walk over to the bucket, I'll feign surprise."
- "These antlers were a huge mistake. But, if I take them off now I'll have to hold them and my regret will be obvious."
- "Why do so many shoppers not put their carts back? Seriously, it would take 10 seconds. I'll just put those carts back while I'm standing here."
- "How should I ring this bell? Should I do it church bell style – several slow, long dongs with space between? Or, should it be quick and consecutive little "ding-ding-dings"? I'm going to try swinging it side-to-side, and then front to back to see if it makes different noises."
- "OK, that guy gave me a thumbs up on the antlers, so maybe they were a good choice, after all."
- I really wish they gave me multiple bells in different tones so that I could attempt songs. No matter how I swing it, it makes the same noise."
- "I hope those raspberries are still on sale."

Needless to say, I learned an hour alone with my thoughts can be pretty scary. Now, imagine those who spend three to four hours an evening for an entire month doing this. Bless those folks.

But, I was not completely alone. Every person who dropped some change or wiggled a dollar bill into the bucket received a "Thank you! Merry Christmas!" from me. I'm not sure if that's protocol – it wasn't included in my instructions, per say – but it felt right and natural at the time.

Maybe those were just the antlers talking.

I noted that many of those who donated were older men, dressed as though they had just spent a day in the fields or under a car. I think the toughest guys have the softest hearts.

The majority of individuals I spoke to seemed to become uncomfortable when I looked them into the eye and thanked them. Most muttered back, "you're welcome" without raising their heads. Have we forgotten how to communicate with one another?

Then again, maybe the antlers were just intimidating them.

Many others looked over their shoulders at me while walking out the door, saying they had no cash. One genius individual said "You need a credit card swiper!"

Agreed!

Perhaps one of my favorite sights was a mother digging into her purse to find change for her daughter to drop in the bucket. The girl, who appeared to be nine years old or so, ran over and flashed a smile while dropping in a few coins.

"Merry Christmas," I said, smiling at both she and her mother.

"Merry Christmas!" the young blonde quickly responded in a clear tone, staring straight back into my eyes and then at the antlers.

It seems the holiday, goodwill-for-all spirit is being passed down to this child. I think we have a future bell-ringer here.

Quick, get this girl a set of felt antlers.

Mason-Deerfield



The Mason Deerfield Rotary supported kids in Haiti by volunteering at A Child's Hope International for Hands Against Hunger. We learned that 143 million orphans lack hope for today and tomorrow. We spent the morning creating a special food mix to be shipped for hungry children throughout Haiti. They had a huge turnout and it was great to be a part



of such a great cause.

We had our 6th Annual Next big Number Reverse Raffle on January 24th. A great time was had by all. More information and details as to the success of this event next month.

Piqua

The Piqua Club received a matching District grant that went to its dental program. A check was presented to the Miami County Dental Clinic that provides services to all of the kindergartners in Piqua. The Club also purchases toothbrushes and toothpaste for all kindergartners twice a year. The toothbrushes say "Piqua Rotary Smiles". The check was presented at Rotary's annual Christmas program in front of all of the kindergarten students. The students made placemats for our lunch and recognized our 100 years.



Springfield



The Rotary Club of Springfield Ohio hosted its 92 Annual Christmas Party on December 15, 2014. Springfield Rotarians and their spouses, friends, family members and co-workers greeted 155 children from the public schools in Clark County for lunch and an event filled afternoon. Children spent time with Frosty the Snowman, the Gingerbread Man and Rudolph the Red Nosed Reindeer. They also played games and interacted with Therapy Dogs. Each child received a gift purchased by a Rotarian just for them and delivered by Santa Claus.

Troy

There is a growing traffic problem in the Miami Valley area, but it's not your typical highway gridlock. That's right. "Human Trafficking" (HT) is not just a 'big city' problem you hear about on television or the radio. It is very prominent in the Dayton area, largely due to the I-75/I-70 transportation corridor. Troy Rotarians heard from Lisa Baker (pictured), Executive Director of the Piqua YWCA, and Lynn Marroletti, former Program Director, at their weekly meeting on December 2, 2014. During their presentation, Baker and Marroletti spoke about the epidemic problem of HT in the local area.



What, exactly, is "human trafficking?" It's the illegal practice of procuring or trading in human beings for the purpose of prostitution, forced labor, or other forms of exploitation. You read that correctly...forms of exploitation. Right here. In our own backyard. According to Baker, HT in underage children is very prominent in the Dayton area. Nationally, HT is a \$9.8 billion illicit business, exploiting over 100,000 children per year. The average age of when a child is first forced into prostitution is between 13-15 years old. The largest pool of victims is runaways, estimated to equal 1.68 million per year. Studies have shown that, within 72 hours of running away, 90 percent of the children are approached by a stranger to lure them into HT.

Sadly, the human trafficking issue is very close to Miami County. Toledo is the 4th largest HT center in the area. The Miller Lane corridor has become the fastest growing one. Drug cartels are one of the greatest exploiters, as they have moved beyond the heroin trade to capitalize on the addictive hold it creates on potential HT victims. Equally sad is the fact that demand is great, making it very lucrative for pimps, who represent over 90 percent of the HT victims and can make hundreds of dollars per hour, per victim.

The YWCA has been focused on education and awareness to combat the HT problem, using the resources of the Shared Hope International organization. Shared Hope International works in partnership with local groups, such as the YWCA, to prevent trafficking, rescue and restore victims to society. For more information, visit www.sharehope.org.

Troy Rotary Club members are always looking for new topics to share at weekly meetings. If you are interested in presenting your business or organization, please visit the Troy Rotary Web site at www.troyohiorotary.org and submit your information in the "Contact Us" section. Troy Rotary is a member-involved, goal-oriented service club focused on socio/economic issues that have an impact both locally and internationally. Follow their activities on Facebook at Troy Rotary Club.

West Milton



The West Milton Rotary Club completed one of the highlights of our Rotary year with the annual Holiday Family Food and Gift Drive for underprivileged families in Union township. Larry Dehus chairs this project by contacting the Milton-Union Elementary School to find names of families who may be in need of help during the Christmas season. He sends them a letter describing our willingness to help out with food and gifts for the children at home. He asks them to complete a short form that

includes the names, ages, clothes sizes and any particular type of gift each child would appreciate receiving for Christmas. After a couple weeks, he will contact families who may not have returned the form to make sure they get an opportunity for support. Normally, we get a great response from nearly all the families. Larry then prepares envelopes with the names of each child and the information we have received from the parents. The Rotarians then are given the choice of supporting one or more children by purchasing gifts for \$50 to \$60 per child. The majority of Rotarians participate in this personal donation to help the children have a better Christmas by purchasing clothes and other gifts. The Rotary Club then purchases a variety of food supplies for each family that is delivered to the families with the gifts the Saturday before Christmas. Last year we provided food for 19 families and gifts for 63 children. Twenty Rotarians provided gifts for one to five children. The Club's expenses were around \$1800. This year, the numbers were down, which hopefully indicates the economy is improving sufficiently. We provided food for 10 families and gifts for 23 children. We were fortunate this year to receive a grant from the Troy Walmart of \$1250 to help us with this special program. We thank Rotarian, Larry Cox, for preparing the grant and working with Walmart to obtain the funds. In turn, Larry and his committee of Randy Yoakum, Dan and Jon Neitzke, decided to purchase all the food supplies needed for the families at the Troy Walmart. We felt this would be a good way to express our appreciation for their support. The food purchased came to just over \$1280. We thank each Rotarian for their personal support of purchasing gifts and to the Troy Walmart for supporting us for the cost of the food.