

Rotary International, District 6200

2266 S. College Road Extension, Suite C

Lafayette, LA 70508

Phone: (800) 301-8560

Fax: (337) 237-0943

E-mail: rotary6200@cox-internet.com



SERVICE Above Self

Rotarian friends from around the world!

The Rotarians of District 6200 would welcome the chance to host our fellow Rotarians from your District. While we may not have the same scenery, food, or language as your homeland, I am certain we'll make up for it with our warm hospitality, renowned cuisine, and "joie de vivre" (Joy of Living).

The original inhabitants of our area were Native Americans who saw the first Spanish explorers in the early 16th century. A century later, the French settled the region, claiming it for King Louis XIV, for whom the State was named Louisiana. The region was briefly owned by Great Britain, then Spain, before returning to the French and eventually being sold to the United States by Napoleon. In the mid-1700's, large numbers of French settlers in French Canada (Acadia) were exiled by the British and migrated to South Louisiana. Their descendants are known as Acadians, or "Cajuns". From the descendants of West African slaves, we also have a large Creole influence. When you visit, you'll find that the best of each of these cultures continues in the daily life here.

Expect to eat your fill of all manner of seafood, rice and fresh vegetable dishes. Bring your dancing shoes or just tap your toes to Cajun and Zydeco rhythms. You'll find a warm and gracious welcome in each home or business you visit while here. We will use almost anything as an excuse to "laisser les bons temps rouler" (let the good times roll!) at an open-air celebration of food, fun, and music. There will be several of these "festivals" during the time you're with us and I hope you get to experience at least one. We look forward to sharing all this, and "lagniappe" (a little something extra), with you.

There are now fifty-one Rotary clubs in our District, with just over 2500 Rotarians. Geographically, we cover over 48,000 square miles, stretching from the State of Texas bordering us on the West, to near the City of New Orleans on our East, and from the Gulf of Mexico South of us, to the middle of the State of Louisiana. I know I speak for every Rotarian in our District in inviting you to be with us.

If you have an interest in a Friendship Exchange, please contact our District Office so we can make contact with you.

In our custom, we don't say "goodbye". Instead, "que le bon Dieu vous benit" (may the good Lord bless you) until we have the chance to meet, and au revoir mes amis.

Yours in Rotary,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Greg".

Gregory L. Landry

District Governor, 2009-2010