



**THE
ROTARY
RAZZ**

Rotary Club of Oak Park-River Forest, Illinois
Club 3190 **District 6450**

Meetings: Noon at Cucina Paradiso, 814 North Blvd., Oak Park. Members must pre-register and pre-pay at
<http://www.oprfrotary.org>

Club 3190
District 6450

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<http://www.oprfrotary.org>

Volume 103, Number 16

www.oprfrotary.org

October 20, 2021

Today in OPRF Rotary

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This week's program will feature representatives from PING! (Providing Instruments for the Next Generation), Ginger Yarrow, PING! president; instrument committee chair, and Michelle Dybal, fundraising chair for PING!

PING! brings equitable access to the instrumental music programs in Oak Park and River Forest school districts 90, 97, and 200 by loaning instruments and providing music enrichment opportunities to students in need, opening the door to music education and all its related benefits to those students who would otherwise be unable to participate.

Yarrow has lived in Oak Park for 30 years with her husband, Phil. She has a B.A. in English Education from U of I—Champaign and an M.A. in English from Loyola. She taught English at York High School in Elmhurst for seven years and later worked as an editor for a textbook company. In recent years, she has been co-director of uniforms for the Marching Huskies and a volunteer with Autism Speaks.

A journalist since she started a newspaper at her elementary school in fifth grade, Dybal went on to earn a BS in Broadcast Journalism from the University of Illinois, Urbana/Champaign. She has worked as a writer/producer, in corporate communications management and marketing, and now is back to print journalism as Arts Editor with Growing Community Media primarily writing and editing for Wednesday Journal. She also consults on communications and marketing for nonprofits.



Prospective New Member

We are delighted to announce that the following person has submitted a membership application to the Rotary Club of OP-RF. Per Club rules his name must be published in three consecutive issues of the RAZZ before the Rotary Board may vote on the

membership request. This is the third of three notices. Any concerns, please contact Eric Van Ness or any current OPRF Board Member.



NAME: John Kearns
BUSINESS: ISPNA
SPONSOR: Ade Onayemi
PROFESSION: Immigration Consultant

Fun, Food & Fellowship – Cucina Paradiso

BRING A GUEST TO LUNCH

Mark your calendars NOW!

October

20 — Lunch Meeting - Cucina Paradiso. Program: Michelle Dybal and Ginger Yarrow will give us an update on the work of PING.

27 — Lunch Meeting - Cucina Paradiso. Program: Our newest members will introduce themselves.

Menu












Wednesday, Oct. 20

Rustic salad — Field greens, pears, strawberries, candied walnuts, gorgonzola, balsamic

Pork whole grain mustard sauce — thinly pounded tenderloin medallions, roasted potatoes, grilled asparagus.

Bread pudding — caramel sauce, whipped cream

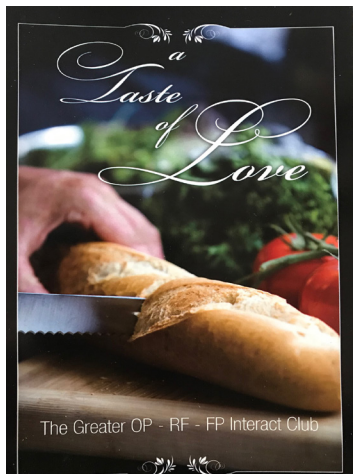
THANKS to Sue Quinn for taking notes and Cathy Hall and Lesley Gottlinger for providing photos for this issue.

PLATINUM	GOLD	SILVER	BRONZE
	 	  	 
  			



Announcements

- Treasurer, **Cathy Hall** asked for volunteers to work the attendance desk. Please email her at chall@forestinsured.com
- President **Eric Van Ness** announced that the 2020-21 Directory of Members would be sent around the room for members present to make updates to their listings for 2021-22. Charles Wells, who spearheads our directory effort, will be bringing in cards of the directory listing for each member to proof for accuracy of information starting next week.



