



Positive Peace Academy Teaches Sustainable Peacebuilding

One of the first graduates of this program, Rotarian Patricia Shafer, explains how service projects can put the concept of Positive Peace to work.

By Diana Schoberg

Peacemaking is stopping bullets; peacekeeping is negotiating. Peacebuilding, meanwhile, is creating an environment of security and conditions of well-being through access to things like health care, education, and water. That's what Patricia Shafer, a Rotary Peace Fellow and member of the Rotary Club of Charlotte, N.C., teaches to high school and university students as executive director of NewGen Peacebuilders. She is also senior fellow for peace education at the Alliance for Peacebuilding.

Recently, Shafer built on her peace fellowship by becoming one of the first Rotary Positive Peace activators, a role that will connect her with Rotarians who want to build peace through their projects and help their communities do the same. By 2022, 150 Rotary Positive Peace activators will be trained in six regions of the globe through the strategic partnership between Rotary and the Institute for Economics and Peace (IEP).

What Is Positive Peace? Eight Pillars of Positive Peace

- Well-functioning government
- Sound business environment
- Acceptance of the rights of others
- Good relations with neighbors
- Free flow of information
- High levels of human capital
- Low levels of corruption
- Equitable distribution of resources

[Global Peace Index](#), June 2020

Dr. Johan Galtung [a Norwegian sociologist who is considered the “father of peace studies”], in his original premise of Positive Peace, promoted the idea that we're trained to think of peace as reducing or minimizing violence—as taking away the bad. But if you want sustainable peace, you have to work on promoting the good: creating the conditions of well-being for all. The IEP's Pillars of Positive Peace is a framework of eight factors that research shows work together to make for more peaceful societies. All eight pillars matter—it's a systemic view—but the IEP advises focusing on which one or two may be the weakest. A focus there can be a basis for the design of a peace project.

What Is a Positive Peace Activator?

There are 26 Positive Peace activators in North America, and a group of 30 will be trained in Latin America. Many are Rotary Peace Fellows. Some are Rotarians. Some are IEP ambassadors. I'm all three. Positive Peace activators are charged with equipping people with an understanding of Positive Peace and of the IEP's eight pillars, and with teaching them to put those concepts to work. We do this through presentations at Rotary clubs and conferences, incorporating the Positive Peace framework into other peacebuilding work, and, in my case, co-designing a series of training summits that Rotarians can offer to their local communities in 2021.

Why Did You Become a Positive Peace Activator?

Rotary has a peacebuilding history that goes back to 1914 and has established a very clear footprint in peace

education with the Rotary Peace Fellows program, which has more than 1,300 members in its alumni network. Another big opportunity is for Rotarians to connect with local communities about peacebuilding and to employ a common framework and a common language and way of thinking about peace.

How Can Rotarians Get Involved?

One thing that's easy to do is to learn about the IEP's Positive Peace framework through the free Rotary Positive Peace Academy. Training workshops, whether virtual or in person, can teach you how to apply the eight Pillars of Positive Peace to projects you are already working on.

If you're working on education and literacy or water and sanitation, how do you look at those through the eight pillars? It's transformative to look at projects that way. It's how you go from doing good service projects to being activators for Positive Peace.

Over the past few months, every community on this planet has been touched by the COVID-19 pandemic. It's put tremendous stress on every community. Now, in the United States, we're also seeing the impact of discord over issues of racial equity. One premise of the eight Pillars of Positive Peace is that they create a stronger, more resilient community that can face crises when they occur.

Enroll in the Rotary Positive Peace Academy:

rotarypositivepeace.org

This article originally appeared in the September 2020 issue of Rotary magazine.

Council on Resolutions Adopts 18 Resolutions

The Council on Resolutions of Rotary International met online from Oct. 15 to 31, 2024, in accordance with subsection 9.150.1. of the RI Bylaws. A total of 44 resolutions were transmitted to the Council. The Council adopted 18 resolutions, of which 11 were recommendations to the RI Board and eight were recommendations to The Rotary Foundation Trustees (one recommendation addressed both the Board and the Trustees).

