

## July – Let us Get This Rotary Year Started



### Rotary Opens Opportunities

Welcome to Rotary Year 2020-2021! I hope you all have a great 4<sup>th</sup> of July Weekend and are ready to take on the challenges and blessings of Rotary. I am honored to serve as your District Governor for this year and look forward to hearing of the great things you will be doing.

During each week this Rotary year, I will be featuring one Club to highlight its history and achievements, and what makes it unique. I hope you can investigate your own community and see some new opportunities unfold. This week, it is the **Rotary Club of Webster Groves**. The Club was admitted to Rotary on March 15<sup>th</sup>, 1924, and was sponsored by Club 11, the St Louis Rotary Club. They had 17 charter members, and today they proudly have 59 members. This year they are led by Gerry Kettenbach who succeeds Chuck Weed. Both are Paul Harris Fellows, and between the 2 have over 30 years serving Rotary.

In talking to Gerry and Chuck, they mentioned some of the service projects they are most proud of. One is how active their Interact Club is in the Webster Groves High School, and the Rotary Club is proud to be active in the International Student Exchange program, even with the program on hold currently. Recently the club purchased 6 AED Defibrillators for 6 Webster Groves Police cruisers. So far, the devices have been used twice since purchased in 2019. The Club has donated food and essential items to the Rock Hill Ministries and food items to the Hixson Middle School for the backpack program. These are just a few of the many

projects the Club is involved with. The Club has a long tradition of great leadership brought about by multi-year planned succession. The Rotary Club of Webster Groves not only gives money and service to their local community, they support the Rotary Foundation Annual Fund and the Polio Plus Fund. This year member Gail Fernandez will be serving the District 6060 as the End Polio Now Committee Chair. The Club has been meeting via Zoom meetings with over 50% attending.

Now, addressing your Clubs, please review your Club's goals with your Membership and Foundation Goals, and update them in MyRotary.org (<http://www.myrotary.org/>). Your Club members will then be able to see the Club goals and accomplishments on their own My Rotary account. I encourage you all to start strong and finish stronger.

And finally, seek out new members. Invite them to your Club in person if permitted, or to virtual meetings. Bill Dees the Membership Chair of the District will be glad to help your Club set and achieve real membership success. His email address is [wjdees50@gmail.com](mailto:wjdees50@gmail.com) (<mailto:wjdees50@gmail.com>) He would like to schedule time with your Club to set the wheels in motion for Club growth.

Have a great week!

