



Remembering Our Beginnings  
But Focused on the Future  
1923 – 2023  
and beyond

**Rotary**  
Club of Fulton, Missouri



## **Our Mission & Vision**

### **Who We Are**

Rotary is a global network of 1.4 million neighbors, friends, leaders, and problem-solvers who see a world where people unite and take action to create lasting change – across the globe, in our communities, and in ourselves.

### **What We Do**

Rotary members believe that we have a shared responsibility to take action on our world's most persistent issues. Our 46,000+ clubs work together to:

- Promote peace
- Fight disease
- Provide clean water, sanitation, and hygiene
- Save mothers and children
- Support education
- Grow local economies
- Protect the environment

### **Our Mission**

We provide service to others, promote integrity, and advance world understanding, goodwill, and peace through our fellowship of business, professional, and community leaders.

### **Our Causes**

Rotary is dedicated to causes that build international relationships, improve lives, and create a better world to support our peace efforts and end polio forever.

### **Diversity, Equity and Inclusion**

Rotary values diversity and celebrates the contributions of people of all backgrounds, regardless of their age, ethnicity, race, color, abilities, religion, socioeconomic status, culture, sex, sexual orientation, and gender identity.

### **The Object of Rotary**

The Object of Rotary is to encourage and foster the ideal of service as a basis of worthy enterprise and, in particular, to encourage and foster:

- The development of acquaintance as an opportunity for service;
- High ethical standards in business and professions; the recognition of the worthiness of all useful occupations; and the dignifying of each Rotarian's occupation as an opportunity to serve society;
- The application of the ideal of service in each Rotarian's personal, business, and community life;
- The advancement of international understanding, goodwill, and peace through a world fellowship of business and professional persons united in the ideal of service.

## President's Message



I'm proud to be a Rotarian. Proud to be connected to such a positive force for good in the world. Proud to be the president of the Rotary Club of Fulton.

I have always wanted to help others and connecting with Rotary has enabled me to do just that. Think about it for a moment: we are a network of 1.4 million friends, neighbors, business associates and civic leaders who come together to create positive, lasting change in our communities.

Among these changes are the relief of human suffering from infectious diseases – starting with the permanent, world-wide eradication of polio; and the achievement of world peace – starting within ourselves and working outward through our community, our nation, and beyond.

Established in 1923, the Rotary Club of Fulton has a proud history of service to this community and our club supports a number of local, regional and international projects. We are doing a lot of good and we are having a lot of fun doing it.

This year's Rotary International theme is "Imagine Rotary" and together we have been serving our community, enriching our own spirits, and sustaining our club. Rotary is like any relationship between people. What each of us gets out of it is directly proportional to what we put into it. During our Centennial year, let's use our Rotary experience to lead by example, and to imagine a world engaged in meaningful service to our fellow humans in whatever ways we can.

Our club is excited about our future and looks forward to many more years of serving our community and living up to the Rotary motto, "Service Above Self." We are much more than members of a club, we are Rotarians!

In Service,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Allen Huggins".

Allen Huggins  
Rotary Club of Fulton, Missouri  
President 2022-2023

## History of the Fulton Rotary Club

The Rotary Club of Fulton was chartered March 15, 1923, as one of the earliest clubs in Missouri (only 12 other clubs were founded in the state between 1910 and 1922). In the fall of 1922, Frank Rollins, president of the Columbia Rotary Club, approached Nick T. Cave about the possibility of his club sponsoring a new club in Fulton. Cave spoke to other men in Fulton, and they readily agreed to form a club.

In an account of the beginning of the club, Curt Blattner wrote that they met often, reviewed names of prospective members and selected only those executives in their trade or profession with high ethical standards and practices. "A finer group of men," Blattner said, "was never assembled than this group of charter members of the Fulton Rotary Club." The 22 charter members were:

|                                  |                              |
|----------------------------------|------------------------------|
| Harry "Mike" Atkinson            | John R. "Johnny" Pratt       |
| W. Ed "Pedie" Jameson            | Nick T. Cave                 |
| Robert O. "Oscar" Baker          | E. E. Reed                   |
| Greene D. McCall                 | Richard H. "Dick" Crossfield |
| M. Fred "General" Bell           | George T. "Percy" Reily      |
| J. Burlie McCubbin               | T. Harrison "T" Grant        |
| Ovid Bell                        | Waldo F. "Cap" Smith         |
| H. Clay "Mud" McGregor           | Elmer C. "Slick" Henderson   |
| Sam K. "Blick" Black             | J. Roy "Roy" Tucker          |
| Luther U. "Uncle Luther" Nickell | Boulware H. "Bo" Jameson     |
| Curtis E. "Curt" Blattner        | Matt Wymore                  |

## Important Dates in Rotary History

February 23, 1905 – Rotary International (RI) was founded by Paul Harris in Chicago, Illinois

1910 – first Missouri Rotary clubs were founded in St. Louis and Kansas City

1918-1922 – Rotary clubs were founded in Jefferson City & Kirksville (1918), Springfield & Cape Girardeau (1919), Hannibal, Chillicothe & Moberly (1920), Mexico (1921) & Columbia & Brookfield (1922)

February 2, 1923 – Fulton Institutional Dinner was held at the Palace Hotel

February 16, 1923 – Fulton Rotary Club application was sent to RI

March 15, 1923 – The Rotary Club of Fulton was accepted by RI as Club #1381

1923-27 – J. Burlie McCubbin edited The Cog, club newsletter

1926-27 – Elmer C. "Slick" Henderson, a charter member of the club, served as District Governor and attended the International Convention in Belgium

1927 – Ovid Bell took over as newsletter editor and changed the name to the Blunderbus.

1944 – The Nolin Courtesy Award, named for local druggist "Mose" Nolin, was established to recognize local youth in Fulton elementary and middle schools for their courtesy and good citizenship.

1948 – 25th-anniversary banquet with Ovid H. Bell, president, and Nick T. Cave, toastmaster

1963 – Swinton-Pendlebury, Lancashire, England was selected as companion club.

1973 – 50th-anniversary banquet was held at William Woods College and honored Curt Blattner, the club's only surviving charter member. In 1976 the club raised \$1,000 to make him a Paul Harris Fellow.

1973 – Henry Danuser became the first Paul Harris Fellow in Fulton Rotary.

