



June 2020

From District Governor John Chambers...

Issue #12 2019-20

This will be my last “News and Notes” column as your District Governor. In May we spent many hours creating and distributing our various COVID-19 grant funds”. It bears that we were able to secure \$10,000 District Block Grant Contingency Funds and \$25,000 Disaster Relief Grant from The Rotary Foundation. Each area received \$2,500. In April the Board of Directors allocated \$1,000 per club, maximum of \$52,000 for combating COVID- 19 and its economic impact. I was approached to strengthen our endeavors in Detroit and the immediate area. Pioneer Medical Research Foundation matched donations from Detroit and Plymouth clubs for a total of \$20,000. I cannot thank Pioneer and Rotary clubs of Detroit and Plymouth enough!

We cancelled District Conference at Kalahari last month and issued full refunds. We will now hold a free “virtual conference” this month, June 11 and 12 from 7:00 PM to 8:30 PM ET each day. We will be recognizing the Dick Hedke award, Hugh Archer club award, and COG award.s We have instituted awards for Best Communications, Best New Member Orientation Program, Membership award-Percentage and Net Gain and a Passport to Service award. Astronaut Mike Foreman, RI President Mark Maloney, Rotary Foundation Trustee Jennifer Jones, and PDG Carl Chinnery, who gives a powerful presentation on polio, will all join us. Great thanks to conference co-chairs Sue and Bruce Goldsen and program co-chairs Traci and Paul Sincock.

Inside this month’s “News & Notes” -

- [Virtual District Conference, page 2](#)
- [Salute to DG John, pages 3-8](#)
- [Meet the Governor Night, page 9](#)
- [Detroit presents Youth Citizen awards, page 11](#)

News & Notes Publisher:

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Layout: Bruce Goldsen

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I have enjoyed attending many Zoom, Go To Meeting, and WebEx meetings. I see the enthusiasm and camaraderie of the Rotarians. The desire to engage in safe activities is huge. I also see the concern for financial and mental health issues. May I suggest that if you have any issues you contact your local county or provincial community mental health agency for help.

Rotary’s 2019-20 theme is "Rotary Connect the World". I chose "Do the Right Thing" for our district emphasis. While I believe it summarizes our 24 word, 4 way test, Trenton Rotarian and Mayor of Trenton Kyle Stack, before her death, said on Facebook "doing the right thing is integrity when no one is watching."

On behalf of the Council of Governors, Sandy and myself, please know that the safety of you as Rotarians and your family is our top priority!

Stay connected with your members, stay home, stay safe.

DG John & Sandy

Visit our Super District 6400 website—www.rotary6400.org

DisCon 2020 Goes Virtual!

June 2020 News & Notes page 2

Click here for more
details!

Rotary
District 6400



VIRTUAL DISTRICT CONFERENCE
JUNE 11 & 12, 2020
7:00 - 8:30pm each night
WE MISS EACH OTHER. DON'T MISS THIS!

Join us for two great nights, filled with great programs and awards!

Free to attend...Here's how to connect:

Thursday, June 11th

Featuring District Governor John Chambers, Rotary International President Mark Maloney, club projects panel including Fairlane-Sunrise, Grosse Pointe Sunrise, Kingsville-Southshore & LaSalle-Centennial, NASA astronaut Mike Foreman and the COG Awards

Zoom Meeting link : <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/82535317567>

One tap mobile: +16465588656,,82535317567# US (New York)

Friday, June 12th

Featuring DG John's year in review, Rotary Foundation Trustee Jennifer Jones' presentation "Connecting Rotary & The Rotary Foundation," District Rotary Foundation Committee Chair Rick Caron's Foundation review and recognitions, PDG Carl Chinnery's amazing polio presentation, lots of awards including presentation of the Hugh Archer & Dick Hedke

Zoom Meeting link: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/85144815080>

One tap mobile: +16465588656,,85144815080# US (New York)

Cheers to you, Governor John!

The Rotarians of District 6400 salute Governor John Chambers with toasts, roasts and great memories from his many visits to clubs. We appreciate your leadership and thank you for your service!



