

ROTARY
INTERNATIONAL,
DISTRICT 6150

THIS MONTH'S
CLUBS IN THE
SPOTLIGHT

BLYTHEVILLE

PARAGOULD

POCAHONTAS

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Rotary



Rotary District 6150
Central & Northeast Arkansas

"Humanity in Motion"



August is Membership and Extension Month

Members are Rotary's most important asset. They are the force that allows Rotary to carry out its many humanitarian efforts and achieve its mission. To date we have completed 3 of the 4 Membership Seminars throughout the District, with good attendance numbers. The membership goal is to end the year with a net gain of 1 member per club. **District 6150 clubs can meet that goal!**



Governor Judy Sims' Observations for August

When it was time to write this article today, I began to think about the 19 clubs that I have visited and what I wanted to tell you about each club. Needless to say, space will not allow me to delve into all the things I want to say, but there are some common characteristics that I have seen and experienced in each club.

The first thing I experienced in every club has been an immediate acceptance. From a strong handshake, a pat on the shoulder, or ever a hug,

each club has made me feel at home and among friends. Secondly, I noticed while watching presidents and their officers, board, and committee members talk about their clubs, there was an overwhelming sense of pride as projects were being discussed. Even though some obstacles exist in most clubs, there was a common bond about wanting the best for "their Rotary Club". Another observation was the statement heard over and over, "We can do better this year, and we are going to tell everyone about our good deeds and Rotary".

Every visit has assured me that we are very fortunate to be Rotarians, to have the opportunity to make our communities and the world better, and that our members truly have a desire to grow Rotary in District 6150. I am so proud of every club and for what you represent in your community. When this year ends, it is my hope that every Rotarian will have attained a new enthusiasm and a greater commitment for Rotary. I am fortunate to have this great opportunity to be a part of your club's "Family of Rotary" during my district visits. Thank you for this honor.

Rotarian Recognized for Outstanding Service

Congratulations to John Ragsdale of West Little Rock Rotary!

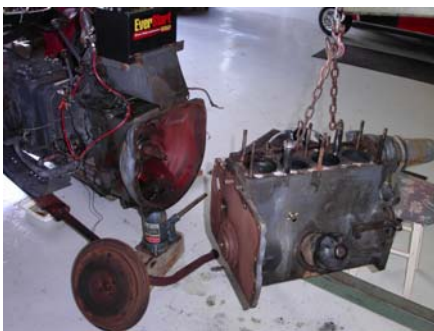
Rotarian John Ragsdale of the West Little Rock Club has been awarded the Cliff Dochterman Community Service Award for Outstanding Service to both Scouting and to Rotary. This award is recognized and approved by the National Council, Boy Scouts of America and on recommendation of the Awards Committee of the International Fellowship of Scouting Rotarians has been forwarded to the nominator and club for presentation. Congratulations to John Ragsdale!

South Little Rock Restores Tractor for Camp Aldersgate

Thought you might be interested in our club project to restore Camp Aldersgate's tractor. We saw the tractor in April with weeds growing up around it and was told that it had been not used in two years because it was in need of repair.

Our Rotary club had originally donated the tractor to the Camp about 7 years ago. As you can see by the attached photos, the tractor was in bad shape. We completely disassembled, rebuilt, sandblasted and painted. All the work was done by Rotarians of the South Little Rock Club. After spending 3 months in the rebuilding process, the tractor was delivered back to Camp Aldersgate Monday to be put back in service.

Submitted by PDG John Bennett



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Spotlight On...

The Clubs in the “Spotlight” this month are: Blytheville, Paragould and Pocahontas. Their Assistant Governor is Owen Lusk. Here are some things you may not know about these clubs.

Blytheville

By Charles Moody, President, Rotary Club of Blytheville

The Rotary Club of Blytheville, AR has about 20 community projects and fun things that we do for the community and surrounding area. These include things such as thesauruses for children, highway cleanup, scholarships and other great projects that Rotary Clubs do. We recently planted 100 trees around our community's new sports complex. One of our favorite things that our members enjoy doing each year is when we have a Thanksgiving meal at the Country Club for the underprivileged. The Rotarians are the servers and the locals are very grateful. We once had a man so excited to be there that he wore a tuxedo.

