

Chris Jones
Past Zone 33 Rotary Coordinator, 2016-19
Rotary Club of Cabarrus County, NC
PDG District 7680, 2012-2013
President and CEO, DACdb

Sometimes the best Rotarians grow out of someone who never even knew what Rotary was. That might be the case with Past District Governor Chris Jones, who was initially invited to learn more about a new Rotary Club that was forming near where he worked and lived in Catonsville, MD (District 7620). Chris readily admits business networking was the initial lure to join. "Then I saw the service projects and the way the club was giving back to the community, both locally and globally, and I had to join," he said.

Soon after being asked to serve as President of the club, Chris moved to North Carolina. Fortunately, he found the same qualities he enjoyed so much in Maryland in the Rotary Club of Lake Norman-Huntersville, (he is now a member of the Rotary Club of Cabarrus County) and it was only a matter of time before he was again involved in club leadership. This time, however, it went to an entirely new level as he began assuming roles in both his district and ultimately his zone.

Chris' Rotary service crosses numerous areas of focus, having led committees for The Rotary Foundation, International Assembly Learning Facilitator, Carolinas' PETS Training Director, membership, and public image, just to name a few. He is a past Rotary Coordinator for Zone 33 and past Co-Chair of the Innovative Club Advocates and is now serving the Zone as the Vice-Chair of the Zones 33/34 Membership Action Plan (MAP). On a less formal (but perhaps more fun) note, he served as the president of the International Fellowship of Motorcycling Rotarians

from 2016-19 and is a charter member of the Whiskey DRAM (a Rotary Fellowship of Whiskey Drinking Rotarians and Members), but he is certain to never mix the two at the same time.

"Rotary is like a family for me," said Chris. "When my wife became quite ill and we had no family in the area, Rotary acted just like family. They took care of us, fed us, helped us move and so much more."

After 23 years in Rotary, Chris has far too many amazing memories and "Rotary moments" to list them all, but he cites the opportunity to visit India for National Immunization Day (NID) as one of his favorite experiences. "WOW! We learned not only how important the work that Rotary does in polio eradication, but also saw many other projects where Rotary has made life-transformational impacts for the people of India."

As a respected Rotary leader, Chris is often invited to share his expertise with clubs and districts around the world. Chris has a passion for Rotary, and as such he serves DACdb as its President and CEO. "I'm proud to be called a Rotarian and proud of the people I serve with to make a difference," said Chris. "Rotary allows me to lay my head down on the pillow at the end of the day and know I've made a difference, and that allows for good sleep. Rotary is simply the best place to meet people, exchange ideas, take action, and make the world a better place."