

District 6460 Governor 2005-2006

Keith R. and Phyllis N. Lape



Keith R. Lape was born in southern Illinois in Fayette County. After graduating from Eastern Illinois University with a Bachelors' Degrees in education, Keith and Phyllis, his wife, taught in Mattoon, Illinois, and Galesburg, Illinois. They received their Masters Degrees while teaching. Later in their careers, both Keith and Phyllis completed degrees of Doctor of Philosophy. Each has been involved in education over 40 years.

In 1967 Keith joined the staff of the Springfield office of the Superintendent of Public Instruction (currently the Illinois State Board of Education). While in that office, Keith served as administrator of Adult Education programs throughout the state, working with public schools and community colleges. In 1979 Keith began his tenure with the Illinois Community Board as Director of Programs and as Assistant to the Executive Director. Keith then joined the staff of MacMurray College where he developed curriculum for correctional centers. From 1989 to 1992 Keith was Vice President and Interim President of Rend Lake College in Mt. Vernon, Illinois. He retired from public education in 1992. After returning to MacMurray in 1992, Keith retired in 2002 as Vice President for Graduate and Continuing Education.

Keith joined Rotary in in Mt. Vernon and served on the Board of Directors, chairing the Community Service Committee. After arriving in Jacksonville, Keith served on the Board of Directors, chaired the membership committee, and was president in 1998-99. In April, 2000, Keith organized and planned the first Rotary Bass Fishing Tournament. This event has proved to be a most successful event for the community and the Rotary Club. Keith has served as chair of the tournament the past six years. Keith has served as Assistant District Governor and Chair of the District Membership committee. Both Keith and Phyllis are Paul Harris Fellows and Benefactors of the Permanent Fund of Rotary International.

Keith has also been active in the community. He was the first chair of a 13 county Board for the American Cancer Society. He has been a member of the Big Brother/ Big Sister Board. He is a former member of the Jacksonville School Board, and he served as chair for a community committee reviewing the schools in Jacksonville. He also serves as a member of a four county Regional School Trustees Board..

Keith and Phyllis have two daughters and five grandchildren.