

The District Connector

Rotary



THE MAGIC
OF ROTARY

July 2024



2024-2025
District Governor



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Happy New Year Rotarians. As we move into the new fiscal year of Rotary let me start by thanking each of you for your commitment to this fabulous organization. The work each of you does to make the World a Better Place cannot be understated. Everyday thousands of volunteer hours, decisions and money donated are committed by you dedicated Rotarians. It's what makes us the greatest charitable organization in the world.

As we embark on a new journey with our new leaders let's always remember the Magic of Rotary is you, the Rotarian. You are the most important person in Rotary. For 25 plus years now we have advertised that we are 1.2 million members strong. It's time to break the mold. If we are to continue to do the wonderful support that we provide local and worldwide communities, we must continue to grow. Our district membership chair, Mark LaCour, will be getting to all of you our newest competition shortly. All we're asking is bring one, starting with the leadership. Let's lead by example. Additionally, let's all get into MyRotary and identify the simple goals for each of our 50 clubs. It will go a long way to giving focus and direction for this year. It really is quite simple. Lastly, let emphasize Peace. This year brings a new Peace University in Turkey to support our over 1800 peace fellows in the world. However, I want to start at home. 1 st bring inner peace by doing what you need to do to make yourself healthy, both physically and just as importantly mentally. "Charity begins at home" they say, so does personal well-being.

One of my goals this year will be to increase the number of peace poles in our district. My home club of Gonzales has committed to this goal as well. Let's make the planting of the peace pole a community event, inviting community leaders, both civic and non-governmental and business. Be all inclusive for this event and work peace in our own communities.

I'm so excited to start supporting our district. I'm available to any of you at virtually any time. Let's have a great year, use the tools we have available and most of all "Have Fun!"

I look forward to seeing you at the upcoming club visits.

Craig Walling, District Governor

The Rotary Club of Baker recently held their Annual Installation Ceremony which was facilitated by Cathy Craddock, Assistant District Governor. They honored their outgoing President Shelley Joseph, The Service Above Self Award was awarded to Doris Alexander, and Rotarian of the Year was presented to Tierney Bennett, facilitated by Shelley Joseph.

They also installed their new officers Desiree Collins- President, Doris Alexander- Secretary, Leonard Benjamin-Treasurer, Tierney Bennett-Treasurer-Elect, Larry McCaleb- Chaplin, Randy Herring-Sgt at Arms.

They also welcomed new members JT Stroder and Randall Kiper.



LOCAL ROTARY CLUBS DONATE TO WOUNDED WAR HEREOES

Five local Rotary Clubs worked together to donate ditty bags for veterans participating in the Wounded War Heroes Grand Isle Offshore Rodeo this past weekend. The Wounded War Heroes (WWH) was founded to show appreciation to the men and women who have been wounded or injured as a result of serving our country by providing them therapeutic outdoor experiences upon their return home from fighting our country. One such event is the Rodeo, a two-day, deep water fishing event for combat injured veterans. The veterans compete in eight fish categories with plaques given in each category. Each veteran leaves with either an additional trip or a door prize valued at least \$250. All the fish caught are cleaned by volunteers and each veteran leaves a supply of fish.

To continue their mission of assisting veterans, the Rotary Club of Houma (through its local foundation Houma Rotary Foundation) coordinated ditty bags to be given to participating veterans. Other local Rotary Clubs answered the call to also donate items and help with this worthy cause. Participating Rotary Clubs are: Rotary Club of Houma, Rotary Club of Houma-Terrebonne, Sunrise Rotary Club of Houma, Rotary Club of Thibodaux, and Rotary Club of Golden Meadow.

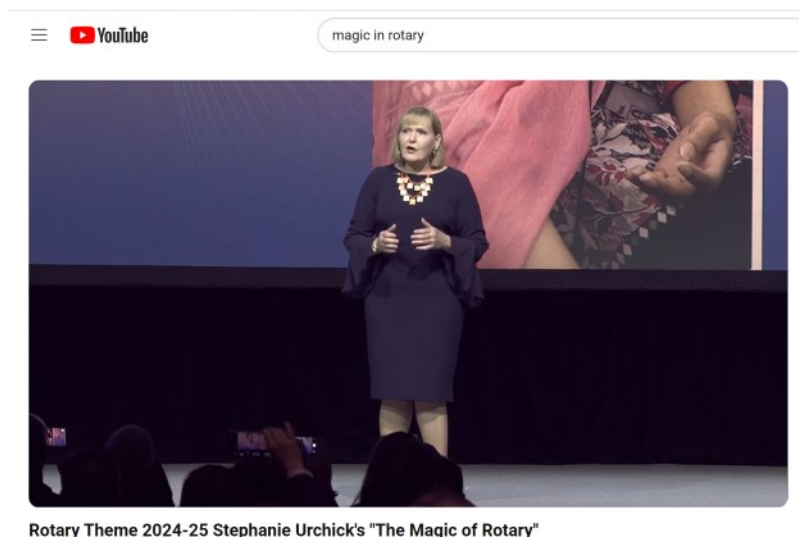


District Governor Craig recently visited the Rotary Club of St. Francisville, where he made some presentations, swore in the 2024-25 Club Officers, and then addressed the club on Rotary and its plans for staying relevant in a changing world.

