

THE BRIDGE

Official Newsletter for Rotarians of District 6330
bridge@rotary6330.org

By the Glass...

Rotarians in District 6330 believe in nurturing the next generation of leaders. Our programs provide opportunities for our youth to develop leadership skills, expand their education and experience the value of providing service.

The Rotary Youth Exchange (RYE) program gives youth from other countries the opportunity to learn a new language, experience another culture, and develop an understanding of global citizenship.

RYLA (Rotary Youth Leadership Awards) link our young leaders throughout the district in an intense weekend that supports leadership experiences, challenges them to think in new ways, broadens their view of community and have fun along the way.

Interact clubs engage youth ages 12-18 in service projects and social activities, that demonstrate the value of participation and volunteerism. There are currently 10 Interact clubs in our district.

HIP (Honouring Indigenous Peoples). The Youth-to-Youth program was designed to build meaningful, equitable and long-lasting relationships between Indigenous and non-Indigenous Youth. We are excited to be joining this project and look forward to hearing from our participating youth.

Thank you to all our Rotary clubs and Rotarians who are supporting these fabulous Youth programs!

District 6330 Youth Exchange Students visiting the Thornbury-Clarksburg club for the annual ski weekend at Beaver Valley Ski Club



Rotary year 2025-2026

CALL FOR NOMINATIONS

District 6330 hereby announces a call for nominations for the **District Governor Nominee** position. The selected candidate will become District Governor for the 2025-2026 Rotary year. The deadline for submitting an application is **March 1, 2024**.

Please see the [Call for Nominations letter](#) for required qualifications and additional information,
[Download Nomination Form](#)
[Here](#)



Great Lakes Rotary PETS

**SAVE
THE DATE!**

-24 ISSUE 4 - OCTOBER 2023

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www.rotary6330.org

March 14 to 16, 2024

in Kalamazoo, MI

REGISTRATION FOR GLRPETS is now open!

Registration ends March 6, 2024

The District Governor team is excited to announce plans for next year's president-elect learning as we join the Great Lakes Rotary President Elect Training Seminar (GLRPETS), a partnership of seven Rotary districts.

President-elect's will be inspired and educated in a very professional, inviting atmosphere. They will be given tools to be good leaders for their clubs, and have an opportunity to hear keynote speakers that are second to none.

Learn more about GLRPETS by watching [this video](#) or visit <https://www.glrpets.org/>



ROTARY MONTHLY THEME

Peacebuilding and Conflict Prevention Month



Next Month: Water, Sanitation, and Hygiene Month

TO VIEW THE ROTARY
INTERNATIONAL CALENDAR
OF THEMES AND EVENTS,
CLICK ON THE LINK BELOW.

<https://my.rotary.org/en/news-media/calendar>

“It is true that the way to war is a well-paved highway and that the way to peace is still a wilderness....”

– Rotary Founder Paul Harris, 1945

Millions of people all over the world are currently displaced by armed conflict or persecution. In fact, 90% of casualties in armed conflicts are civilians, half of which are children. Through service projects and Rotary programs, the Rotary family is committed to pursuing projects that address the structural causes of conflict, including poverty, inequality, ethnic tension, lack of access to education, and unequal distribution of resources

BECOME AN ACTIVE PEACEBUILDER CLUB

Rotary Action Group for Peace is a strong believer and supporter of Peacebuilder Clubs, which play a vital role in sparking passion and a direction for peace within their own Rotary Clubs, districts and communities. We encourage every club to take action, start a [Peacebuilder Club](#), and contribute to creating a more peaceful world.



“Healing a divided world through Positive Peace”



Stephanie Urchick celebrates the magic of Rotary

Rotary has a long history of promoting peace through its network of peace centers. Located at top universities around the globe, the centers have trained nearly 1,800 peace fellows who are now working in more than 140 countries. The newest center, located at Bahçeşehir University in Istanbul, Turkey, will welcome its first class of fellows in early 2025. Read about RI President-Elect Stephanie Urchick’s priority to [promote peace](#) and her plan to host a presidential peace conference in 2025.



Peace Fellowships

Each year, Rotary awards up to 130 fully funded fellowships for dedicated leaders from around the world to study at one of our peace centers.

Application timeline

The Rotary Peace Fellowship application is now open! The 2025-26 Rotary Peace Fellowship application is available [online](#) through 15 May 2024.