1973-74 – Fulton hosted a group student exchange team from Australia. In earlier years, the club had hosted teams from England, Scotland and South Africa, but no record was kept.

1979 – A Rotary Horse Show was held at William Woods College as a fundraiser, allowing the club to send \$780 to RI for its Health, Hunger and Humanity project and \$500 to WWC for a riding program for Missouri School for the Deaf students.

1985 – “The Story of a Small Town Rotary Club: #1381” was written by Charles “Chuck” Jones and printed by The Ovid Bell Press, Inc.

1989 – Four women were invited to join Fulton Rotary after the Supreme Court ruled that women should be allowed to become members. They were: Ramona Dobson, Jane Bell Clapp, Susie Rentschler and Mary VanOrden. Before then, wives of Rotary members could be Rotary Anns, but women could not join Rotary.

1997-98 – Magali Legros was an exchange student to Fulton from France.

1998-99 – Kris Lensmeyer (now Leshner) served as the first woman president of Fulton Rotary.

2003-04 – Fulton hosted a group friendship exchange team from Thailand.

2009-10 – Fulton Rotary nominated Gregory Rockson, a Westminster College student from Ghana, to be an Ambassadorial Scholar at the University of Copenhagen. He has since had much success in his career as co-founder and CEO of mPharma, which seeks to assure that every person on the continent of Africa has access to safe and affordable medicine.

2009-10 – Fulton hosted a group student exchange team from South Korea.

2012 – Past President (2010-2011) Mike Beahon was selected as District Governor-Nominee.

2013 – Fulton Rotary celebrated its 90th anniversary with a banquet at Westminster College.

2013-14 – Jenna Teter Guillen, a Westminster College student, was selected as Rotary Global Scholar to study international law at Australian National University. She also interned with the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees. She now works at the California State Assembly.

2014 – Fulton Rotary celebrated the induction of Mike Beahon as District Governor, only the second DG in club history. Ray Klinginsmith of Kirksville, Rotary International president in 2010-11, installed Beahon in front of a crowd of 115 people, including Rotarians from Kansas and Arkansas. Sadly, Mike passed away from kidney failure two weeks after being inducted as the District Governor.

2015 – Fulton Rotary created the Callaway Cup Mouse Races as an annual fundraiser for the club.

2016 – A Rotaract Club was established at William Woods University. The charter president was Baylie Borman (now Pezold), daughter of Fulton Rotary Club member, Tim Borman.

2017 – The Fulton Evening Satellite Rotary Club was formed to give an alternative membership option to those individuals who could not attend the regular club meetings at noon. The first chair of the club was Casey Clevenger, who previously belonged to the noon club.

2018 – An Interact Club was established at Fulton High School. The charter president was Anna Bonderer, daughter of Andy Bonderer, a member of the Rotary Club of Columbia.

2018-19 – Fulton Rotary participated in the Rotary Youth Exchange. Laura Derenne of Belgium spent the year at Fulton High School while Hope Gowin spent the year in Belgium.

2022-23 – Fulton Rotary again participated in the Rotary Youth Exchange. Romane Dessy of Belgium attended FHS while Katherine Stevens was in Spain.

2022-23 – Fulton Rotary and the Afghan Resettlement Committee received the J.H. Atkinson Award from the Callaway Chamber of Commerce for making a unique social and civic contribution to the community.

2022-23 – Gregory Rockson (see 2009-10) was selected by the Rotary International Board of Directors and The Rotary Foundation Trustees as the recipient of the 2022-23 Rotary Alumni Global Service Award. This award is given each year to a Rotary alum whose achievements have enriched his or her profession and whose service to humanity exemplifies the spirit of Rotary. This is the highest honor Rotary gives to alumni.

2022-23 – Bob Hansen was selected by the RI Board of Directors to receive the 2022-23 Service Above Self Award. This award is considered Rotary International's highest honor to bestow on a member.