“District Governor John is a revered member of our club, and we encourage him to speak at every meeting! We all know how loving and giving John is, and sometimes I don't think we measure up to him in Rotary. He is terrific!” — Carolann Morykwas, Detroit AM club president (home club of Governor John Chambers)



(Left) PDG Donna Schmidt with her ranch hands— District Governor John and club presidents Jim Perri (Fairlane Sunrise), Steve Koppinger (Allen Park) and John Chont (Huron Township) during February’s Allen Park Rotary Roundup

“The Rotary Club of Tecumseh wants to thank Governor John for his hard work and dedication to making the most out of his year with the extreme circumstances we face.”
—Thomas Buxton, club president

*“Hi John” (The Beatles “Hey Jude”)
Sung by the Plymouth A.M. club members during DG John’s official visit*



Hi John,
So glad you’re here
You inspire us
To “Do the Right Thing”.
As Rotary connects us around the world
You point the way
To make things...better...better...better...better.
Na...na...na...na, na, na, na, na, na, na, na, Hi John
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Here's to you, Governor John!

"Governor John with our visiting Open World delegates this past October. They were in Lenawee County to learn more about early childhood education and have maintained close contact through Zoom during the COVID19 outbreak." – Ray Lennard, Adrian Morning club president



"John, thank you for your leadership... salud!"— Lisa Kennedy, Canton club president



"Thanks for your leadership and a great year Governor!" - Linda Newsome, Taylor club president

"Governor John, we in the Rotary Club of Detroit salute you for the multitude of ways you have supported and guided us by: Being present at our meetings to induct members, providing guidance and ideas in the many unusual circumstances that have filled this Rotary year, inspiring us to Do the Right Thing in everything we endeavor to do, multiplying our COVID-19 response in Detroit through your connections and guidance, and most of all, exemplifying how Rotary Connects the World in all of your efforts and personal support as the club has been striving to Make A Difference in Detroit this Rotary year! Salut!" — Russ Ives, club president



"John came to our Blissfield Club, and honored us, not only with his presence and message, but also his sharing of an achievement award with our club. I was privileged to accept the award, on behalf of our club. Our President elect, my son, Jonathan, took this picture and shared it with me. It was wonderful having John not only as our District Governor, but as a cherished visitor to our club, and an excellent speaker." — Russell Quinton, club president

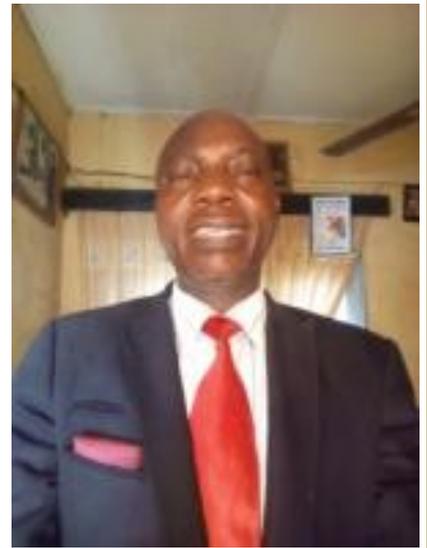
Here's to you, Governor John!

"It was the beginning of an exciting year for us at D6400 E Club Global when the "Do The Right Thing" Governor John brought words of empowerment and motivation during his official club visit Saturday September 7, 2019 at 12:00 p.m.

You can imagine that by the unique privileges presented by the global nature of the territory of our club, meeting virtually, the DG could address and fellowship with twenty four Active Rotarians and their guests, spread over five countries and nations sitting right in his car.

Thanks DG John, your action packed speech has been my anchor this year.