If you know a potential candidate, use our [referral form](#) so they can receive more information.

[Promoting Peace Video](#)



Upcoming District Events

Youth Exchange Program
Info night for clubs
Feb 26

Youth Exchange
Great Expectations
Tri County Outbound
Training
March 1-6

Great Lakes President-Elect
Training Seminar
Mar 14-16

Imley City RC
Annual Premier Night
March 16

District Conference
Owen Sound
June 21-23

RYLA Seminar
for Tomorrow's
Leaders
May 10-12

Please send your pictures
and stories to:
bridge@rotary6330.org

Be sure to add your upcoming club
event on the district calendar so we
can share it here.



Friday 23rd February marks the 119th birthday of Rotary International. Started in Chicago on February 23rd, 1905, the organisation was formed by a small group of business people wanting to be able to do business with people of good ethics and business practices.

From one club that grew rapidly in Chicago, Rotary International now exists in over 200 countries and territories. Rotary is a non-religious and non-political organisation. As such, it is respected by governments, the United Nations and religions of all types.

Today, Rotarians around the world do an incredible amount of work to make the world a healthier and more peaceful place. .



District Treasurer- What's Involved?

The District Finance Committee supervises district funds by reviewing and studying the amount of per capita levy and district administration expenses. It also prepares annual reports on the status of the district's finances. The district treasurer serves on this committee **RESPONSIBILITIES** •In cooperation with the Governor Elect, create a district budget for consideration by clubs and approval by PE's at the ABM •Review and recommend the amount of per capita levy •Ensures accounts are promptly paid •Ensure proper records are kept by district for all District committees •Prepare annual financial reports for the District

QUALIFICATIONS You are a Rotarian in good standing, and must be a member in a club of District 6330. You are experienced in finance or business accounting procedures and the handling of funds. Ideally, you have an accounting designation of some type. You have a keen eye for detail and like ensuring things are in order.

TERM OF OFFICE:

One year minimum, preferably three years.



Newsletter Editor- What's Involved?

The Newsletter editor compiles and prepares the stories and articles for the monthly district newsletter.

RESPONSIBILITIES:

Solicit newsworthy items and information from the District Governor, RI, the District Leadership Team, and the District clubs.

Create layout and design in a professional format, consistent with Rotary International branding.

Submit draft in advance of publication to the District Governor for approval.

Distribute Newsletter electronically once a month on a date determined by the District Governor.

Provide the Newsletter to the District Webmaster to upload to the website.

QUALIFICATIONS:

Working knowledge of graphics software, ie Canva, or other

Experience in writing or preparing documents and editing written documents.

Experience in formatting and editing photos and graphics.

TERM OF OFFICE:

One year minimum, preferably three years.



The Public Image/ Relations committee

It's purpose is to be a resource to the district and its clubs to promote the image and ideals of Rotary.

RESPONSIBILITIES:

•Develop and implement a district public image program that will promote Rotary to the media, community leaders and beneficiaries of Rotary's programs

•Help to ensure the district website portrays a good public image and attractive source of Rotary information

•Assist clubs to learn ways that they can be most effective in their publicity, public relations and communications

•Encourage and role model the use of the RI Brand Center and the RI guidelines for voice and visual identity

•Communicate with the governor and chairs of key committees to stay informed about district projects and activities

•Unabashedly celebrate Rotary achievements in our district

QUALIFICATIONS

Active club members in the district who have experience and/or interest in advertising, marketing, public relations, media relations, public speaking, social media, website development or event planning.



OTHER DISTRICT SERVICE OPPORTUNITIES

International Service Committee

Membership Committee Members

Social Media Committee Members

New Generations Service Exchange Committee Chair

Please email
DGE Katherine Hahn
more for information
katherine.hahn@rotarystratford.com

Membership Minute

Membership Chair Lorna Gunning Fratschko



ROTARIANS ARE PEOPLE OF ACTION! COME AND GET INVOLVED!