## Presidents of the Fulton Rotary Club

|           |   |           |                                  |
|-----------|---|-----------|----------------------------------|
| 2022-2023 | Allen Huggins   | 1973-1974 | Richard Wilson                   |
| 2021-2022 | Debbie Laughlin   | 1972-1973 | Charles Jones                    |
| 2020-2021 | Sherry McCarthy   | 1971-1972 | Raymond McCallister              |
| 2019-2020 | Allen Huggins   | 1970-1971 | David Baker                      |
| 2018-2019 | Debbie Laughlin   | 1969-1970 | Richard White                    |
| 2017-2018 | Jennifer Books  | 1968-1969 | Robert Masure                    |
| 2016-2017 | Mary Ann Beahon   | 1967-1968 | Malcolm MacDonald                |
| 2015-2016 | Charles Anderson  | 1966-1967 | John V. Bosch                    |
| 2014-2015 | Jill Gamlin   | 1965-1966 | Robert Epperson                  |
| 2013-2014 | Andre Cook to Oct. 9;<br>Ray Brown remainder<br>of the year | 1964-1965 | Robert Nickles                   |
|           |   | 1963-1964 | Larry Miller                     |
| 2012-2013 | Ray Brown   | 1962-1963 | L.D. Benedict                    |
| 2011-2012 | Marcia Lamons   | 1961-1962 | Hart Robnett                     |
| 2010-2011 | Mike Beahon   | 1960-1961 | W. Victor Hill                   |
| 2009-2010 | Bill Bryant   | 1959-1960 | John Jameson                     |
| 2008-2009 | Don Woodson   | 1958-1959 | Ancell Reid                      |
| 2007-2008 | Susan Krumm   | 1957-1958 | Henry Durst                      |
| 2006-2007 | Shawn Hull  | 1956-1957 | Donald Zuerl                     |
| 2005-2006 | Wayne Lowen   | 1955-1956 | Howard Blattner                  |
| 2004-2005 | Charlie James   | 1954-1955 | Lloyd Harrison                   |
| 2003-2004 | Debbie LaRue  | 1953-1954 | John M. Cave                     |
| 2002-2003 | Bob Sterner   | 1952-1953 | William Cremer                   |
| 2001-2002 | Sharon Batek  | 1951-1952 | Robert Alexander                 |
| 2000-2001 | Mike Dube   | 1950-1951 | Donald B. Gordon                 |
| 1999-2000 | Brenda Loeffler   | 1949-1950 | James Tucker                     |
| 1998-1999 | Kris Lensmeyer  | 1948-1949 | Ernest M. Wagner                 |
| 1997-1998 | Phil Reynolds   | 1947-1948 | Ovid H. Bell                     |
| 1996-1997 | Don Woodson   | 1946-1947 | Rev. L.A. Sullivan, Ovid H. Bell |
| 1995-1996 | Henry Niles   | 1945-1946 | H. Clay McGregor                 |
| 1994-1995 | Bill Rose   | 1944-1945 | Charles C. Ault                  |
| 1993-1994 | Peter Kim   | 1943-1944 | Stuart Keckeley                  |
| 1992-1993 | Charlie James   | 1942-1943 | Donald F. West                   |
| 1991-1992 | Mike Boulware   | 1941-1942 | William Meldrum                  |
| 1990-1991 | Jack Wallin   | 1940-1941 | W. Burton Moore                  |
| 1989-1990 | Milt Stiller  | 1939-1940 | Waldo F. Smith                   |
| 1988-1989 | Jack Lippincott   | 1938-1939 | J.H. Atkinson, Jr.               |
| 1987-1988 |   | 1937-1938 | John R. Pratt                    |
| 1986-1987 | Bob Alexander   | 1936-1937 | Truman L. Ingle                  |
| 1985-1986 | Marion Gentry   | 1935-1936 | W. Garnet Alcorn                 |
| 1984-1985 | Ned Digh  | 1934-1935 | Curtis E. Blattner               |
| 1983-1984 | Stanley Chirnside   | 1933-1934 | W.C. Brown                       |
| 1982-1983 | Peter Ripley  | 1932-1933 | Herbert E. Day                   |
| 1981-1982 | Dan Grubb   | 1931-1932 | W. Garnet Alcorn                 |
| 1980-1981 | John Bell   | 1930-1931 | W.M. Nolin                       |
| 1979-1980 | Tom Dunlap  | 1929-1930 | J.J. Corey                       |
| 1978-1979 | James Mariea  | 1928-1929 | Greene D. McCall                 |
| 1977-1978 | L.E. Lewis  | 1927-1928 | George Sweazey                   |
| 1976-1977 | Dick Osbourn  | 1926-1927 | J. Harry Atkinson                |
| 1975-1976 | Richard Prettyman   | 1925-1926 | Elmer C. Henderson               |
| 1974-1975 | Henry Danuser   | 1924-1925 | Elmer C. Henderson               |
|           |   | 1923-1924 | Nick T. Cave                     |



## Raymond McCallister Rotarian of the Year

The Raymond McCallister Rotarian of the Year Award honors Raymond McCallister, a long-serving member of the Fulton Rotary Club and pastor of the First Christian Church in Fulton, Mo. Rev. McCallister passed away in fall, 2005. Club members remember Rev. McCallister for his active participation in the club and for his great sense of humor.

Recipients of the Raymond McCallister Rotarian of the Year Award:



2006

*Phil Reynolds*



2007

*Henry Niles*



2008

*Dick Wilson*



2009

*Wayne Lowen*



2010

*Bob Sterner*



2011

*Marcia Lamons*



2012

*Mike Beahon*



2013

*Mary Ann  
Beahon*



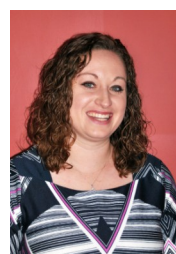
2014

*Ray Brown*



2015

*Jennifer Books*



2016

*Dori Shirley*



2017

*Bob Hansen*



2018

*Joan Berry  
Morris*



2019

*Jan Reyes*



2020

*Debbie  
Laughlin*



2021

*Brenda Loeffler*



2022

*Stephanie  
Vollmer*

## Paul Harris Fellows and The Rotary Foundation



The Paul Harris Fellowship is named for Paul Harris, who founded Rotary with three business associates in Chicago in 1905. The fellowship was established in his honor in 1957 to express appreciation for a contribution of \$1,000 to the humanitarian and educational programs of The Rotary Foundation.

The Rotary Foundation helps Rotary members to advance world understanding, goodwill, and peace by improving health, providing quality education, improving the environment, and alleviating poverty. Contributions to The Rotary Foundation are essential to securing and growing Rotary programs throughout the world. Since it was founded more than 100 years ago, the Foundation has spent more than \$4 billion on life-changing, sustainable projects.

Thirty-one current members of the Rotary Club of Fulton are Paul Harris Fellows. Members contribute a minimum of \$120 to The Rotary Foundation each year until they become Paul Harris Fellows. Paul Harris Fellows earn additional recognition by earning “plus” recognition for each additional \$1,000 in contributions. Members whose lifetime contributions to the Foundation total \$10,000 earn the status of “Major Donor” with appropriate recognition. Rotarians who contribute \$1,000 or more annually to The Rotary Foundation become members of the Paul Harris Society.

Additionally, members are encouraged to name the Rotary Foundation in their will, becoming Benefactors for amounts in excess of \$1,000, or members of the Bequest society for amounts in excess of \$10,000.

### Paul Harris Fellows

Charles Anderson +1  
Mary Ann Beahon +6 \*#  
John Bell +2  
Mary Bell  
Jacque Brazas  
Ray Brown +1  
Bill Bryant +2  
Jacque Cowherd +2  
Karen Digh Allen  
Carol England +1  
Jill Gamlin +1  
Amanda Gowin  
Bob Hansen +8—Major Donor  
Allen Huggins  
Charles James +3  
Susan Krumm +2

Denton Kurtz +2  
Marcia Lamons +1  
Debbie LaRue +1  
Debbie Laughlin +7 \*  
Brenda Loeffler  
Steve Long  
Ernest Mahoro  
Sherry McCarthy +4  
Joan Berry Morris +1  
Henry Niles +8—Major Donor \*  
Jan Reyes +2  
Sardar Sherzad  
Bob Sterner +1  
Stephanie Vollmer  
Coletta Williams

\* Also members of the Paul Harris Society

# Also member of the Bequest Society

## G.W. Law Award

The G.W. Law – Law Officer of the Year award, named after former Callaway County Sheriff George W. Law, was established in 1998 as a means for the Rotary Club to provide recognition to a law enforcement officer who demonstrates the Rotary ideal of “Service Above Self” while serving the citizens of Callaway County, but more importantly it gives the Fulton Rotary Club an opportunity to say thank you to the law enforcement community as a whole for the job they do on a daily basis.

