

2024 DISTRICT 6970 SPEAKER BIOS



**Barb Spangler, Past District Governor
Rotary District 5130, Northern
California, 2018-2019**

Current club: Lakewood Ranch Rotary Club, Rotary District 6960, Southwest Florida. Rotarian since 2009

Rotary Bio :

President of Rotary Club of the Valley of the Moon, D5130: 2012/2013, Assistant Governor D5130: 2014-2016, District Governor D5130 : 2018-2019, District International Service Chair, D5130 : 2019-2022, PETS Committee Zone 25 and 26: 2019-2022, Chair of Clean Water Committee, D6960 Lakewood Ranch Rotary Club 2023-2025, Advisor for multiple Global Grants in Zimbabwe, 2020-current, Member of the HANWASH Steering Committee and Management Committees from 2021 to present, Vice-Charge, HANWASH Sub-Committee for Monitoring and Evaluation: 2021 – present

Hands on Rotary Experience.

Cleft lip and palate surgical repair missions (4) D5130 : Venezuela, India. Myanmar. Bangladesh Clean Water Project Commissioning at Mushake and Muhrewe in Zimbabwe, Rotary International Conventions in Atlanta, Houston + Hamburg 2024

Professional bio:

B.S. Medical Technology – Framingham State University, Massachusetts, M.B.A. Babson College (Massachusetts), Entrepreneurship, M.P.H. Global Health Specialty at the University of California, Berkeley. Career in global cardiology and imaging technology clinical research. Lead market-focused research projects in Western U.S. academic medical centers for GE Healthcare., Current member of the Biostatistics Teaching Team for the Masters Degree Program in Public Health, Online/On Campus at U.C. Berkeley.

For Fun:

Travel ,making Rotary friends in Florida, and beyond! Buddy the GoldenDoodle is a lot of fun! I am a believer in improving the world in small and large ways. We all have the chance to do this every day. It's energizing and fun. Every day, I am inspired by the power of Rotarians who work through the Rotary foundation to make our world better!

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Professor Yohani Kayinamura
Rotary Club of Daytona Beach West

Professor Yohani Kayinamura is a proud member of the Rotary Club of Daytona Beach West, contributing to both academia and social entrepreneurship. As a dedicated educator and self-motivated social entrepreneur, he currently holds the position of Professor of Chemistry in the Department of Biological and Physical Sciences at Daytona State College. His research focus spans the intriguing realms of conducting polymers and renewable energy.

An unwavering commitment to the principle of paying it forward propels Yohani into community service. His passion for education manifests through volunteering at various academic institutions both in the USA and in Rwanda. Moreover, he founded the Umuryango Children's Network, a nonprofit organization committed to rescuing and educating street (homeless) children in Rwanda. The organization's mission is nothing short of transformative — turning underprivileged and street children into ethically sound individuals who are intellectually, physically, emotionally, and spiritually well-rounded. At the forefront of their efforts is the Bright Future Academy, a tuition-free nursery and primary school catering to underprivileged yet brilliant local community students.

As an active member of the Rotary Club of Daytona Beach West, Yohani finds immense value in engaging with like-minded individuals who share a fervor for service and positive change. This enriching affiliation not only deepens his understanding of community dynamics but also provides a significant platform for him to build a global network of friends, all united by the common goal of making the world a better place.

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**Ken Schuppert, RI President's
Representative**

Ken was born in Madison, Wisconsin and received his B.A. from The University of the South (Sewanee, Tennessee). He received his law degree from Cumberland School of Law of Samford University (Birmingham, Alabama) in 1981. He lives in Decatur, Alabama, where Ken and his wife, Lynn are members in the law firm of Blackburn, Maloney and Schuppert, LLC. Ken and Lynn's principal areas of practice are corporate, real estate, probate, estate planning and commercial representation.

Ken and Lynn are both active in their community. Ken has been president of the Decatur Jaycees, Vice-President of the Tennessee Valley Council of the Greater Alabama Council of the Boy Scouts of America and was presented the Silver Beaver Award in 1990. Lynn has been President and is legal advisor of the Junior League of Morgan County, Alabama. Both have been a Director and President of the Old Decatur Historic Association. Ken has served on the Boards of the Morgan County Cancer Society, PACT (Parents and Children Together), Chamber of Commerce, Princess Theatre and Carnegie Visual Arts Center, and was a Trustee and Chair of Parkway Medical Center Board and is currently a Trustee of the newly formed Decatur Morgan Hospital Board. They are both active members of St. John's Episcopal Church, and Ken has served as a Lay Eucharistic Minister, on the Vestry, as Senior Warden, as Treasurer and, now as Chancellor, and Lynn has been a Lector and Lector Chair from 1995 to 2019. Ken was a member of the BBVA Compass Bank Board for North Alabama until its merger in 2021 with PNC Bank and is now a PNC Bank adviser for North Alabama.

Ken joined Rotary in 1982 and Lynn in 2008. Ken was recognized as a Paul Harris Fellow by his club in 1987. He was President of the Decatur Rotary Club in 1992-93 and served as District Governor of District 6860 in 1996-97. His district duties included Assembly Co-Chairman 1990-92, Deputy District Governor - Operations, 1994-95, Chair of the Foundation Annual Giving program 1997-2000, and Foundation Coordinator, 2000-04. On the Zone level, Ken and Lynn have been on the Executive Committee as Program Chair in 1999, as Arrangements Chair in 2001, as GETS leaders in 2000-04 and 2006-08, as Institute Vice Chair in 2003 and as Institute General Chair in 2004.