Resolutions are requests to the RI Board or the Trustees of the Rotary Foundation to take an action that is outside the purview of the constitutional documents. Ideally, a resolution should affect Rotary worldwide, rather than address local or administrative issues

The RI Board is requested to consider these items at their upcoming meeting:

Recommending that presidents-elect complete the Club President Basics learning plan prior to attending PETS

- Creating a status of “club in formation” during the period preceding a new club’s charter
- Recommending that each district establish a District Council on Legislation committee
- Implementing enhancements to the training for assistant governors
- Amending the Codes of Policies to state that officers will refrain from making public statements in support of or against conflicts around the world when acting in their official capacity
- Maintaining a firm position on the prohibition of political subjects by RI

◇ Adding Hindi as one of the officially recognized languages of RI

◇ Undertaking a detailed review of the cost-to-value proposition associated with the Rotary magazines

◇ Establishing guidelines for Rotary clubs and Rotarians when providing support during large-scale disasters 307 - 147 13

◇ Respecting all religions prior to deciding matters of place, date, and time for meetings

◇ Allowing Rotaractors to serve as sergeants-at-arms at RI events

The Trustees of The Rotary Foundation are asked to consider the following:

- Amending the Codes of Policies to state that officers will refrain from making public statements in support of or against conflicts around the world when acting in their official capacity
- Increasing the percentage of funds distributed to districts
- Modifying the (DDF) SHARE

allocation ratio for district grants from 50:50 to 60:40

- Allowing unused district grant funds to be used in funding the district grant of the subsequent year
- Allowing district grants to support activities for up to three years instead of one
- Reinstating the 100-percent match formerly offered by the World Fund for District Designated Funds used in global grants
- Allocating recognition points for donations made to TRF’s Endowment Fund

Any questions can be directed to the District 6490 Council of Resolutions/ Legislation representative, Liz Skinner, rotaryliz6490@gmail.com



Polio Update As of Jan. 22

Country or territory	Wild virus type 1 confirmed cases								
	Full year total						01 Jan-31 Dec ¹		Date of most recent case
	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023	2023	2024	
Pakistan	12	147	84	1	20	6	6	73	31-Dec-24
Afghanistan	21	29	56	4	2	6	6	25	05-Nov-24
Mozambique	0	0	0	0	8	0	0	0	10-Aug-22
Malawi	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	19-Nov-21
Iran	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	NA
Total (Type 1)	33	176	140	6	30	12	12	98	
Tot. in endemic countries	33	176	140	5	22	12	12	98	
Tot. in non-end countries	0	0	0	1	8	0	0	0	
No. of countries (infected)	2	2	2	3	3	2	2	2	
No. of countries (endemic)	3	3	3	2	2	2	2	2	
Total Female	18	72	59	2	10	4	4	42	
Total Male	15	104	81	4	20	8	8	56	

Countries in yellow are endemic. Data reported to WHO as of 01 Jan 2025

Presidents-Elect and Assistant Governors Prep for PETS



From left:
Area 7 AG Don Rokosch, Urbana PE Mike Murphy, Eureka PE Kelly Crawford-Jones, Mahomet President Mary Ann Matthews, Area 7 AG and DGND Bill Malone, Champaign PE Chris Randles, and Area 5 AG Marlys Scarborough prepare for their Pre-PETS



DGE John Calderon finds his way to a Pre-PETS session.

DGE John Calderon and DGN Deb West facilitated four Pre-PETS (President-Elect Training Seminar) sessions in January to help Presidents-Elect and Assistant Governors get off to a good start in their leadership year.

Held in Bloomington, Eureka, Savoy, and Mattoon, these sessions covered topics such as what to expect and how to register for PETS, signing into and navigating DACdb, enrolling in President-Elect Basics in the Learning Center on My Rotary, and introduced entering goals in Rotary Club Central.



From left: Dwight PE Earl McCoy, Normal PE David Hirst, Area 13 AG Mary Hodson, and Fairbury PE Keith Bahler discuss My Rotary.

The group also discussed the District 6490 schedule for 2025-2026, the Rotary Expo and Installation on June 14 in Rantoul, membership leads, and sending students to Rotary Youth Leadership Awards (RYLA) April 4-6.

Presidents-Elect and Assistant Governors who did not attend one of the Pre-PETS sessions will be receiving the meeting packet and are

encouraged to register for PETS at lolpets.org as soon as possible. PETS will be held at the Thelma Keller Convention Center in Effingham March 15-16 with tracks for Presidents -Elect, Presidents-Nominee, and Assistant Governors. There is no registration charge for Presidents-Elect as this is already covered by District 6490.

Heart 2 Heart Service Trip Set for Feb. 15-21

Heart 2 Heart is a collaborative partnership between Rotary districts and clubs in the United States and Mexico; like-minded individuals, businesses and corporations, and nonprofit organizations in the United States and Mexico; The Rotary Foundation; and FUR-MEX (Fondo Unido Rotario de Mexico) to provide humanitarian service in Mexico.