Prior to being elected Sheriff of Callaway County, George W. Law served with the 1st Missouri Cavalry, Confederate States of America. Law served as Captain of Company B, 1st Missouri Cavalry, was promoted to Major and later promoted to Lieutenant Colonel. In the spring of 1863, Colonel Law lost an arm at Big Black River near Vicksburg, Mississippi. Colonel Law recovered from his injuries and served throughout the Civil War. At war’s end, Colonel Law returned home to Callaway County. By all accounts, Colonel Law was widely respected throughout the county for his service during the Civil War.

In 1872, Colonel Law was elected Sheriff of Callaway County and served honorably until his death on August 23, 1873. It is the circumstances of Sheriff Law’s death that led the Rotary Club to name our award after him. On August 15, 1873, Sheriff Law was transporting a convicted thief, Peter Kessler, who had been sentenced to six years in prison, from the Callaway County Courthouse to the train station located in northwest Fulton. As Sheriff Law and his charge were traveling north on Court Street, the carriage they were riding in was attacked by a mob of eight to ten men. Many gunshots rang out, and the mob overtook the carriage. During the attack, Sheriff Law was mortally wounded, but did not succumb to his wounds until eight days later. Sheriff Law’s service to the community and dedication to the job are second to none and is an example today’s members of the law enforcement community strive to follow.



Sheriff George W. Law  
Callaway County, Missouri  
1872 - 1873

Recipients of the G. W. Law – Law Enforcement Officer of the Year Award:

- |                                       |  |
|---------------------------------------|--|
| 1998 - Deputy Robert Smith (CCSD)     | 2011 - Deputy Jackie Karhoff (CCSD)    |
| 1999 - Major Roger Rice (FPD)         | 2012 - Sheriff Dennis Crane (CCSD)     |
| 2000 - Officer Steve Myers (FPD)      | 2013 - Chief Kevin Suedmeyer (APD)     |
| 2001 - Chief Charles Latham (FPD)     | 2014 - Captain Darryl Maylee (CCSD)    |
| 2002 - Trooper Scott Carey (MSHP)     | 2015 - Sergeant Michael Halford (MSHP) |
| 2003 - Trooper Michael Turner (MSHP)  | 2016 - Sergeant Joe Schramm (FPD)      |
| 2004 - Trooper Jeffery White (MSHP)   | 2017 - Deputy Aaron Hazelton (CCSD)    |
| 2005 - Deputy Lloyd Horn (CCSD)       | 2018 - Sgt. Ryan Lacey (CCSD)          |
| 2006 - Deputy Fred Cave (CCSD)        | 2019 - Sheriff Clay Chism (CCSD)       |
| 2007 - Lieutenant Lyla Robbins (CCSD) | 2020 - Sergeant Corey Schmidt (CCSD)   |
| 2008 - Lieutenant Mark Douglas (FRDC) | 2021 - Sergeant Crystal Kent (FPD)     |
| 2009 - Deputy Jeff Harding (CCSD)     | 2022 - Sergeant Billy Kemp (CCSD)      |
| 2010 - Sergeant Bill Ladwig (FPD)     |  |

## Fundraising

**Chili Cook-off 2011**—The Fulton Rotary Club challenged the community to a chili cook-off Oct. 29 in the Fulton Commons Parking Lot, with proceeds benefiting SERVE, Inc. There was a \$20 entry fee and a \$5 sampling fee. Judges' and People's Choice Prizes were awarded. Judges were Jim Reik, KOMU-TV anchor; Bill Johnson, city administrator; and Garry Vaught, owner of Bek's Restaurant.

**Chili Cook-off 2012**—A restaurant and institution category was added this year, in addition to individual entries. Arris', Beks, Huddle House, Presbyterian Manor, Sir Winston's and VFW registered to participate Sept. 29, with proceeds benefiting local charities. Tim and Jim, who appeared regularly at Summit Lake Winery, played music and a bounce house entertained the children. A concessions stand, courtesy of C&R Markets, sold sodas, water and other items.



**Mouse Races 2015-2020**—Racing mice and mouse roulette helped the Rotary Club of Fulton raise money to support service projects in Callaway County for five years, starting in 2015. Proceeds the first year benefited the Coalition Against Rape and Domestic Violence (CARDV). Other recipients included Wonderland Camp, the Adult Enrichment Center, the Callaway County Public Library and the Super Sam Foundation. The first Callaway Cup Mouse Races were held March 13 at KC Country in Kingdom City, celebrating St. Patrick's Day. The next three years the races were held at 54 Country in Fulton and included a silent auction, kids crafts and a photo booth. Subsequent races were

held at the Brick District Playhouse March 1, 2019, and the Fulton Event Center Feb. 22, 2020, and included cajun-style meals for Mardi Gras. Live mice were coaxed to travel through a miniature racecourse at fast speeds. Spectators were invited to make bets, with all proceeds going to support the club's charitable work in the community. Single admission tickets and race sponsorships were sold. Profits the first year ran \$4,131, with the fifth year bringing in \$5,791 net. The races were not continued due to COVID.

**Tanzania fundraiser 2015**—A fundraiser, co-sponsored by the Rotary Club of Fulton and the Mizzou Alumni Association (Callaway County Chapter), helped Humanity for Children "Transform Tanzania" by bringing health care and access to education to those living in the most remote areas. The event was held May 15 in Sir Winston's Banquet Room and made a \$1,533 profit. Tickets were \$30 per person for wine tasting and dinner.

**Harlem Ambassadors 2017**—Hoops and hijinks were on tap at the Westminster College gymnasium March 26 (rescheduled from January due to an ice storm) when local challengers, the Callaway Hoopsters, took on the Harlem Ambassadors in a comedy basketball show the whole family enjoyed. The event was co-hosted by the Rotary Club of Fulton, Fulton Kiwanis and SERVE, with proceeds benefiting community projects. Rotarian Charlie James coached the team of local celebrities.