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Ken Schuppert, Vice Chairman, The Rotary Foundation Rotary Club of Decatur

Ken and Lynn have served as RI President's Representatives in 1998-2015, 2017-20 & 2022. They have served as RI Training Leaders in 2001 and 2003. Ken has been a delegate and/or participant to the Councils on Legislation in 2001, 2004, 2007, 2010, 2013 and 2016, served as a RI Regional Membership Coordinator for 2003-05, as Zone 30 Regional Rotary Foundation Coordinator for 2006-09, and served as a Member of the RI Communications Committee for 2009-12 and was Vice Chair for 2010-11 and as Trustee Liaison for 2017-19.

Ken served as a Director of Rotary International for 2011-13, a member of the RI Audit Committee for 2011-12 & 2017-20, RI Strategic Planning Committee for 2012-15, and as Chair for 2013-15, on the Constitution & Bylaws Committee as Board Liaison for 2011-13, Trustee Liaison for 2016-20, as a member for 2013-16, and as Chair for 2015-16, and Chair of the RI Board Council on Legislation Advisory Committee for 2011-13, and as the RI Vice President for 2012-13, and on the RI 2015 Convention Committee as Vice Chair for 2014-15. Ken and Lynn served as the Aides for the 2014-15 RI President and First Lady, Gary and Corinna Huang of Taipei, Taiwan, and served as the Moderators of the 2016 International Assembly for 2016-17 RI President John and First Lady Judy Germ of Chattanooga, TN. Ken served as a Trustee of The Rotary Foundation for 2016-20, and as Vice Chair for 2016-18 & 2019-20, and on the Foundation Program Committee for 2016-20, and as Vice Chair for 2017-18 and Chair for 2018-20, TRF Areas of Focus Review Committee for 2018-19, and was on the International Polio Plus Committee for 2019-22, and was Co-Chair of the Joint RI & TRF Tax Status Review Committee for 2018-19, and on the TRF Environmental Area of Focus Review Task Force for 2019-20. Ken was the Chair of the 2020 RIP Nominating Committee, Chair for the 2021 RI Convention, and is the Chair for the 2022-28 RI Councils on Legislation and Resolutions.

Ken was named an Outstanding Young Alabamian in 1989, and was presented The Rotary Foundation Citation for Meritorious Service in 2000, the Rotary International Four Avenues of Service Citation in 2001, and The Rotary Foundation's Distinguished Service Award in 2006.

Ken and Lynn have one daughter, Elizabeth who is a Doctor of Physical Therapy with UAB Hospital in Birmingham, AL; all are Paul Harris Fellows. Ken and Lynn are AKS Donors and Bequest Society Members. Ken and Lynn are proud grandparents of Bennett, 2 years of age, and they enjoy golf, swimming, gardening and "house restoration."

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George Robertson-Burnett

Born in Aberdeen, Scotland, George was educated at Aberdeen Grammar School and Aberdeen College of Commerce. First employed as a fledgling journalist, George went on to serve Her Majesty's Government, in the smuggling and drug enforcement department. After moving to England, George started his own company - George Hotels Ltd, and specialized in ownership and operation of Hotels, Restaurants and English pubs. George sold all of his UK business interests and moved to the United States in 2004 with his wife Carole and daughter Pippa.

George started GRB Properties LLC in Florida, but retired in 2008 when he secured green card residency, George, Carole and Pippa became US citizens in 2015. A Past President of the Bartow Rotary Club, and Past District Governor of District 6890, George is currently serving his second three year term as District Representative to the Council on Legislation. George served a four year term as an Assistant Rotary Coordinator 2014-2018 and was until July 2021, the Rotary Coordinator for Zone 34. George is currently on the Zone 34 Membership Action Plan Committee and heads up the MAP Ambassadors program. He is also on the Executive Committee for Zones 33/34 Institute in the Bahamas and is Chair Elect for Rotary Florida PETS. George is a Major Donor to the Rotary Foundation.

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Patrick Eakes
Rotary International Director Elect 2024-26

Patrick earned Bachelor's and Master's degrees in Mechanical Engineering at North Carolina State University. He has operated a high-end custom metal manufacturing business for the past 26 years.

Patrick led his club's drive to become Rotary's first Triple Crown Club (100% Paul Harris Fellow, 100% Sustaining, 100% Benefactor simultaneously). While district Rotary Foundation Chair, District 7690 led the world in 100% Sustaining clubs for five years and became Rotary's first 100% Paul Harris Fellow district. Patrick served Zone 33 as an Innovative Club Advocate and Rotary Coordinator, and he served Zones 33-34 as the Training Chair and chair of the Membership Action Plan. Patrick will serve on the Rotary International Board of Directors in 2024-26.

Patrick is the Immediate Past President of the US-Canada Golfing Fellowship of Rotarians and served two years on Rotary International's Global Networking Groups Committee that oversaw Rotary Fellowships and Rotary Action Groups. Patrick served two terms as President of Sedgefield Country Club, home of the PGA Tour's Wyndham Championship.

Patrick is married to Kristen, and they have two children who are both active in Rotary projects. Patrick enjoys spending time with his family, playing golf, and wine collecting.

Patrick is a recipient of the Distinguished Service Award and the Service Above Self Award.