You are a True (RIA) Rotarian in action. *Love & Peace*" - Niyi Abraham, D-6400 Global eClub president



(Right) "On behalf of Wayne State Rotaract, we would like to say thank you John Chambers for attending our Great Lakes Conference and thank you District 6400 for supporting it!" — Wayne State University Rotaractors



(Left) "John, cheers to 'Doing the Right Thing! We appreciated your tireless hours and the opportunity you extended to our club. We enjoyed your two visits and the many conversations on the phone you and I shared. Great job on navigating in these unprecedented times" — John Burgan, Grosse Ile club president

(Right) "I couldn't select one person for the Do the Right Thing Award, So John helped me recognize the entire club. I appreciated John being so accommodating, he's a class act!" — Don Lieto, Monroe club president



(Left) "The Rotary Club of Northville wants to thank DG John for everything he has done for the District this year and also thank him for taking the time to attend and support our major fundraiser, our Tour de Ville cycle event." — Mike Vetter, Northville club president

Here's to you, Governor John!



“The club has been most grateful for DG John’s support during this extraordinary year. He has participated in many of our Zoom meetings since we suspended in-person meetings in March. Dearborn Rotarians have appreciated his dedication to the District and for keeping us updated on the District’s outreach and grant opportunities. None of us will forget this year, and we’ll always remember our District Governor’s care and concern for our members.” – Eric Rader, Dearborn club president (at left, DG John inducted new Dearborn Rotarian Sarah Altamimi during his official visit in October 2019)

“It has been my pleasure to get to know DG John better over the last few months. I had previously connected with him during his visit to our club in July of 2019. As a library director, I looked forward to connecting with a DG who had a similar interest to my own - support of libraries. John previously worked as a financial officer for the Detroit Public Library and was a long time leader of the Friends of the Detroit Public Library. Over the last few months I have gotten to know John as person. I value his steady leadership and encouragement to make a difference. Behind his quiet demeanor is a man of strength and perseverance.” – Carol Souchock, Plymouth club president



“In addition to DG John’s official visit to our Club in August, he dropped in to our Club meeting of January 14, 2020. He personally delivered the Club’s Presidential Citation for 2019-20 and he presented two of our members with their PHF+1 and PHF+3 pins. His warm words of congratulation to our Club and our members made us all feel honoured and appreciated. DG John has a knack for **‘Doing the Right Thing!’**” – Sue Zanin, Windsor-Roseland club president

“District Governor visited the Area 1 Rotary Clubs of Detroit, Detroit AM, Grosse Pointe, and Grosse Point Sunrise. At each Club, DG John cheerfully and enthusiastically talked about Rotary, encouraged all to “Do the Right Thing” and gave Awards to members at each Club who follow that motto. John also supported fundraising and events hosted by our Rotary Clubs, including the Detroit Club’s Polio Fundraiser on October 19, 2019 at the Majestic Bowling Alley. DG John was there with a team from the Detroit AM Club to bowl, and raise funds to eradicate Polio. DG John has faced a Rotary Year unlike no other, and quickly moved our Rotary Fellowship on-line to connect the Clubs. Thanks to DG John, It has been an exciting Rotary year, preparing our District for a better future - **Service Above Self.**” – Margaret Williamson, Area 1 Assistant Governor



Cheers to you, Governor John!



"John has been a very supportive DG to me and the Livonia Rotary club. From my initial conversation with John at District Assembly, we both knew we could count on each other. The club and I have appreciated his presence at our meetings, his efforts in presenting to the club our RI recognition for 75 Years of Service (with Mark Maloney's signature), his continued efforts and positive comments to our members, his follow up calls to me in response to my questions, his feedback, his continued honesty with regards to all Rotary issues, and being open and friendly with our club members. The club has been so appreciative of all that DG John Chambers has done for the Livonia Rotary Club and for District 6400 in these very trying times." — Janet Haas, Livonia club president

"DG John ventured out onto the golf course to greet the foursomes. John is not a very good golf cart driver ... he almost ran over 2 golfers." — Monroe Rotary