The first partnership effort was in fall 2004, when all the 2005-06 District Governors in both U.S. zones agreed to support a water well project in a rural town in Mexico District 4170. District Governors Olga Devlyn (District 4170) and Martin Limbird (District 6560) were the leaders of that cooperative effort, and they were also instrumental in the overall development of the international partnerships and friendships.

Due in large part to the tremendous work and support by Patricia Vela (District 4170 Governor 2015-16) over the past decade-plus and her visit to the United States in 2015, and the ongoing work of Jose Antonio Gonzalez and David Carranza in District 4170, many other U.S. districts have joined in the effort during the past few years, and the Heart 2 Heart program has expanded significantly. Heart 2 Heart added District 4140 as a partner in 2017, thanks to the efforts of D4140 Rotarians Enrique Garcia and Adrian Clerc. Heart 2 Heart added District 4110 as a partner in 2023, thanks to the efforts of the Pathways OH club (District 6600).

Heart 2 Heart partners offer and support Rotary Foundation global grant projects annually. District 4170, District 4140, and District 4110 Rotarians develop and propose these global grant projects.

With the addition of the “100 Plus Program,” Heart 2 Heart also works on smaller, club-to-club-sized projects throughout all of Mexico. Please go to www.rizones30-31.org/news/heart-2-heart/100-in-100-programs to view the information for club-to-club projects.



The Vision Day Event provides eyeglasses and vision assessments for local residents.

The Devlyn Foundation and Rotary, sponsor the one-day event, held every three months, caring for 300 adults and children.



The mission of the Holtz-Beahon kidney transplant project is to perform approximately 100 kidney transplants for low-income, high-risk individuals with kidney disease.



District 4170 is located in the central part of Mexico and includes the Mexico City metropolitan area and several hundred square miles of adjacent rural areas and communities of various sizes. District 4140 includes an even larger geographical area adjacent on the north with District 4170 and includes the Guadalajara metropolitan area. District 4110 is in the northern part of Mexico, and Rotary’s partnering is with clubs in the Chihuahua area.

Although the average size of a club in these districts is relatively small (under 20), these clubs provide incredible support for their communities, devoting a tremendous amount of volunteer time and financial resources toward a wide range of needs. The ongoing efforts of these District 4170, District 4140, and District 4110 Rotarians continue to inspire U.S. Rotarians who

Since 1982, the Mexican Association to Help Children with Cancer, IAP (AMANC) is the first institution in the country, and the only one with a national presence, to provide comprehensive accompaniment to the treatment of children and adolescents with cancer, the leading cause of death in patients ages 5-14.

have had the opportunity to see the results of their outstanding work.

Moving forward, an added emphasis is on finding more partners, regardless of location, who want to make a difference. The Heart 2 Heart partners are People of Action Making a Difference!

Rotarians from U.S. districts usually make an annual visit to Mexico. The next regular project visit for 2025-26 is TBD but will likely be in November 2025. District 6820 will be leading a hands-on service trip to the Guadalajara area on Feb. 15–21. Please contact Lucy Anne Walker (lucyawalker@yahoo.com) for more information. District 6170 will be leading a hands-on service trip to the Guadalajara area on October 4–11, 2025. Please contact PDG Bill Fish (bfish@ipa.net) for more information.

Applications Being Accepted for RYLA Camp

Rotary District 6490 is pleased to announce that it is taking applications for the April 4-6, 2025, Rotary Youth Leadership Awards (RYLA) Camp held at the 4-H Memorial Camp in Allerton Park, Monticello, IL. This year the camp is opening its doors to sophomores, juniors, and seniors, as we did pre-Covid. The goal is to have the clubs ask the students to return each year until graduation as the curriculum builds upon itself. RYLA will allow students to develop leadership, business, and decision-making skills, gain self-esteem, confidence, motivation, and engage with other students in the district through teamwork activities. Many hours of hard work have gone into planning this camp, and sending a student is the easiest way for your club to directly change their life in a positive way. We encourage you to consider sending students who have leadership potential but have not been chosen for those positions. It may be because of their socio-economic condition, a disability, or shyness. RYLA can turn their lives around!