**Fulton Rotary Bowling Classic 2019**—A "Bowling for Bucks" fundraiser was held at the Fulton Bowling Center Oct. 26. The event was open to organizations and the public with a \$100 registration fee for four-person teams.

**Flower Sales 2021**—Just in time for Mother's Day, May 9, the Rotary Club of Fulton pre-sold assorted blooming hanging baskets with sun and shade options.





**Low Country Boil 2021**—Fulton Rotary fed shrimp, sausage, potatoes and corn on the cob to 174 people at its low country boil Oct. 24 at the Memorial Park Pavilion, raising about \$1,800. Proceeds benefited CASA (Court Appointed Special Advocates), who work with abused and/or neglected children in the foster care system, and other charitable causes. Tickets were \$15.

**Terrarium Workshop 2022**—For \$30-55, depending on number of plants and size of container chosen, participants were able to enjoy a terrarium workshop May 7 Memorial Park Pavilion. Everything needed to make a terrarium—succulent plants, soil/rocks/moss, and a clear container—was included.

## Community Service Projects Funded by District Grants & Matching Funds

**2015-16 CARDV**—Fulton Rotary club matched a \$3,600 district grant to assist the Coalition Against Rape and Domestic Violence (CARDV). The donation allowed Rotary to furnish two “advocacy” rooms inside the facility and make improvements to the outside to create a safer place for children to play while their parents are receiving services. The club repaired and stained the fence, fixed the patio and mulched around the new playground equipment it purchased for CARDV.



### **2016-17 Wonderland Camp—**

Nineteen Rotary clubs, including Fulton, joined forces with private donors and The Rotary Foundation to create an Accessible Playground for Wonderland Camp in the Lake of the Ozarks. The camp serves persons of all ages with disabilities from throughout Missouri. The playground includes a Tree Top Bridge, Merry Go Round, Climbing Wall, Musical Interactive Music Stand, Tree Climb and Chamberlain’s Giant Swing. Fulton Rotary funded the Wobbly Bridge by donating \$1,750, which was matched by a district grant.

**2017-18 Adult Enrichment Center**—The Adult Enrichment Center for persons with developmental disabilities used a \$5,000 donation from the Rotary Club of Fulton to provide services, equipment and a bit of fun for participants. Fulton Rotary raised the money for AEC through its annual Mouse Races, matching a grant received from Rotary District 6080.

**2018-19 Stop the Bleed**—Matching a \$4,200 district grant, Fulton Rotary purchased enough bleeding control supplies for 163 classrooms. Called Stop the Bleed, the project was intended to cultivate grassroots efforts that encourage bystanders to become trained, equipped, and empowered to help in a bleeding emergency before professional help arrives.

**2019-20 Fulton Public Schools**—A \$4,000 grant from the Rotary Club of Fulton allowed Fulton Public Schools to purchase special learning materials and supplies for local schools in partnership with the Fulton Public Schools Foundation. Purchases included

- books to better reach struggling readers as well as push on-level readers to higher goals
- Orff instruments that can be played by students with limited musical backgrounds
- "Packs of love" backpacks and school items to be distributed to students who are entering foster care
- iPads and materials to create 2D or 3D projects that will enable students to be creators of knowledge

**2019-20 Our House**—During the COVID pandemic, Fulton Rotary used a \$1,000 grant and individual donations to purchase gift cards from four participating restaurants. The restaurants then prepared meals for Our House. The project supported local businesses and fed the homeless.

**2019-20 CARDV**—Fulton Rotary provided a \$1,000 grant to the Coalition Against Rape and Domestic Violence to furnish utility assistance to CARDV's clientele, particularly those who have lost employment due to COVID-19 shutdowns.



*Preparing Super Sam comfort kits 2020-21*



*Putting together kits for CASA foster children 2021-22*



*Special Olympics bowling tournament 2022-23*

**2020-21 Super Sam Foundation**—Fulton Rotary members put together comfort packs to be distributed by the Super Sam Foundation to childhood cancer victims and their siblings. The project was funded by a \$2,500 district grant matched by Fulton Rotary.

**2021-22 CASA**—Fulton Rotary matched a \$1,100 district grant to purchase items for Heart of Missouri CASA (Court Appointed Special Advocates) to distribute when they visit children in the foster care system. Items included: games, toys, toiletries, stationary/stamps, journals, etc. Fulton Rotary also hosted an appreciation event/pizza party for all of the Callaway County CASA volunteers.

**2022-23 Special Olympics**—Matching a \$1,500 district grant, Fulton Rotary sponsored 50 Special Olympics athletes to participate in the 2022 bowling tournament. Rotarians also attended the 10 weekly practices, acting as coaches, scorekeepers, and cheerleaders.

## Other Major Community Service Projects

**Coat Drive**—Since 2012, Fulton Rotary has annually partnered with SERVE, Inc. to provide winter coats to children in need during Adopt-a-Family. Rotary members search for and purchase coats online. When the coats arrive, Rotarians label them with gender and sizes. With the help of a \$7,480 grant each year from Veterans United Foundation and donations from Rotary members, nearly 400 children's coats were purchased in 2021 and 2022.



**Canned Goods Collection**—In 2022, SERVE's food pantry was getting dangerously low and unable to provide food for people in need. Fulton Rotary challenged Breakfast Optimists and Fulton Kiwanis to collect food the entire month of August. The three Fulton service organizations working together provided more than two tons of food for the food pantry.

**Caravan of Caring**—During the COVID pandemic in 2020 Fulton Rotary organized Caravans of Caring to drive by nursing homes in Fulton and Mexico to brighten their residents' days. Families and residents, as well as car clubs and other organizations, were invited to join in.



**Our House**—A \$1,000 grant from Fulton Rotary purchased a much-needed new refrigerator for Our House in 2019. In 2021, Fulton Rotarians spent hours rebuilding an accessible ramp for the homeless shelter.

**Roundabout**—Fulton Rotary partnered with the Garden Club and Ameren Missouri to create a wildflower garden in the roundabout at the intersection of Bus. 54 and 2<sup>nd</sup> Street. Planted in April 2015, the garden is 2,800 square feet and contains more than 435 native species, including purple poppy mallow and purple cornflowers, along with switchgrass and other grasses.

**Tree Planting**—in 2017 Fulton Rotarians planted 80 native Missouri trees at the six Fulton public schools. Rotary International President Ian Riseley had encouraged all Rotary clubs to raise awareness of environmental issues by planting trees.