Our Rotary Monthly Theme for February is Peacebuilding and Conflict Prevention Month. RIPE Stephanie's second priority is Healing a divided world through Positive Peace. Stephanie maintains that if everyone would LIVE the Four-Way Test instead of just reciting it, we would have a more peaceful world. I agree wholeheartedly! You see, with the application of the Four-Way Test to our lives, both personally and professionally, many Rotarians experience great improvement in their lives. I speak from experience! What does this have to do with membership you ask? Well, the Four-Way Test establishes a foundation of trust within a club and its members. Such a foundation of trust will help your club become Irresistible and Attractive. Club meetings will be productive as members share their commitment to improving lives and helping those in need locally, nationally and internationally. Some clubs even ask a member at every meeting to share how the application of the Four-Way Test impacted their lives or a decision that was made in the past week. Such sharing can bring new insights about the Four-Way Test to members. So, introduce prospective members to the Four-Way Test with an explanation that this guiding principle of Rotary serves to provide Rotarians with a foundation for our relationships with each other and the action we take in the world.

Our District Membership did see a decline in January with a loss of 9 members. On the positive side, we are maintaining our membership numbers at 1561 Rotarians which is an overall increase of 1.63%. We are still in the positive and our goal of an increase of 3% by June 30, 2024 is possible!

THANK YOU to everyone for all that you are doing to sustain and build the membership of District 6330. As always, do not hesitate to reach out if I can provide assistance, information or visit your club. Rotarians are People of Action.

Getting to know... your District Webmaster!

DENNIS DINSMORE



“My goal is to continue to grow the district website to be both an attraction to visitors and as an easy-to-access source of information for Rotarians.”

Rotarian Dennis Dinsmore is returning to his old job as our District Webmaster some 19 years after starting the district Clubrunner site in 2004. He has also served as webmaster for our Zone 24 as well as for his home club, Genesee Valley.

Dennis is a familiar face to many Rotarians, having served as District Governor in 2005-06, and later as Rotary District Foundation Chair then as the Council on Legislation rep two 3-year terms. From 2012 to 2015 he served as the Regional Rotary Foundation Chair for Zone 24 working with 17 Rotary districts across Canada, US, Bermuda, France and Russia. He is a Major Donor to the Rotary Foundation and is the recipient of the foundation's Citation for Meritorious Service.

His passion in Rotary is to support our Foundation in its efforts to eradicate polio. As a child, he was one of thousands of “Polio Pioneers” who were lucky enough to have received the first Salk polio vaccine in 1954. Some of his childhood friends who were permanently scarred by polio then and some Rotary friends who suffer from post-polio syndrome today were not so lucky and he feels he owes it to them to make our world polio free.

Dennis holds a Bachelor's degree in engineering as well as a Master's degree in business administration. He worked for many years as a hospital administrator before later founding The Dinsmore Group, Inc. a firm that developed custom software for the healthcare industry. Dennis and his wife Eileen, now both retired, have two children and four grandchildren.



The Rotary Club of St. Marys sponsors ESL classes for displaced Ukrainians

What started as a District Grant (2022-2023) to provide winter clothing to a minimum of 10 Ukrainian families has developed into District Grant (2023-2024) ESL classes for 33 Ukrainian families until April 27th, 2024. The club has provided a qualified teacher (Ukrainian/English), picture dictionaries, Grammar, and speech booklets to assist with their learning the English language to be able to qualify for employment. The picture shows students participating in the advanced ESL class. The youngest members of the class were not very talkative, but it was great having Bobby and David in attendance.

International Women's Day 2024



#IWD2024



Empowering and Elevating Women in the Workplace

On 8 March, 2024, Rotary International is hosting a 60-minute panel discussion as a way to celebrate and recognize International Women's Day, and we would love for you to join us!

The discussion will focus on the importance of not only including but being a champion of women in leadership — in the workplace and beyond. We will discuss the importance of identifying leaders early, establishing mentorship and sponsorship programs, supporting women in joining women-led professional organizations, and focusing on allyship. We'll also announce and celebrate the recipient of the 2023-24 Sylvia Whitlock Leadership Award.

This event is open to Rotary members and members of the public of all genders. Feel free to share with your networks.

[Register here.](#)



SEMINAR FOR
TOMORROW'S
LEADERS

MAY 10th -12th
2024

Unlocking Tomorrow's Leadership: Exploring the
Rotary Seminar

RYLA is a global leadership program hosted by Rotary Clubs. Each year, numerous young leaders, invited and sponsored by Rotary Clubs, join this exceptional program. Rotary Clubs and Districts cover all participant expenses. The event, ranging from seminars to camps, fosters learning, discussions, and practical leadership skills.

Visit [here](#) to see how programs like RYLA promote peace through service and engagement