

THE GOVERNOR'S REMARKS



2022 - 2023
District Governor
Tim McNabb

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Congratulations to all the Rotary incoming Presidents, Officers, and Board members of District 6200. Also, congratulations and thank you to PDG Mark Lee on his successful year of leadership.

On July 1st the entire leadership of Rotary International, from the Rotary International President to the Smallest Rotary Club's President, is replaced. The entire leadership of a 117-year-old, 1.4 million-member organization changes every year is incredible. Although this year everything has transitioned as it always has, it was historically different. For the first time in the history of Rotary International, a female President will lead Rotary International this year.

Mrs. Jennifer Jones will lead us with the 2022-23 Theme "Image Rotary." As the first woman to be a RI president, Jennifer understands how important it is to follow through on Rotary's Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion (DEI) Statement. "I believe that diversity, equity, and inclusion ... begins at the top and for us to realize growth in female membership and members under the age of forty — these demographics need to see their own reflection in leadership," Jones said. "I will champion double-digit growth in both categories while never losing sight of our entire family."

Jennifer would like all leadership this year to commit to growing Rotary by double digits using Rotary's commitment to **Diversity, Equity and Inclusion** while "never losing sight of our entire family." Last year under the leadership of DG Mark Lee, we asked that "Everyone Bring One." And District 6200 grew by 40 members. This year District 6200's

leadership will be focused on Growing Diverse Membership in the District by incentivizing Clubs throughout the year. Our Membership Chair Rob Roy and Marketing Chair Larry Simon have IMAGINED a membership contest with some monetary value that can be used in your community. Pay attention and ask questions!!! You do not want to miss out on this.

Over the past three years, we have had struggles in our lives, communities, and in Rotary. Still, as we have learned more about this virus, how it works, and with more people getting vaccinated, the risk of hospitalization is down, there will be a plethora of opportunities for Rotary, your club, and you to Imagine Rotary and how it will serve your communities.

In these past few years, we have overcome a lot of adversity, and through that process, there have been some silver linings. Through necessity, Rotary clubs have changed how they meet, when they meet, do their business, fundraise and grow. As a result, some Clubs have actually thrived.

I look forward to helping you, and your club use these newly proven tools to make your clubs and District 6200 the best and most diverse they can be.

I am excited and look forward to meeting you and hearing of all the great things your clubs have done and will be doing this year and helping wherever I can.

Tim McNabb
District 6200 Governor.



Scenes from the RI Convention



The District Connector



Rotary

PEOPLE OF ACTION



Presidential Initiatives

Initiatives Overview

Rotary International President Jennifer Jones imagines a Rotary where members act to make their dreams become reality and make the most of their club experiences. During her year, Jones will focus on four presidential initiatives that Imagine Rotary: advancing our commitment to Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion (DEI); creating a welcoming club experience; empowering girls; and expanding our reach.

Imagine: Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion (DEI)

Diversity is one of Rotary's longstanding core values and greatest strengths. Jones knows there is more to be done to ensure that Rotary's culture exemplifies our values of diversity, equity, and inclusion (DEI). Rotary, with input and guidance from the DEI Task Force, has strengthened our commitment to DEI, resulting in a greater focus on celebrating every individual's contributions, advancing equity, and creating a more welcoming and inclusive culture.

President Jennifer Jones encourages each of us to do our part to ensure Rotary is a welcoming and inclusive community by:

- Learning more about DEI in Rotary, including understanding definitions and how to celebrate and respect our differences.
- Determining why DEI matters to our club and community and how using DEI principles can help our club grow and become stronger.
- Raising awareness of DEI, including creating a DEI committee in your club that reflects the demographics of your community.

– Taking action on DEI in our club and community for instance educating yourself about underrepresented groups in your community in order to become a more knowledgeable and effective advocate for DEI.

Imagine a welcoming club experience: Comfort and Care

Rotary has an important role to play to ensure that the club environment and experience is welcoming, inclusive, and enjoyable for all members and participants. Surveys show that comfort and care is the single greatest driver of satisfaction and our most powerful tool for retention. This begins with listening to and understanding what members and participants want out of their Rotary involvement. We often speak of the importance of "exit interviews" to better understand why former members leave. But why wait for them to leave? Jones urges club leaders to incorporate "entrance interviews" as well to understand the needs and expectations of new members at the outset. And of course, be sure to regularly survey all existing members, to ensure they have an opportunity to share thoughts about their membership experience.