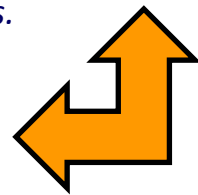




Assistant District Governor, Mark Dispenza, recently installed the 2024-25 officers and board members of the Rotary Club of Port Allen.



Click Here to see Rotary International President-elect Stephanie Urchick announce that the 2024-25 presidential theme is The Magic of Rotary and call on members to recognize and amplify the organization's power to save lives.



Coastal clubs of Louisiana... We have an E-Coastal club that deals in discussing, researching, planning and assisting coastal cities. Coastal cities have unique challenges with planning for disasters, erosions, population control, sea rise, etc. Our E-Coastal Club addresses these challenges at their zoom meetings. We are seeking members willing to meet online to work these issues. There are numerous You Tube videos of their meetings and interesting subject matter expert speakers for you to view to gain interest of your cities. Our club at one time had a membership of over 20 members, but when Covid hit they were decimated as so many clubs were. We're putting an all-out effort to revitalize the interest in this club and its extremely important topic. They also have fun by getting together periodically for a social events. Reach out to Dr. Philip Zimmerman, 225-278-1604 or email at philip@philipmzimmerman.com.

Zachary Rotarians had an etiquette check at a recent meeting when learning about the Zachary Cotillion Program. This program is a wonderful opportunity for young people to learn social etiquette, dining manners, and line dancing in a fun and engaging environment. But it's not just a dance class - it's a comprehensive life skills program aimed at building confidence and respect.

Presently, Zachary Cotillion offers Preteen Cotillion (grades 3-6) to focus on the basics of social interaction, proper manners and introductory dance steps as well as Junior Cotillion (grades 7-8) to delve deeper into etiquette, leadership skills, and ballroom dancing. Zachary Cotillion is a great way for participants to meet peers from different schools or their own school, broadening their social network and making new friends while learning essential life skills such as dining etiquette, proper greetings and conversation techniques. For more information go to www.lastatecotillion.com



Pic L- R Beth Young, Program Director, Cherie Masterson, Zachary Cotillion, and Carl Herrick, Zachary Rotary



The Rotary Club of Livingston held their officer installation, facilitated by PDG Ken Firman, at Greystone Country Club on June 27th. Ken Firman, President Elect/ Cathy Craddock, President/ Keith Stark, Secretary/ Heather Sullivan and Sergeant at Arms/Mike Walker

The Rotary Club of Houma-Terrebonne held its first Bayou's Best Happy Hour Event last month with a Tribute to the Rat Pack as this year's inaugural theme. Local teams competed in three categories in hopes of winning the Bayou's Best Happy Hour dish. Music was inspired by the days of the Rat Pack, with crooner and former club member Jim Saadi, as well as Mary Beth Landry, wife of club member Greg Landry as featured singers. This year's main sponsor was Cannata's Supermarket. The event was held at the Houma Municipal Auditorium, and fun was had by all!



DISTRICT 6200 HUMAN TRAFFICKING PREVENTION COMMITTEE

The LA Office of Human Trafficking Prevention (OHTP) offers training to our public & private school systems to increase awareness of this tragedy among our youth. We can help by bringing these two together in order to train staff members in our school systems about what to look out for.

Please appoint one or more members of your Club to contact your local school board, public or private, to have them allow the State OHTP to provide this service to their staff. Then contact either Pat Bagley or Beth Olinde, co-District Chairs, who will then coordinate the two parties for the training.

Pat - patbagley575@gmail.com

Beth - keolinde@gmail.com

This is a great way for your Club to help provide a much needed service to your community. We want to reach out to each school system in our District.

On June 13, 2024 District Attorney Hilar Moore joined the Rotary Club of Zachary, and shared valuable insights on community safety, recent legal developments and the pivotal role of the DA's office in upholding justice. It is always an enlightening session that leaves everyone more informed.

The DA also brought Amy Files, Legal Specialist and Special Dog Handler for the DA's office and special guest, Diesel to the meeting.

Diesel is a trained service dog that works as a courthouse assistance. He works with children during testimony in court hearings. He provides comfort and support to young witnesses, helping them feel safe and calm during what can be a very stressful experience. This special dog's presence is invaluable in ensuring that these children can share their stories with confidence and ease.

A big thank you to the DA's office for their dedication and compassion.

Pic L - R District Attorney Hilar Moore, Legal Specialist and Special Dog Handler, Amy Files, Courthouse Assistant, Diesel, and Rotary President Daniel Gomez



SOCIAL MEDIA MONTHLY TIP...*Dedicate Time for Daily Maintenance*

Social media management demands daily dedication. Try to commit at least 15 to 30 minutes daily to interact with followers on your chosen platforms – it really goes a long way for your brand! With regular social media engagement, you get a direct line of communication with your users to provide vital brand intel and continuously get a read on their needs and feelings surrounding your brand and identity. Additionally, see what your competitors, industry friends, and partners are up to, and take time to engage with and share their posts whenever a great opportunity arises.

To see more great PEOPLE OF ACTION stories in District 6200, follow us on Social!
#peopleofaction