"P.G. Wodehouse said, 'To find a man's true character, play golf with him.' Within weeks of taking on the role of DG, I got the opportunity to do that. John drove for hours to attend our Leamington Fore Rotary Golf Tournament. We enjoyed spending a very warm day together on the course. We appreciated his stories, his gallantry and his quiet sense of humour. Later he joined us for dinner at the Kingsville Golf Course, supporting our club and its members, representing the best of what it means to be a Rotarian. Thank you John for your service to Rotary and our District and for always striving to Do the Right Thing!" - Laura Lucier, Leamington club president



"The picture of John and me holding the check was taken when John did his official visit to our club when we presented him a check to RI for Polio Plus. John's comment was, 'this is not \$3000, it is \$9000 cause the Gates Foundation is going to match your gift two to one.'" - John VanStipdonk, Wayne club president

"John has been a really good friend these past 2 ½ years. Until he came to my club meeting one Friday I didn't know him any more than most DGNs, which is to say not that well. He came over, said "Hello" and asked to talk after the meeting. Afterwards, he said I needed to meet the chairman of is golf outing in 2019, me! Volunteered in the classic Plymouth Rotary fashion. Learning a bit about running a golf outing from him in 2018 was my training and gave me the opportunity to know him better. I got to know his sense of humor, dry, slow to get angry and rarely shows it regardless of how angry he might be. He is very generous with his time, talent and treasure. He works hard and we get along well. He tolerates my faults (I think), takes the time to point out my errors in a constructive manner. Disagreements are simply that and do not get in the way of friendship. Most importantly, he doesn't micromanage me or others from what I have seen. He sees the good in others and respects other peoples opinions. None of this is to say he is a saint as I often remind him. He can be stubborn and picky plus he drives like an old man! Some would say that is a good thing.

Due to events beyond the control of everyone this side of Wuhan China, we did not get to celebrate as he deserves. I wish him all the best and hope he enjoys the virtual District Conference as we celebrate his year as governor." — Assistant Governor Russ Jones



DG John visits Area 7



(Above) Pat Kehoe receives DG John's "do the Right Thing" award during his official visit to Carleton (Below) Stephanie Luke gets her award when DG John visited Flat Rock.



(Above) DG John & Jim Perri at "Kids Against Hunger" (Below) "On behalf of Windsor(1918), I want to say DG John was very supportive. He spoke from his heart and worked tirelessly through his year. A real gentleman, and always willing to listen." - Gord Fass, Windsor (1918) club president



Rotary
District 6400

DO THE RIGHT THING

VIRTUAL DISTRICT CONFERENCE
JUNE 11 & 12, 2020
7:00 - 8:30pm each night
WE MISS EACH OTHER. DON'T MISS THIS!

Rotary 
Passport to Service Club

Logon this Saturday morning June 6th at 9 as Past Rotary International Director & Rotary Foundation Trustee Bryn Styles, chair of the Rotary Peace Centers committee, will talk about Rotary and its emphasis on peace, and give an overview of the Rotary Peace Centers and Peace Fellowships. All Rotarians and guests are invited to join us Saturday morning for another informative presentation, and please invite a friend!

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/932780176>



MEET THE GOVERNOR NIGHT - TUESDAY, JUNE 30, 2020

For the **67th**. time the Harrow Rotary Club is honoured to be hosting the annual “**Meet the Governor Night**” for District 6400 on **Tuesday, June 30, 2020.** This year we will be welcoming our incoming **Governor Noel Jackson**, a member of the Trenton Rotary Club, and giving a send off and a world of thanks to our current **Governor, John Chambers** for his dedication and commitment to District 6400.

“**Meet the Governor Night**” will be held in Harrow**WAIT A MINUTE!!! WE CAN'T DO THAT ---- THAT'S NOT FOLLOWING THE RULES OF SOCIAL DISTANCING!!!! WE WILL BE DOING SOMETHING NEW AND EXCITING THIS YEAR! MEET THE GOVERNOR NIGHT WILL BE A VIRTUAL MEETING!**

PLEASE MARK YOUR CALENDARS WITH THE NEW VIRTUAL DATE AND TIME and let all your club members know so they can join us for this Virtual Meet the Governor.