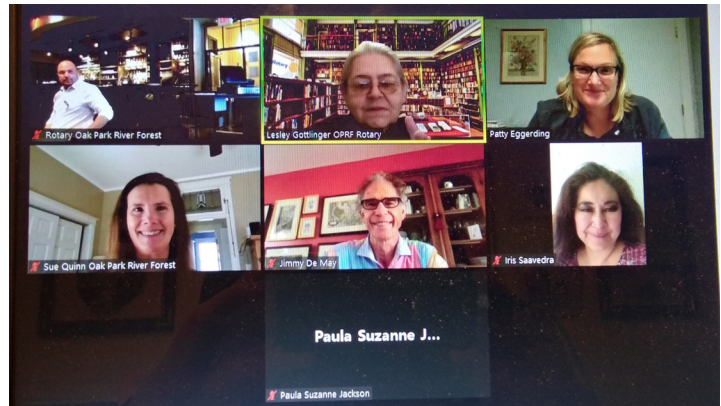
- **Lesley Gottlinger** reminded members that there are still more than 100 Interact cookbooks — “A Taste of Love” — to sell. They will make great hostess or Christmas gifts.

- President Van Ness announced that a limited number of Rotarians will be allowed to participate in the District 6450 Thanksgiving Turkey giveaway. If you have a strong interest in being one of those volunteers, please let him know soon.

- President Van Ness

announced some of the upcoming training sessions being held by the District. Please go to the District website: <https://rotary6450.clubexpress.com/content.aspx?sl=1492477204> to review the offerings.

- President Van Ness distributed the 2021-22 Rotary International “Serve to Change Lives” theme pins to those members who were present.



Joining the meeting via Zoom Oct. 13 were Lesley Gottlinger, Paty Eggerding, Sue Quinn, Jimmy DeMay, Iris Saavedra-Zaldivar and Suzanne Jackson.



Guests Oct. 13 were (from left) Mike O'Neill, John Kearns and speakers Maureen Hunter, and Becky Martin. Riley Mosley, Selma Belajec's caregiver, was also a guest.

Interact Fullerton Woods cleanup scheduled for Oct. 23

The next Interact Fullerton Woods Forest Preserve Cleanup Project will be from 9:30-11:30 a.m. Saturday, Oct. 23.

One more in November, and we're eligible to officially be the adopter of this Forest Preserve. We really, really could use some volunteers — especially ones with kids are 13-18 years old.



Club members (from left) Charles Wells, Jim Lencioni, Linda Sahagian and President Eric Van Ness enjoy time together.

Join Bears in distributing turkeys in Garfield Park

District 6450 Governor Jane Hopkins said that Rotary Clubs have been invited to participate in a Thanksgiving Turkey and Trimmings distribution on Tuesday, Nov. 16 in Garfield Park. Garfield Park is a very low income community on the west side of Chicago.



"Our Rotary role will be to purchase and distribute the frozen turkeys with some Chicago Bears who will be providing and distributing the trimmings for the Thanksgiving meal, she said in an email sent to members.

"We are planning on purchas-

ing about 1,000 turkeys and will need to raise about \$15,000. We are asking Rotary Clubs in District 6450 to participate in providing a healthy and happy Thanksgiving dinner to so many in need.

Donation Commitment and Payment

Rotary Clubs that donate a suggested \$150, \$250, \$500, or \$1000 or more will be invited to help with the turkey distribution. Please make your donations in the following manner:

Check:

Payable to:

The Charitable Foundation of Rotary District 6450, Inc.
400 E. Randolph St., #2305
Chicago, IL 60601

Electronic payment:

[CLICK HERE](#) to make an online donation.

Please list "Turkeys" in the comment field.

We are asking that all donations are submitted by **Tuesday, Nov. 2.**

Distribution of Turkeys

For all Clubs making a donation, we will be sending you details on the event and will ask you to register your Club members that will participate in the turkey distribution. Distribution of turkeys with the Chicago Bears will begin at 1 p.m. on Tuesday, Nov. 16.

It is an honor for our Rotary Clubs to participate in a hands-on community Thanksgiving initiative and to join forces with the Chicago Bears, Black Village Foundation, and Perdue in making Thanksgiving special for the residents of the Garfield Park Community.

Please contact us if you have any questions.