**Other**—Over the years, Fulton Rotary has sponsored blood drives and organ donation drives, provided meals at the soup kitchen, purchased books for elementary school children, rung bells for the Salvation Army, installed smoke alarms and read to Head Start children. The club has supported United Way, YMCA, Faith Maternity Center, Callaway Senior Center, Girls Town, iCan Bike, Scouts and numerous other charities. Members have collected books, canned goods, peanut butter, pill bottles, eye glasses, milk and water jugs for Mobility Worldwide and dress clothes for students applying for jobs. They've staffed information and ticket booths for community events, including Fulton Street Fair, Callaway's Bicentennial, and Morels & Microbrews.

## Fulton Rotary: A Peacebuilder Club



*Bob Sterner; Sardar Sherzad, originally from Afghanistan; Bob Hansen; and Ernest and Claire Mahoro, originally of Rwanda.*

Fulton Rotary applied to the Rotary Action Group for Peace to become a Peacebuilder Club in 2020. It was one of the first clubs in the district to achieve that status.

In 2021 the club purchased \$500 worth of books on peace for the public library and local Little Free Libraries and arranged a display of 50 books on peace at the library.

In 2022, the club installed 8-foot metal peace poles at two city parks—Veterans Park and Memorial Park—inscribed with the message, “May Peace Prevail On The Earth.” Each pole



contains four languages—English, Pashto (to represent the recent refugees from Afghanistan who have settled in the community), Kiryarwanda (to represent Fulton Rotary's continued work with people in Rwanda) and Spanish (to represent Fulton's significant Hispanic population).

In 2023, the plan is to donate peace-related books to Head Start and have members read the books to the children and host a party for them.

## Afghan Resettlement Project

When it became clear in 2021 that thousands of Afghan citizens would be relocating to the United States due to the pullout of U.S. troops from Afghanistan and the predicted takeover of the Taliban, Bob Hansen, Joan Morris and Bob Sterner proposed to the Rotary Club of Fulton that the organization lead resettlement efforts in Callaway County. They reminded their fellow Rotary members that their motto is “Service Above Self” and the Rotarians responded.



*Meeting the Afghans at the airport.*

Most evacuees from Afghanistan came to this country with few belongings. Many qualify for special immigrant visa status in the United States based on the danger they would likely suffer for having worked for or with the U.S. during the 20-year Afghan War. The operation to resettle the 100,000 Afghans who were airlifted out of their country has been referred to as “an emergency humanitarian program.”

Working with Catholic Charities of Central and Northern Missouri, the Rotary members knew that to be successful this must be a community-wide initiative, so they recruited 30+ additional members to their team. They include representatives from many faith groups and other civic organizations.

Rotarians and many others have cleaned apartments, moved furniture and donated money and goods. The cause has created solid relationships in the community among people who might never have gotten to know each other.

The Fulton Afghan Resettlement Committee helped first in the resettlement of three families to Fulton, then added two more. Two of these families moved to join family members elsewhere in the U.S. last summer, but another family came later to bring the total of new Afghan families in the community up to four.



*Preparing housing for a family*

As part of the resettlement process, the committee secured housing, furnishings, food, clothing, etc. They met refugee families when they arrived at airports, connected them with local services and familiarized them with everything that makes Fulton and Callaway County special. They have been committed to integrating the Afghan refugees into the community by enrolling children in schools, helping them obtain jobs, and providing transportation to appointments and shopping trips.

The Dollar General Distribution Center, which was over 150 short of a full workforce, was the first to step up and offer employment to the Afghans. Because of war wounds and other problems, the Afghans left Dollar General and currently work in the dietary department at Fulton State Hospital.

This community-wide, Rotarian-led resettlement initiative was the first Community Sponsorship program in Central Missouri and its organizational structure and overall model has now been copied by other towns and small cities in Missouri.

The goal is to get the families to the point where they have everything they need to be self-sufficient, productive members of the Callaway County community.

The next big step is to secure permanent housing for the 14-member Afghan family, which had been living in a Westminster College fraternity annex until it was again needed by the fraternity. Through hard work and a stroke of good luck, Habitat for Humanity in Jefferson City has agreed to lead the efforts to build them a home. Tom Christensen has donated the land on which to build.



*Baby shower for the Afghan women*

## International Service



*Amanda Gowin leads a team to the project site to train traditional birth attendants and to distribute safe-birthing kits.*

### Global Grant for Tanzania

A \$94,000 Global Grant to save lives in rural Tanzania was written and submitted to Rotary International by Bob Hansen and Amanda Gowin of Fulton Rotary in 2019. Aimed to increase the survival rate of mothers, newborns, and infants among the Maasai people in a remote area of Northern Tanzania, the project was a partnership between Fulton Rotary/USA, Babati Rotary/Tanzania, and Missouri-based nonprofit, Humanity for Children. Initiatives within the project included:

- Training over 100 traditional birth attendants in safe-birthing.
- Installing solar power systems in two remote government clinics
- Distributing safe-birthing kits to health clinics and traditional midwives that included newborn blankets, antibiotic ointments, plastic tarps to place on the hut floor, sterile razors, and, for the midwives, surgical gloves and gowns.
- Employing and training a Community Health Educator to work with villagers on safe-birthing, menstrual hygiene, sanitation,

and other healthy behaviors.

- Creating four educational videos dealing with safe birthing, men's roles in supporting women's health, menstrual hygiene, and 10 behaviors to increase the survival of children under 5.

This international project has spawned additional projects from Fulton Rotary and other Rotary clubs and districts across the country: purchase of a mobile health clinic, creation of a women's sewing center to produce washable/reusable menstrual hygiene products, building two preschools, and a 100-clean stove initiative to replace open fires in huts.

### Rwanda Community Partnership

The Rwanda Community Partnership Project was created in 2008/2009 to help rural Rwandans with access to healthcare, income generation, women's rights, and access to education. The City of Fulton became a "partner" city with Kibungo Town, which had been devastated by the genocide, HIV, and drought. Bob Hansen, who had been working in Rwanda with Humanity for Children, educated Fulton Rotary about the importance of empowering the people of Kibungo, and together with Mike Beahon, raised almost \$100,000 in Callaway County to build a remote health center and to provide economic empowerment opportunities through microloans. Promoting entrepreneurship was a main goal, with village groups pursuing projects in livestock raising, agricultural crops, and small businesses. These efforts led to the establishment of Kibungo Rotary Club.