Empowering Girls

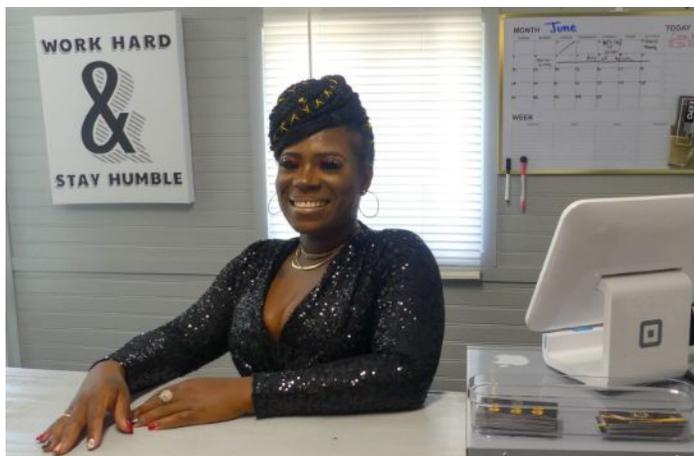
Jones will continue past RI President Shekhar Mehta's Girls Empowerment initiative, recognizing that empowered girls become empowered women. Share your Girls Empowerment projects on Showcase.

Imagine Impact: Expanding Rotary's reach media tours

Imagine Expanding Rotary's Reach Throughout the year, Jones will visit eight service projects that represent each of Rotary's areas of focus and polio eradication. The tour will provide examples of how Rotary can make a measurable difference, while introducing Rotary to new audiences and potential partners and influencers.



Proud to be a Rotarian



One Houma native has found a purpose in her journey to help other women succeed. Latoya Walters, owner of Craftin' in Peace and founder of a new non-profit We Inspire LA, is striving to bridge the gap between what is and what could be.

Walters found herself with a drinking problem that led to three DWIs landing her in jail for a week. While behind bars, she said she took the opportunity to have conversations with the other women which opened her eyes to the issues that lead to repeat offenders, "The repeating issue was environmental," she explained, "They were all being released to the same environment which led them right back to jail." She knew from there that she wanted to serve women, "When I left, I never drank again," she said, "I really started to push community service."

Fast forward two years later when Walters started making tee-shirts that she used as a ministry to connect and talk with women. She was transparent with her customers about her journey of being a single mother, trying to start a business, and dealing with alcoholism. It led to others being comfortable enough to connect with her. Conversations with others taught her about transitional housing and she said it clicked on what she wanted to do.

She admitted that Hurricane Ida got the ball rolling for the plan because that's when she joined the Rotary Club to help serve the community despite losing her shop and two homes. Joining put her out of her comfort zone and she said she was scared due to her putting labels on herself, "I didn't label myself as a human," she explained, "I label myself as a black single mother who came from the hood and I had locks in my hair. I'm thinking they're going to be saying things about me." That's when she gratefully explained that she thought those things about herself and the group took her in which is where her life changed, "When I walked in the room, those people never looked at me as anything other than Latoya. I should have been looking at myself as Latoya."

It was in Rotary she met Hester Serrano with the Lafourche Parish Correctional Center. Serrano aids with transitioning into society after incarceration which Walters said she immediately connected with, "She literally spoke my dream," Walters tearfully said, "and here we are today."

Her experiences and aspirations led to the founding of We Inspire LA, a non-profit that addresses the lack of transitional housing for women. The organization is looking for necessities, toiletries, personal hygiene products, and furniture, the most critical being furniture. The first property, a four-bedroom house that will serve seven women, needs bunk beds along with furniture that will make the transition more comfortable. The home is anticipated to be approved for August.



Jennifer E Jones Makes History as the First Woman to Serve as Rotary International President

Last month, Jennifer E. Jones, a member of the Rotary Club of Windsor-Roseland, Ontario, Canada, made history as she stood on the stage in Houston, Texas, and assumed the mantle of Rotary International President. An inspiring figure who has spent her life serving others and working to improve her community and the world, she is the first woman to serve as President in Rotary's 117-year history.

RIP Jones' theme for this year is "Imagine Rotary," and she has outlined a vision that will emphasize ambition and dreaming big! "As we reflect upon our new strategic priorities," Jones said in her vision statement, "we could have never envisioned that our ability to adapt would become our North Star during what is inarguably the most profound time in recent history" She went on to remind Rotarians that "Silver linings rise out of the most challenging circumstances. Using metric-driven goals, I will harness this historic landscape to innovate, educate, and communicate opportunities that reflect today's reality."

Her year will also feature an intensified focus on growth and the critical importance of Rotary's Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion (DEI) Statement. "I believe that diversity, equity, and inclusion ... begins at the top and for us to realize growth in female membership and members under the age of forty — these demographics need to see their own reflection in leadership." Jones further pledged to "champion double-digit growth in both categories while never losing sight of our entire family."