The Virtual Meet the Governor will be held on Zoom, Tuesday, June 30, 2020 at 7:30 PM Eastern Time (US and Canada)

Join the Zoom Meeting using this link: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/89610114299>

One tap from your mobile phone: +16465588656,,89610114299# US
+15873281099,,89610114299# Canada

Or dial by your location: +1 646 558 8656 US, +1 587 328 1099 Canada, Meeting ID: 896 1011 4299

The Harrow Rotary Club could not do this without the help and guidance of Rotarian Bob Gallagher and his team of technical experts in the district. Many thanks to everyone for making this happen.

We look forward to seeing you in Harrow, virtually, for the fun and fellowship.

STAY SAFE EVERYONE

Ginger Pollard

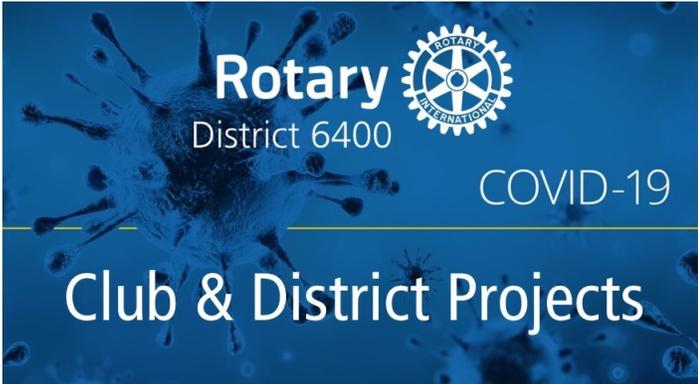
Co chairman

Jill Marontate

Co chairman

Founding Chair, Chuck Webster





What's your club doing during the COVID-19 crisis to help your community? Email PDG Sue Goldsen, sue@goldsen.com so we can add it to the district website and this newsletter!

[CLICK HERE](#) for more club stories

(Below) The D-6400 Global eClub used its district COVID-19 grant to provide palliative care in a region of Nigeria. Rotarians Anuoluwa Giwa, Rita Chigbo, Tos Rabi-Akewusola, Hauwa Aji Ishaku, and President Niyi Abraham are involved in four COVID-19 response projects:

1. Sensitization and monitoring of government/NCDC order compliance
2. Sensitization and monitoring of Preventive measures like social distancing, hand washing etc
3. Ensuring the Food Relief Packages/palliatives reaches the most vulnerable in the Community
4. Monitoring Human Rights Abuses by security officials due to breaches of the lockdown directive.

In matching the District grant of \$1000 with \$1000 and additional donations of \$116 by members, we are giving palliatives of food to 200 families who are old and hungry as they were not able to do their daily income business as a result of the lock down order by the government. In matching the District grant of \$1000 with \$1000 and additional donations of \$116 by members, we are giving palliatives of food to 200 families who are old and hungry as they were not able to do their daily income business as a result of the lock down order by the government.



(Above) Windsor (1918) Rotarian Khassan Saka and his Iraqi Canadian Group made over 1000 masks for distribution to the public free of charge. (Below) Canton club member & Township Supervisor Pat Williams has been coordinating and helping deliver "Feeding the Frontline" meals and helped set up a Covid response hotline with a food pantry. The club, which meets at LA Bistro, provided financial support to feed frontline workers at Providence Park Hospitals. Kevin Davis and Nate Houghton work in banking and have been working tirelessly on PPP loans. The club also coordinated with area 5 on another Feed the Frontlines project with Maraschino's Restaurant in Canton.



The World Community Service Committee of the Rotary Club of Windsor (1918) recently received word that their application for a Global Grant was approved by Rotary International in the area of focus of Water, Sanitation and Hygiene. Rotarians Dr. Godfrey Bachehie and Ron Arkell are the leads on this project.

Historically, the club has initiated successful projects in the Upper West for almost 25 years. The club has provided schools, school furniture and equipment and uniforms, a library, a sheltered workshop for post polio victims, support to a local orphanage and have provided the funds to secure in excess of 25 boreholes in surrounding communities. The club has also provided “Veronica buckets” at each school site to encourage regular hand washing. These projects have been club or donor sponsored. Members of the club and volunteers usually travel to Ghana at least once a year and most often twice a year to monitor projects and maintain relationships with local leaders.