*Bob Hansen lays a brick for the health center.*



*Children bathing while they fetch water for drinking and cooking.*

### Kenya Clean Water Project

A \$192,000 clean water well project in Kenya was dedicated in 2015 to the memory Mike Beahon, former Fulton Rotary President and District 6080 Governor. The Global Grant, initiated and promoted by Past District Governor Leslie Mitkos of District 6490 in Illinois, was supported by seven Rotary districts, 10 clubs in District 6490, several NGOs, and Rotary clubs in Kenya.

### Holtz-Beahon Kidney Transplant Program

A \$396,000 Global Grant, named in part for Mike Beahon, to date has saved 2,000 lives in Mexico by funding kidney transplants. Kidney

failure, which claimed Beahon's life, is especially prevalent in Mexico due to risk factors that include diabetes, poverty and poor diets. Work is underway to renew the grant this year.

## Youth Services



### Interact

An Interact Club sponsored by the Rotary Club of Fulton was established at Fulton High School in 2018. Interact clubs bring together young people ages 12-18 to develop leadership skills while discovering the power of Rotary's motto, "Service Above Self." Interact clubs organize at least two projects every year, one that helps their school or community and one that promotes international understanding. Rotary club sponsors mentor and guide Interactors as they carry out projects and develop leadership skills.

Officers of the 15-member charter Interact Club were Anna Bonderer, president; Leah Speer, vice president (service); Baylor Webb, vice president (membership); Hannah Siegel, secretary; Kristine Malone, treasurer; and Alex White, intern. Rotary Sponsors are Debbie Laughlin and Kati Boland.

### Rotaract

The William Woods University Rotaract Club received its charter April 20, 2016, from Steve Dulle, governor of Rotary District 6080. Twenty five students were charter members of the new service club, which was sponsored by the Rotary Club of Fulton.



Rotaract clubs bring together people ages 18 and older to exchange ideas with leaders in the community, develop leadership and professional skills, and have fun through service. Today the organization is one of Rotary's most significant and fastest-growing service programs, with more than 203,000 members in 10,600 clubs in 180 countries.

Officers of the first Rotaract Club of William Woods University were: Baylie Borman of Kingdom City, Missouri, president; Hannah Mansell of Jacksonville, Illinois, president-elect; Ida Jacaway of Columbia, Missouri, secretary; Taylor Woods of Jones, Oklahoma, treasurer; Mary Cleek of Columbia, Missouri, community service chair; Brittney Engelbrecht of Jefferson City, Missouri, social chair; Delanie Jones of Rush Hill, Missouri, professional development chair; and Rachel Skelton of East Prairie, Missouri, membership chair.

### RYLA

Each year Fulton Rotary sponsors one or two students to attend the Missouri Rotary Youth Leadership Awards (RYLA) Academy. It is a four-day/three-night service leadership academy that introduces Rotary's "Service Above Self" philosophy. The curriculum, developed and administered by professional educators, includes a personality self-assessment, team building activities, and a two-day service project simulation. The program is recognized by Rotary International as one of the model RYLA programs in the world. For many years, the academy was held on the William Woods University campus and Fulton Rotarians helped chaperone at night.



*Katherine Stevens and  
Romane Dessy*

## **Rotary Youth Exchange**

RYE is a study abroad opportunity for young people who spend an academic year as an international student hosted by local Rotary clubs. It is the opportunity of a lifetime for more than 8,000 students who participate each year – sharing their culture and embracing a new one. Exchanges for students ages 15-19 are sponsored by Rotary clubs in more than 100 countries. Fulton Rotary has participated in two exchanges in recent years. Laura Derenne of Belgium spent the 2018-19 year at Fulton High School while Hope Gowin spent the year in Belgium. During 2022-23, Romane Dessy of Belgium attended FHS while Katherine Stevens was in Spain.

## **Scholarships**

The Rotary Club of Fulton each year awards several \$1,000 college scholarships to local high school students. Fulton Rotary has been awarding scholarships to Callaway County high school seniors to further their education for at least 50 years.

## **Nolin Courtesy Awards**

In 1944, “Mose” Nolin, owner of a local drugstore and a member of the Fulton Rotary Club, started a tradition, which honors students in Fulton schools. Mr. Nolin believed that students should be recognized for their courtesy and good citizenship and provided the funds for the Nolin Courtesy Award. After his death, the club continued to present the award in his honor. Fulton Rotary annually awards 10-12 Nolin Courtesy Awards at area schools, thus keeping this tradition alive by recognizing hundreds of outstanding Fulton students.



*Brothers Jack and Joseph  
Winterbower both received  
Nolin Courtesy Awards.*

## **Student Government Day**

Some years the Rotary Club of Fulton sponsored Fulton High School students to attend Rotary Student Government Day in Jefferson City. The students had the opportunity to learn more about state government, meet their local legislators, observe legislative hearings and/or session, and tour the Capitol Building and the Missouri Supreme Court. The event was hosted by the Rotary Club of Jefferson City, which has been organizing the event for more than 60 years.

## **Girls State and Boys State**

Each year, the Rotary Club of Fulton sponsors a student to attend the American Legion Boys State and another to attend the American Legion Auxiliary Girls State. Both programs offer hands-on experience in the operation and fundamentals of government.

## **Other Youth Service Programs**

Each year, Fulton Rotarians serve as judges for FBLA competitions and Speech and Debate Tournaments. They also conduct mock interviews for FBLA and JAG students.

## Ending Polio Forever



*Unable to breathe, patients entered iron lungs, which made use of negative pressure ventilation -- a continual displacing and replacing the air inside of the machine --stimulating respiration*

When Rotary and its partners launched the Global Polio Eradication Initiative (GPEI) in 1988, there were 350,000 cases of polio in 125 countries every year. Great progress has been made against the disease since then. Today, polio cases have been reduced by 99.9 percent, and just two countries continue to report cases of wild poliovirus: Afghanistan and Pakistan.

Each October the Rotary Club of Fulton marks the historic progress toward a polio-free world while urging the community to help end the paralyzing disease. The observance is among thousands held by Rotary clubs around the world during World Polio Month.

