

## **District 6860 Newsletter - August 2024**

Welcome to a truly magical year of Rotary in North Alabama. The Rotary Clubs in our District have a strong tradition of service to our communities and our world, and our Rotarians serve as a testament to the highest ideals of our organization. District 6860 has represented well, providing 4 past Rotary International Presidents among other Rotary leaders and People of Action, and all our Rotarians serve as outstanding ambassadors wherever they serve, at home or abroad.

Rotary International President Stephanie A. Urchick has chosen her theme for 2024-25 as “The Magic of Rotary.” She has explained that The Magic of Rotary can encourage whatever drives our local clubs. We can “grow The Magic of Rotary,” if we are adding new members to our family. We can “unlock The Magic of Rotary” if we are unlocking the power of women and our youth. We can “advance The Magic of Rotary” if we are fundraising to create positive change in the world.

A top priority of President Stephanie this year will be peacebuilding. One of Rotary’s chief programs in this realm is the Rotary Peace Fellowship; a product of The Rotary Foundation that began more than 20 years ago to help end and prevent conflict. Rotary Peace Centers are located at eight leading universities around the globe and have graduated more than 1,800 peace fellows who are now working in more than 140 countries toward a better world. The newest center, in Bahçeşehir University in Istanbul, Turkey, will see its first class of fellows arrive in early 2025.

We serve in a time when our divided world needs us most; what an amazing time to serve as a Rotarian. Knowing that we can truly make a difference in the lives of those in our communities as well as those somewhere in the world whom we may never even meet is truly empowering. We can all ask ourselves and our Clubs what we can do to advance peace and good will where it is needed most. We can work together as People of Action to finally eradicate Polio from every part of the world. Ask how you can support our Rotary Foundation in order to fund grants back to your community, support peacebuilding around the world, and end polio now. Through your generosity of both your valuable service

and donations, we collectively have the power to achieve great goals and tackle tremendous challenges.

If we really want to experience Rotary *Making a Difference* in our communities, in our World, it is up to us. It is our Rotary job and joy to *Be the Inspiration* for amazing new grants and projects in our hometowns and abroad. For Rotary to be able to truly *Connect the World* we have to first unite with other Clubs. *Rotary Opens* so many *Opportunities* for us to *Serve to Change Lives*. If we can *Imagine Rotary, Creating Hope in the World...* then together we will truly become ***The Magic of Rotary***.

**David W. Allgood**  
**District Governor 2024-25**  
**Rotary District 6860**

### **Key Events for September:**

#### **5-8 Sep 24: Zone Institute - Huntsville, AL**

Calling all Rotarians to join us for takeoff in the Rocket City of Huntsville, Alabama for the 2024 Rotary Zone Institute – **Where Stars Align**.

Come and be ignited by engaging speakers and fellowship with other Rotarians. Learn to better lead your clubs and districts to help make the world a better place and get ready to soar as you take back home great ideas, renewed spirit and new friendships. The stars are aligning in Huntsville don't miss out.

For more information and to register: [Register today!](#)

#### **Rotary Action Plan Emphasis for the Quarter: *Increase Our Impact***

Rotary is at a crossroads where it is more important than ever before for Rotarians to be open to change and speak with one voice in order to assure the ongoing success and

growth of clubs. To that effort Rotary International has developed its own strategic plan to embrace this imperative. It's called the Rotary Action Plan that asks us to:

- Increase Our Impact
- Expand Our Reach
- Enhance Participation & Engagement
- Increase Our Ability to Adapt

Rotary International is asking all clubs and districts to align their strategic plans with the the action plan. To help us do this, we will feature one element of this plan per quarter with a description of it and how clubs can put this into action. Review it, ask questions, talk with club leadership to put this plan into action!

Need Help? Contact: Elizabeth Garcia, DGN, Strategic Plan Chair 24-25 or go to [rotary.org/actionplan](https://rotary.org/actionplan) for more information.



# IMPACT

**We want to put our resources behind programs that will have the greatest impact and that align with our areas of focus.**

We're creating tools and guidelines for tracking and sharing our efforts. We're also developing an evaluation process that will help us make objective recommendations about what is working and what we should continue, start, or stop doing.



## INCREASE OUR IMPACT



**DEVELOP A STRATEGY** for educating members about the importance of impactful service projects. Research shows that measurable, data-driven results offer proof of the impactful service that is attractive to the next generation of leaders.

**CONDUCT A COMMUNITY ASSESSMENT** to determine which issues are top concerns in the area. Learn about needs and strengths and identify the key decision-makers. Try conducting evaluations both before and after you implement projects to get a better sense of where and how you can create measurable, lasting change that truly helps the communities you serve.

**FOCUS YOUR EFFORTS.** Review your club's activities and determine which ones can be streamlined or eliminated so your club can spend more time on activities that make a real impact.

**ENCOURAGE YOUR CLUB OR DISTRICT TO CELEBRATE THE LONG-TERM SUCCESSES** of service and program offerings, but to be open to new projects or opportunities to prove that your club or district's impact has only begun. Apply for a global or district grant to fund a project that will have sustainable, measurable outcomes.