A Rotarian since 1997, Jones has served as a Rotary Foundation trustee, RI Vice-President, Director, Training Leader, Committee Chair, and district governor. She also helped to lead Rotary's rebranding effort by serving as chair of the Strengthening Rotary's Advisory Group, and has also championed Polio Eradication through serving as the Co-Chair of the End



Polio Now Countdown to History Campaign Committee. Lastly, Jones played a critical role in Rotary's response to COVID-19 and led the #RotaryResponds telethon, which raised critical funds for COVID-19 relief and was seen by more than 65,000 viewers.

Jones' work has been recognized with Rotary International's Service Above Self Award and The Rotary Foundation Citation for Meritorious Service. She and her husband, Nick Krayacich, are also members of the Arch Klumph Society, the Paul Harris Society, and the Bequest Society. A successful entrepreneur, Jones is founder and president of Media Street Productions Inc., an award-winning media company in Windsor, Ontario, Canada. She is a Past-Chair of the Board of Governors of the University of Windsor and Chair of the Windsor-Essex Regional Chamber of Commerce. She has also received numerous awards for her service, including the YMCA Peace Medallion, the Queen's Diamond Jubilee Medal, and Wayne State University's Peacemaker of the Year Award.



Calendar of Upcoming Events:

- 🕒 **RI Zones 30 & 31 Summer Leadership Series**
 - o Seminar 1 – Think Innovation not Habit– Tuesday, July 26, 2022, 6:00 PM – 7:30 PM
 - o Seminar 2 – Think Passion not Program – Saturday, July 30, 2022, 9:00 AM – 10:30 AM
 - o Seminar 3 – Think Stories not Information – Tuesday, August 9, 2022 – 6:00 PM – 7:30 PM
 - o Seminar 4 – Think Inclusive not Limited – Saturday, August 13, 2022, 9:00 AM – 10:30 AM
 - o [Link to register](#)

- 🕒 **RI Zones 30 & 31 Conference – Pathways to our Future 2.0**
 - o Governor line training – September 27 - 29, 2022
 - o Conference – September 29 – October 2, 2022
 - o Chattanooga, TN
 - o [Link to register](#)

- 🕒 **Rotary District 6200 Mid-Year Assembly**
 - o Saturday, January 21, 2023
 - o Home-2-Suites by Hilton, Lafayette, LA

- 🕒 **Come Together~ Imagine Rotary**
 - o Rotary District 6200 District Conference
 - o April 21 – 23, 2023
 - o Home-2-Suites by Hilton, Lafayette, LA

- 🕒 **Rotary International Convention**
 - o May 27 – 31, 2023
 - o Melbourne, Australia
 - o [Link to register](#)



In Memory of Noel Bajat

A beloved Rotarian, Noel Bajat, passed away Sunday, June 26, 2022. Mr. Bajat was a native and lifelong resident of Carencro. A veteran of the military, he proudly served his country in the United States Navy from 1961 - 1965. Upon his honorable discharge from the Navy, Mr. Bajat was the successful President and CEO of Abbeville Building and Loan for twenty-three years.

Noel was a member of the Rotary Club of Abbeville. He elevated his involvement in the Rotary International when he was selected to serve as Rotary District 6200's District Governor from 1998 to 1999. He was elected as a Rotary International Director and serve on the RI Board from 2010 to 2012. In 2012, Noel was selected as Vice President of Rotary International. After his service with the RI Board of Directors, Noel was named a Trustee to The Rotary Foundation and served from 2013 to 2017.

Important Links

[District Website](#)

[Brand Center](#) - Download PoA assets and create images



Get Your "Ask" Going!!!

Two \$1,500 Prizes!!!

2022-2023 District 6200 Membership Drive and Raffle

\$2,000 Grand Prize!!!

- For the 2022-2023 Rotary Year, the clubs with the highest growth can win one of two \$1,500 prizes at District Conference and/or a \$2,000 Grand Prize at the end of the Rotary Year!
- Prize money will be in the form of a District Grant that can be used for any Rotary Project or activity to promote Rotary in your Community
- Winning clubs and their projects will be featured in the District Newsletter and in District Social media with photographs and video. Winning clubs must agree to provide photos and video of the project.
- The two \$1,500 prizes will be awarded by raffle at the 2022-2023 District Conference. Clubs must be present to win
- To enter the raffle, clubs must achieve a net growth of either 10 new members or 10% **net growth** (rounded up) **by March 31, 2023.**
- Each club that qualifies will then receive one additional raffle entry for **each paid registration to 2022-2023 District Conference** from their club (up to five entries)
- Each club that qualifies will also receive one addition raffle entry if they have a Club Membership Chair with contact information designated in DacDB
- The \$2,000 Grand Prize will be awarded to the club with the **largest percent net growth** at the end of the Rotary Year on June 30, 2023.
- Learn more at <https://youtu.be/TSIzXCeL0Kw>