Jirapa District is rural with 95% of the people living in the area being subsistence farmers. Most of the villages do not have access to clean water with no sanitation facilities and during the rainy season waste (human and animal) contaminates the ditches and ponds which are the only current source of water.

As one of the “Centennial Legacy” projects, we completed a \$110,000 water project for the town of Jirapa which is currently pumping 200,000 gallons of fresh water daily.

The current grant will focus on drilling boreholes in at least an **additional 20 rural villages** which presently have no access to potable/clean water. This will provide easily accessible clean water in each village which will reduce the time needed to access any water as well as reducing incidences of water borne diseases and even death.

As with most Rotary projects, the club has this time partnered with District 6400, Rotary Endowed gift E10953, the World Fund, the Rotary Club of Toronto Eglinton and many generous donors to reach the total funding for this project at \$102,933 US.

As Ron Arkell often says, “**water is life**” and we know that this grant will provide a much better life for the people of the Upper West Region of Ghana.

Welcome to our New Members!

Kingsville-Southshore inducted four new members during a May Zoom meeting—Scott Collier (a Harrow past president), his partner Jodi Brush, Peter and Audrey Festuryga.



Can you imagine a Rotary Club without people? Can you imagine a community without people that we serve? Can you imagine a world without humanity and compassion?

This month, Rotary International celebrates Fellowship. Fellowship and Service are the foundation of Rotary, and people make it all happen. People are the most important creation, we are here to love and care for one another and our world. The relationships that we all have with one another helps our well-being whether it's physically, emotionally or spiritually. Rotary offers a great opportunity for us to be there for one another and nurture each other.

JUNE IS



ROTARY FELLOWSHIP MONTH

The beauty of Rotary is that there are over 1.2 million Rotarians out there with many different interests. June is designated Rotary Fellowships Month to recognize the importance of international fellowship and goodwill among Rotarians with similar recreational and vocational interests. Rotary Fellowships began informally in 1928 when Rotarians with a shared interest in the language Esperanto joined together.



In 1947, a group of Rotarian boating enthusiasts began flying the Rotary flag from their crafts, calling themselves the International Yachting Fellowship of Rotarians; this fellowship now boasts the longest continuous existence. The scope of Rotary Fellowships has greatly changed over the years, but today their

purpose is still to unite the Rotary family in friendship and provide venues for enjoying their favorite recreational or professional activities.

So whatever your interest is, It is highly likely that you will find a group of Rotarians with similar interests that you can network with. Rotary Fellowships can really enrich your Rotary Experience. To find out what Rotary Fellowships you can join, visit <https://www.rotary.org/en/our-programs/more-fellowships> . If you do not see one that meets your needs you can even start a new one. Wishing all of you good Fellowship and Fun!

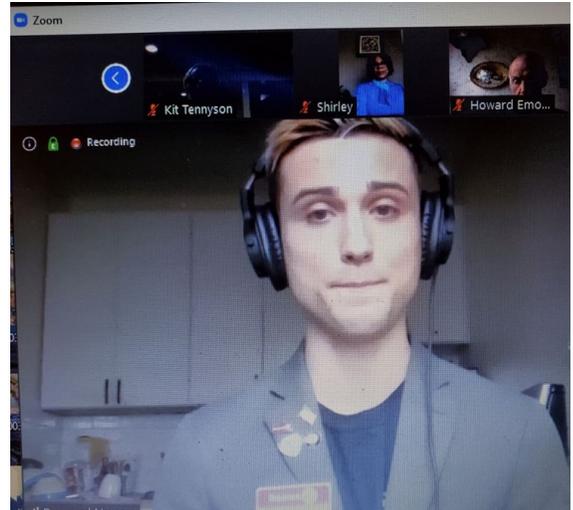


Miss your club meeting? Join an online Rotary meeting and stay connected!