Our members are so generous; they help with children while others help with the elderly. Still others may help with animals, the abused, the underprivileged, etc... you get the point. There are so many things that the Rotary Club does for our community and each other that we can't count. We have the greatest members and they do not mind working hard on projects throughout the year. It has been a privilege being part of such a wonderful club.

Paragould

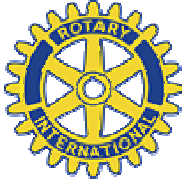
By Chip Dortch, President, Rotary Club of Paragould

The Paragould Rotary Club is an outstanding civic organization made up of men and women from all walks of life, representing numerous businesses and industries in Paragould and Greene County. It is a strong local group backed by an active district organization of clubs throughout Arkansas. All of our projects would be impossible without tremendous Rotarian and community participation with our fund raisers. Our annual radio/TV auction will generate approximately \$16,000, while our famous "Boston butt" sale will raise about \$2,500 each time we fire up the grills. Last year, we began a New Year's Eve gala whose popularity and funds should continue to grow and grow. These monies allow our club to do the things needed to assist our various projects throughout the year. More importantly, our club is a part of Rotary International which is a world wide organization making a positive impact around the world.

Pocahontas

By Rodney Harris, President, Rotary Club of Pocahontas

The Rotary Club of Pocahontas has been very active lately. In the past year our annual auction broke all previous fundraising records by raising between \$9000 and \$10000 to fund scholarships and other community service projects. Recently, the club donated children's books to Kids First in honor of Literacy Month. Additionally, the club hosted the district governor on August 2nd. The club is currently making preparations to celebrate the 150th anniversary of Pocahontas during the Pocahontas Sesquicentennial festivities. This year we look forward to implementing the Healthy Smiles program and donating dictionaries as part of our ongoing efforts in the Pocahontas school system. The Pocahontas Rotary Club is alive and well with a current total of 66 members and plans for additional growth during the year.



Club Presidents and Secretaries: Did You Know....?

Information Resources for New Club Officers

Did you know that the Club and District Support (CDS) staff at Rotary International serves as your primary contact at the RI Headquarters? They are ready to answer almost any question you may have about Rotary, and can provide you with advice on such topics as club elections, constitutional matters, club traditions and customs, club operations, and RI Board policy.

Do you know who your CDS representative is? Click [here](#) to find out.

Have you seen some of our web resources that will make it easier for you to administer your club?

- Helpful resources have been designed specifically for club presidents and secretaries, and can be found on the web by clicking [here](#).
- Learn how you can make online changes to your club's membership records, reference various Rotary Foundation reports, pay your club's dues online, and report next year's club officers using Member Access. Click [here](#) for full instructions and helpful suggestions.
- You can find a selection of informative club administration publications including audiovisual programs, club software, forms and supplies on the web by simply clicking [here](#).
- The Club President's Checklist is a month-to-month calendar, for the club president and president-elect, with reminders about important club and district functions, as well as RI and Rotary Foundation program due dates. Find it quickly by clicking [here](#).
- The Club Leadership Plan is a great new way to invigorate stagnant clubs, based on the best practices of effective Rotary clubs. You can find this plan on the web by clicking [here](#).
- Important information for Rotary clubs located in the USA is provided [here](#) regarding your club's tax status and mandatory reports to the I.R.S.

The RI Secretariat staff looks forward to working with you and supporting your club's service efforts in the year ahead. Be sure to contact your CDS representative whenever you may need help from RI Headquarters!

Family of Rotary in Action

"Neither rain, sleet, nor dark of night" can keep Jonesboro University Rotarians from having a Family of Rotary Party! Thursday night, July 27th, 35 - 40 Rotarians, their families, and friends placed tree markers and pine mulch around 25 or 30 new trees at our Chris Carlisle Park. PDG Ken brought his giant grill, Chief Jim cooked hot dogs, and a number of Rotarians set a post for a beautiful new aluminum sign. How many Rotarians does it take to set a post??? a lawyer, an engineer, an architect, a university dean, a school teacher, and a pharmacist... The rain cooperated so we were able to get our work (and play) done and get the park watered all in one night!