Jane Hopkins

District 6450 Governor

janehopkins6450@gmail.com

Pat Merryweather-Arges

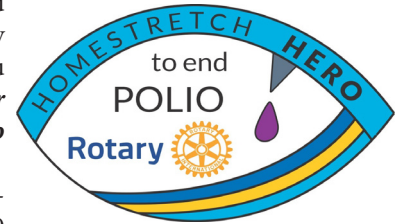
Rotary International Director-Elect

Dg6450pat@aol.com

District 6450 Polio Plus Society launch charter membership opportunity

Rotary District 6450 has launched the District 6450 Polio Plus Society to support Rotary's promise and recently announced end-game strategy to achieve and sustain a polio-free world by 2026. The District invites you to become a **Charter Member and HOMESTRETCH Hero** today!

Polio Plus Society members pledge to donate \$100 per Rotary Year to the Rotary Foundation Polio Plus Fund until the world is certified polio-free. To become a **Charter Member – HOMESTRETCH Hero**, make your pledge and donate \$100 to the Polio Plus Fund by 12/31/21.



[CLICK HERE TO JOIN NOW](#)

Charter Members will receive a specially designed limited edition Recognition Pin! They will also receive special recognition at District Rotary Foundation events, including the 2022 White Sox Family Fun Night.

Please contact District Rotary Foundation Chair, [Rachel Ossyra](#), or Polio Plus Chair, [Mary Dankowski](#), with any questions.

It's LEARNING Season!

Engage in Rotary training throughout the fall!

FOUNDATION Thurs Oct 14 6pm Sat Oct 16** 9:30am	PUBLIC IMAGE Tue Oct 26 6:30pm Tue Nov 9 6:30pm	CLUB SECRETARY Sat Oct 30 9am Mon Nov 15 6:30pm
CLUB TREASURER Tue Nov 2 6:30pm	LITERACY PROJECTS Wed Nov 3 6:30pm	PETS* ORIENTATION Thu Oct 28 6:30pm Sat Nov 13 9:30am

Learn from our District 6450 leaders on how to grow your club or your own development in a variety of sessions presented throughout the fall.

Further details and registration for each session can be found on the district calendar at www.rotary6450.org

*President Elect Training Seminar (PETS) Orientation is required for presidents-elect for the 2022-2023 Rotary year and must be completed before the main PETS training in March.

**October 16 is a required Global Grants Management seminar for any clubs currently or potentially participating in Global Grants

All sessions are free and will be held via Zoom



Oct. 13 Program: A House in Austin

Maureen Hunter, board member of A House In Austin, thanked the Rotary club for their generosity in supporting the mission of A House in Austin.

Our club contributed funding through the community grants program in 2019 towards building a 45-foot ramp to make the building ADA accessible. In 2020, the club provided bags of musical instruments and props to families served by A House in Austin in order to allow their parent-child music classes to be held over Zoom.

In 2021, the club awarded A House In Austin an additional community grant to make improvements to the previously unusable back yard of their property. Specifically, funding went toward building a trike path.

Hunter explained that A House In Austin was established a few short years ago by Oak Park resident, Erica Hilgart, to address the great divide in parenting resources between the Oak Park and the Chicago Austin community.

The program began modestly with low-cost parent-child music classes being offered in a local church on Pine Avenue in Austin. Eventually, a 501 (c) 3 was formed,



Becky Martin (left) and Maureen Hunter.

and the nonprofit purchased and rehabbed a 3,500 square foot home at 535 Pine Ave., which serves as a home base of a community of parenting support serving families on Chicago's West Side. Hunter introduced Becky Martin, who serves as the co-executive director of A House in Austin, along with Jacquelyn Dortch.

Martin started as a parent in the program, taking music classes with her young

children. When A House in Austin founder, Hilgart, discovered that Martin was a licensed clinical social worker, she soon recruited her to join the team doing home visits to families with children ages birth through 5 years. Martin explained the programs that they are currently offering: home visits, Parent Chat, the music classes for birth through 5, and Fresh Table (a cooking class focused on nutrition and healthy lifestyle.) While they are focused on families with young children, they do expand their summer programming to school-age children. Martin explained that their small size allows them to adapt their programs to the needs of the community.

They are currently serving 30 families. Recently, they have allowed a partner organization Welcome to Fatherhood, which is run by two men from the Austin community, to utilize their space for semi-monthly meetings.

A House in Austin coordinates and partners with other local early intervention organizations and refers their families to other local resources such as New Moms and Catholic Charities.