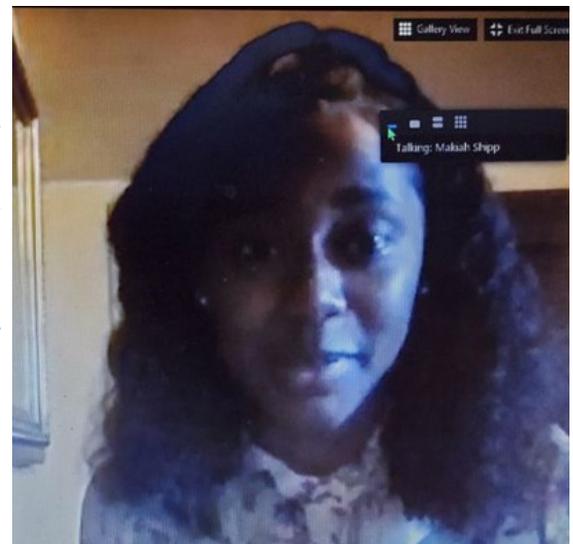
If you are feeling disconnected and want to meet with fellow Rotarians, many clubs are having public online meetings. **[CLICK HERE](#)** for upcoming District 6400 **Zoom** Meetings. The **District 6400 Passport to Service Club** is meeting online via Zoom every Saturday morning at 9:00 AM at **[THIS LINK](#)**. In recent weeks, guest speakers have included the 2020-21 Rotary International President Holger Knaack and a presentation on Ghana from Plymouth AM Rotarian Jeanne Knopf-DeRoche. The June 6th meeting of the Passport to Service Club will feature special guest speaker Bryn Styles. Bryn is a Past Rotary International Director and Foundation Trustee, and is currently Chair of the Rotary International Peace Centers Committee. The club's meetings are open to all current Rotarians and not-yet Rotarians!

Detroit Rotary presents Youth Citizen awards

The Rotary Club of Detroit presented its Youth Citizen awards during a May Zoom meeting. The club introduced its first ever college-aged Youth Citizen Service Award winner, WSU Rotaractor Darwood Navarro (Right). Darwood took a service gap year between obtaining an Associate’s Degree at Lansing Community College and his Bachelor’s degree at Wayne State University by joining the AmeriCorps VISTA program. As a program director for Americorps VISTA, Darwood led projects across the state of Michigan to revitalize rural economies. Darwood helped establish a year-round food and craft marketplace, a county-wide scholarship program and a program to support children’s savings accounts.



(Right) The club also presented a certificate and a check for \$3,000 to its Rotary Youth Citizen of the Year, Makiah Shipp. Makiah is the senior class president at Detroit Edison Early College of Excellence. Makiah was a cheerleader in 9th and 10th grade, and played on the school softball team in her sophomore year. Since her sophomore year she has consistently been on the Superintendent's List and Principal's List for demonstrating exemplary grades. Makiah has a heart for service. For several years she has volunteered in the Rhonda Walker Foundation After School program, mentoring inner-city girls in grades 6 – 8. Last September, she led a community mental health workshop called Mind Over Matter.



Rotary
District 6400

Calendar

[With clickable links](#)

- June 11-12—Virtual District Conference, [click here](#) for details and Zoom links, 7-8:30pm each evening
- June 30—Virtual Meet the Governor Night, [click here](#) to join the fun, 7:30pm
- Monday, July 13—[Allen Park Rotary’s Jim Beebe Memorial Golf Outing](#), 10am
- Thursday, July 23—[District 6400 Governor Circle Meet-up](#), 5pm
- Saturday, August 15—[Skydive for Polio, 8607 Cady Rd, Jackson MI, call \(517\) 423-7720 to register, group #149281](#), 10am

**NOW MORE THAN EVER,
ROTARY CONNECTS THE WORLD**

THE 2020 ROTARY VIRTUAL CONVENTION

Our first-ever virtual event is free and open to all members and participants of the Rotary family.

Learn more at riconvention.org

