

District Governor December Newsletter

Greetings fellow Rotarians

I hope that you all had a great Thanksgiving spent with family and friends as this is what the holiday is truly about. I was able to share mine with both of my children and grandchildren as well as in-laws and friends.

I continue in my club visits and, to date, have visited 31 of our 58 clubs. My goal is to wrap up my visits before March so if your club has not yet scheduled a visit, please work with the Governor's Assistant, Mary Etter (rotaryetter@gmail.com) to schedule a visit. My theme for the year is education and I am quite pleased with how many clubs award scholarships not just to the best and brightest students, but those who wish to attend trade schools, technical schools and other non-college centers of learning. We must not forget how important these workers are to our society.

District Governor Elect Christine has been very busy preparing for her year. She has already chosen a date and time for her Post Pets/District Assembly. As the name implies, Pre-Pets, which is normally held before PETS (President Elect Training Seminar) will be a Post PETS. Christine believes it will be better to hold this after PETS to ensure PE's (Presidents Elect) receive the training they did not get in PETS. It will also be combined with the District Assembly which is also a training event. The months from January through June historically have had a major event every month and Christine wants to combine events to provide a break for one month. The date for this event is April 1st (no fooling) and it will be held at the La Quinta Inns and Suites in Springfield. This event is designed for Presidents, Presidents Elect, Secretaries, Treasurers and new Rotarians and Rotaractors but all are welcome to attend.

DGE Christine has also scheduled the Installation Brunch for June 11th at the Log Cabin Restaurant in Holyoke MA. As the title implies, the event will be held as a brunch from 11:00 – 2:00 in order to avoid travel at night. This format has worked quite well for the November Foundation event the past two years so Christine will try this for the Installation Dinner. Please mark your calendars for both of these very important events.

Preparations for the Rotary Day of Service continue and the number of districts involved has grown to 8 encompassing 5 states and two countries (U.S. and Bermuda). Just *Imagine* having 12,000 Rotarians involved in service projects on the same day! The event will be held on May 20th so please mark your calendars. Clubs will receive a form very soon requesting you identify your project, your team leaders and some other pertinent information. Presidents, please keep an eye out for this email.

Our district continues to support the citizens of Ukraine. We provided \$25,000 of DDF (District Designated Funds) toward a disaster relief fund to purchase two modular homes. The goal of this fund is 300 units, with approximately 100 funded thus far.

Our district has also approved \$6,000 of DDF to purchase a mobile ICU for the State of Kerala in India in a rural community with no nearby medical facilities. We are in partnership with District 3201 who is hosting the global grant. This project is going through the remainder of the approval process.

November was Foundation month, and our district is doing generally quite well. Below are this year's numbers compared to last year at this time. As you can see, we are doing quite well in most areas. Please remember we are still in the fight to eradicate Polio. December is Rotary's *Disease Prevention and Treatment* month so consider giving to PolioPlus this month. Your donation of \$100 or more to Polio Plus earns you a PolioPlus Society recognition pin.

Description	Year-to-Date	Same period last year
Annual Fund	\$84,167	\$59,900
Polio Fund	\$11,276	\$15,816
Club Contribution to Global Grants	\$17,800	\$16,184
Endowment Fund	\$10,000	\$25,000

We are rapidly approaching winter (yikes!) and the holiday season. Whatever your particular religion or personal beliefs are, I hope you have a wonderful holiday as we end 2022 and begin 2023.

District Governor Randy