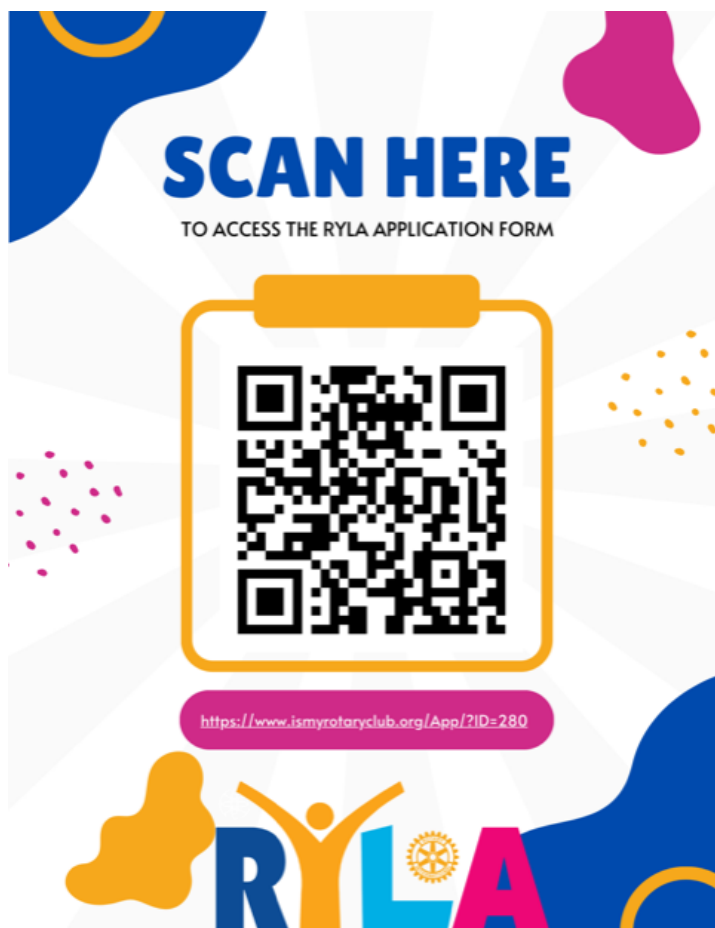
The cost to a club is still \$165 as it has been since 2011. That number is based on sending 80 students, which is double the number who went in 2024. The District is counting on clubs sending at least one or more sophomores, returning the students who went last year, and if they have an RYE student, the camp is mandatory. As we instituted last year, if the club pays for a student(s), their RYE student is free. If only the RYE student attends, the club needs to pay for them.

The link and QR code that are included at right take the student to an online application that they can fill out and submit. There are three links embedded in the application that instruct the student to print out several forms and mail to Rotarian Janet Grove, 3500 Powell Lane, Mattoon, IL 61938 or email janetg3500@gmail.com. Filling out the application is easy. Getting the students to print out the forms, get them signed and mailed or emailed proved to be more difficult last year, so if you could impress upon your candidate that is a necessary step, it would be appreciated. The deadline for applications is March 20. A few students could be added after that date if necessary. Here is the application link: <https://www.IsMyRotaryClub.org/App/?ID=280>.

We need Rotarians to volunteer for the RYLA weekend and have different types of jobs available. Saturday afternoon, Rotarians with experience interviewing job candidates are needed to conduct mock interviews and critique resumes for our juniors. Men and women are needed as overnight counselors to stay with the students in the cabins Friday and Saturday. They are heated and have bunks with mattresses. If you've never been to an overnight camp, Allerton Park is a beautiful rustic setting complete with bonfires, owls hooting, and mess hall dining at its finest! Truly, volunteering for RYLA camp will give you confidence in the youth of our future! The adults come away as energized

as the kids. We also need one or two volunteers to oversee the juniors and one to oversee the seniors. The curriculum is already set, so these people would simply make sure the students are in their seats when the programs start and assist the presenters if necessary. These volunteers would also double as overnight counselors. Volunteers do not have to be Rotarians. For example, they can be spouses, adult children, returning RYLA graduates, or RYE inbounds who have returned. They must be over 18 and have graduated high school. Everyone who volunteers needs to take Rotary's Youth Safety Training and submit the certificate.