In observance of World Polio Month, Fulton Rotary has scheduled various speakers over the years:

- Mary Lou Phillips of Fulton, spoke at William Woods University in 2016, sharing her polio story. She contracted the polio virus in the summer of 1945 when she was 4.
- Dr. Ted Groshong, a physician and professor emeritus at the University of Missouri School of Medicine, who chaired the Polio Plus program for Rotary District 6080, has spoken several times.
- The Rotaract Club of William Woods University in 2018 hosted a public program, “How we’ll stop polio for good,” a TED Talk video by Bruce Aylward of the World Health Organization.
- Jerry Venters, a past District 6040 Rotary Governor who had polio when he was 6, spoke in 2022. He’s had double vision ever since and now, more than 70 years later, he’s experiencing post-polio syndrome with muscle weakness in his legs, etc.



*Dr. Ted Groshong, district polio chair, speaks about polio for World Polio Day 2016.*

Fundraising and awareness events have included:

- An End Polio Margarita Party, open to the public, at Tacos and Tequila in 2018. The restaurant donated \$1 from each margarita sold to Polio Plus.
- BluTaco of Holts Summit donated 10 percent of net sales Oct. 24, 2019.
- Purple Pinkie Donuts sold at Jamolees in 2022



*Renee Tyler, director of administration for the City of Fulton and a Rotarian, bites into a Purple Pinkie Donut.*

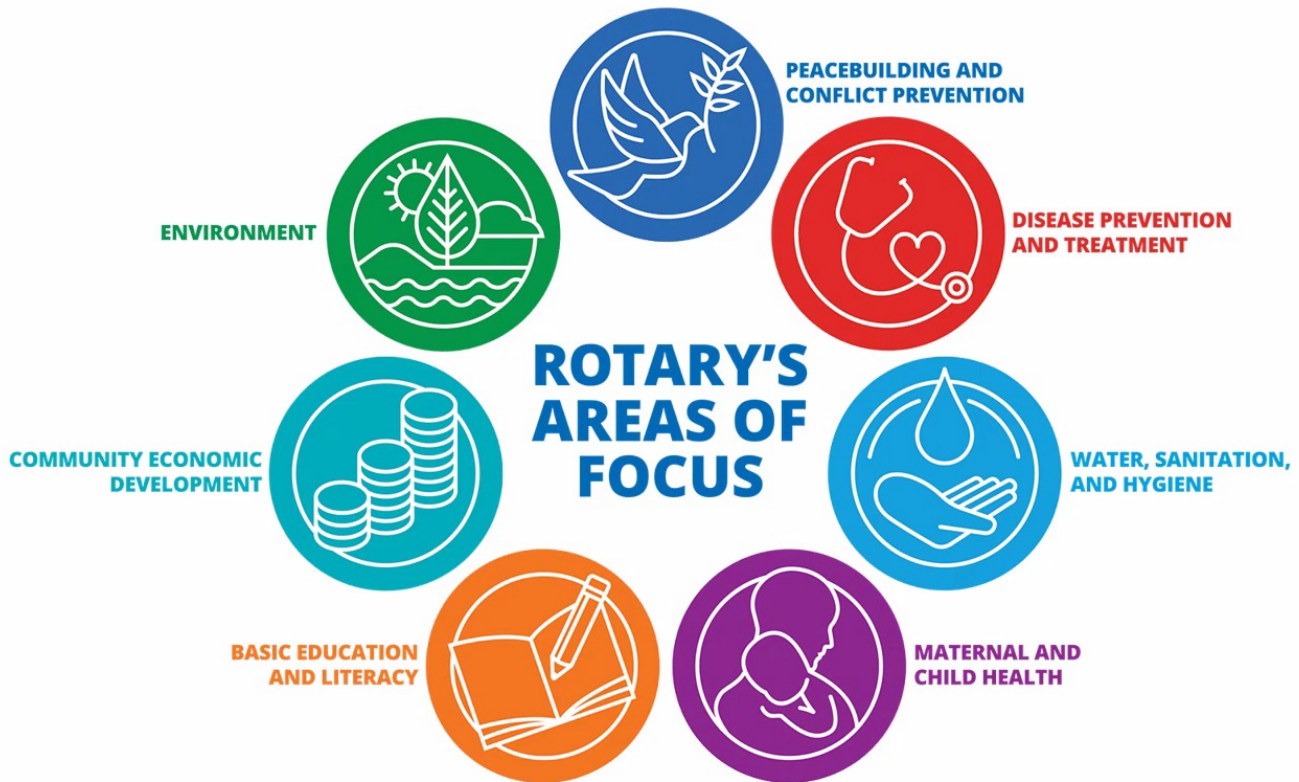
contracted polio in 1942. His oldest brother, who was 9, died from the disease.

For several years, Fulton Rotarians staffed information tables at local supermarkets and distributed crocuses for donations to polio eradication.

In 2020, Fulton Rotary broadcast “A Candle Against the Dark.” It is the story of Carl Chinnery’s family and their struggle against polio. Carl, a past District 6040 Governor, was 1 when he and his four brothers all



*Raising awareness about polio outside Walmart*



## Avenues of Service

Rotarians channel their commitment to service at home and abroad through five Avenues of Service, which are the foundation of club activity.

**Club Service** focuses on making clubs strong. A thriving club is anchored by strong relationships and an active membership development plan.

**Vocational Service** calls on every Rotarian to work with integrity and contribute their expertise to the problems and needs of society.

**Community Service** encourages every Rotarian to find ways to improve the quality of life for people in their communities and to serve the public interest.

**International Service** exemplifies our global reach in promoting peace and understanding. We support this service avenue by sponsoring or volunteering on international projects, seeking partners abroad, and more.

**Youth Service** recognizes the importance of empowering youth and young professionals through leadership development programs such as Interact, Rotary Youth Leadership Awards, and Rotary Youth Exchange.



## The Four-Way Test

*of the things we think, say or do.*

---

- 1 Is it the truth?
- 2 Is it fair to all concerned?
- 3 Will it build goodwill and better friendships?
- 4 Will it be beneficial to all concerned?

Fulton  
**Rotary**  
Club



A  
Century  
of  
Service

1923-2023