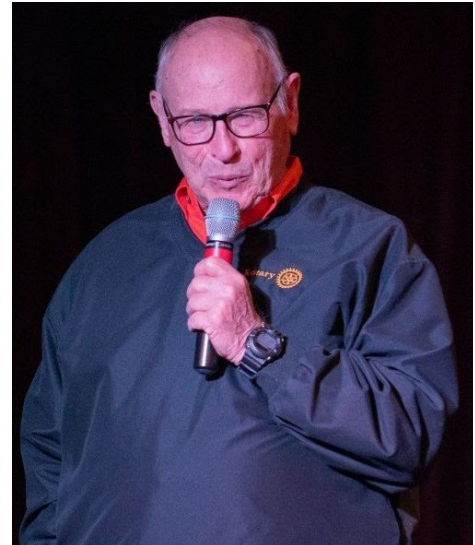
If you would like Kim Denton (kamorris@illinois.edu) or Tanya Walker (ibtanyawalker@gmail.com) to give a RYLA presentation to your club in person or by Zoom, please contact us. A copy of this information will be sent to all club presidents and club RYLA Chairs along with a copy of a letter to be given to a prospective student and another for parents. If you would like a copy of this information emailed to you, please send a request to ibtanyawalker@gmail.com. Thank you in advance for supporting this important cause!



Champaign Hosts Awards, Comedy Night



The Champaign Rotary Club recently celebrated the relaunch of its Vocational Service Awards and recognized (**below, top to bottom**): Lin Warfel (Club), Brian Barnhart (Business Community), and Alyssa Anderson (Business Community Under 40). **Left**: The evening was topped off with another rousing comedy event fundraiser with the Chicago Comedy All-Stars.



Anna Billingsley, Bloomington Pub Club
Kelli Dehm, Bloomington Pub Club
Kendra Edwards, Danville-Sunrise
Andrea Fallat, Bloomington Pub Club
Thomas Farrell, Danville-Sunrise
Jam Fawley, Decatur
Michael Finke, Champaign
Tom Gensler, Decatur
Charles Hutson, Vandalia
Amy Judd, Bloomington Pub Club

New Members in DACdb as of Jan 28th



Rotary Business Expo and District Installation Slated for June 14

The Rotary Business Expo and District Installation is scheduled for June 14 in Rantoul.

A family-friendly event featuring food trucks, entertainment, and a vibrant showcase of businesses, organizations, and Rotary clubs, it will be an opportunity to celebrate the community, connect with local businesses, and create a meaningful impact in Rantoul.

The Business Expo will be held from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. at Flyover Film Studios, 709 Jenny St., Hangar No. 1. Booths for Rotary clubs, nonprofits, and local businesses are free for all participants, but space is limited to 150. Sign up early to secure your spot by emailing Tonya Carter (Rantoul Rotary Club) at thecartercommunity@gmail.com. Once capacity is reached, no further registrations will be accepted.

The District Installation will be from 4:30 to 8 p.m. at Rantoul City Schools District No. 137's central office building, 1 Aviation Center Drive. Latin American cuisine will be served. Past District Governor Darryl Keys of Florida District 6960 will speak on the topic "Why Join Rotary?"

Additionally, District 2025 assistant governors, presidents, presidents-elect, and committee chairs will be sworn in. District Governor Mikel Martin will present awards to achieving clubs and outstanding members for the Rotary year!

Funds raised through the event will benefit a local project in Rantoul, enhancing the community in a meaningful and lasting way.

The success of the free event will be made possible through the generosity of sponsors. Businesses and individuals are invited to support the event through sponsorships; see the flyer on this page for sponsorship levels.

The Village of Rantoul will organize tours of the village to showcase the area's unique charm and opportunities.

Through the Add One, Bring One initiative, Rotary will sponsor the first year of Rotary International/district dues for one new member per club, encouraging growth and engagement.



Rotary
District 6490

★ **Chanute** ★
Air Force Base
Rantoul, IL

June 14th, 2025
Expo 10 am - 4 pm
Installation 4:30 pm

2025

Installation Event & Business Expo










★ **Event Title Sponsorship Level** ★

\$5000

- Premier logo placement on banners.
- Prime booth placement in event space.
- Logo on Rotary website with a direct link.
- Four tickets to the Installation Event.
- Frequent recognition throughout the event.

★ **Platinum Sponsorship Level** ★

\$1000

- Prominent booth placement.
- Logo placement on banners.
- Logo on Rotary website with a direct link.
- Two tickets to the Installation Event.
- Recognition during the event.

★ **Gold Sponsorship Level** ★

\$750

- Booth space in the event area.
- Logo placement on banners.
- Logo on Rotary website with a direct link.

★ **Silver Sponsorship Level** ★

\$500

- Booth space in the event area.
- Logo placement on banners.







John Calderon, Sr.

The District 6490

Governor-Elect

SECURE YOUR SPONSORSHIP TODAY!

E-mail: rotarygovernor2025@gmail.com

or call
Governor-Elect John Calderon Sr.
at 217-721-7929.