

The Rotary Wheel

P.O. BOX 4376, OLATHE, KS 66063

August 2017

CHARTERED AUGUST 9, 1937



OLATHE ROTARY CLUB

District 5710 Club 1625



WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 9TH, OLATHE ROTARY 80TH ANNIVERSARY CELEBRATION!!!

Olathe Rotary Speakers/Events

- Aug 02 KidsTLC. Service Meeting will be held at 401 S. Clairborne, Ste 107, northeast of main KidsTLC campus buildings.
- Aug 09 Olathe Rotary 80th Anniversary Celebration
Mike Haskin
- Aug 16 Cyndi Swall, Focused Intention
- Aug 23 Johnny Rowlands and Major Miles, Stories from the Skies
- Aug 30 Olathe Mayor Michael Copeland, Mayor's Reading Program Updates
- Sep 06 **No Meeting**, Labor Day Break

Vernon Avant, Program Chair
coachavant@gmail.com

Thank You, Ernie Hicks, for Serving as Our Club Treasurer for 13 years!



In July, Larry Rinne presented Ernie with a plaque thanking him for his many years of service as Olathe Rotary Club Treasurer. He has been Treasurer also of the Olathe Rotary Club Foundation since its inception in 2008. Club members have appreciated Ernie's attention to detail, hard work, dedication, and accuracy. Since Ernie became a Rotarian in October of 1989, he has participated in almost every club service project, many of which also included his wife, Gail. Ernie has served as club President and is a Paul Harris Fellow.

2017-2018 Olathe Rotary Club Officers and Board

7/1/2017 to 6/30/2018

Vanessa Vaughn West, President

vlvaughn@gmail.com

Larry Rinne, Past President

Pat O'Donnell, President Elect

Jason Armstrong, Treasurer
jarmstrong@cacu.com

Dacia Moore, Director
1st of 2 year term

Jasen Mangrum, Director
1st of 2 year term

Terry Lynch, Director
1st of 2 year term

Karin Brownlee, Director
2nd of 2 year term

Geoff Neufeld, Director
2nd of 2 year term

Vernon Avant, Director
1st of 2 yr term

Olathe Rotary Club Foundation

7/1/2017 to 7/30/2018

President

Terry Lynch, 2nd of 2 year term

Treasurer

Jason Armstrong, 2nd of 2 year term

Secretary

Sandy Wilson, 2nd of 2 year term

David Andrew, 2nd of 2 yr term

Mark Myer, 2nd of 2 yr term

Mark Romain, 2nd of 2 yr term

Ernie Hicks, 2nd of 2 yr term

Vanessa Vaughn West,

1st of 1 yr term

Pat O'Donnell, 2nd of 2 yr term

**Please Remember Our
Foundation When You Plan or
Rewrite Your Will or Trust**

Don't Miss Our Olathe Rotary Meeting, Wednesday

August 2nd

at KidsTLC

Noon to 1:00 pm

**401 South Clairborne,
Ste 107**

**(Northeast of the main campus
buildings. Ample parking!)**

**Back to School Projects
Donation Sorting
Brief Agency Overview**

Thank you for Volunteering!!

Rotary

People of Action

"Rotary is where neighbors, friends, and problem-solvers share ideas, join leaders, and take action to create lasting change."

www.olatherotary.org

www.rotary.org

Our District 5710 Website:
<https://portal.clubrunner.ca/50021>

To Contact Olathe Rotary:
olathenoonrotary@gmail.com
facebook.com/olatherotary
twitter.com/olatherotary

Olathe Rotarians Welcomed Exchange Ambassadors July 26th



Our two U.S. and two Japanese Exchange Students attended the July 26th Olathe Rotary Meeting. Olathe Rotary's Summer Exchange Ambassadors, Michaela Blank and Tristan Miller shared brief highlights from their recent 3-week home-stay in Maebashi, Japan. Tristan spoke about the friendships he was able to rekindle since visiting Japan last summer and the hospitality of Akane Abe's family and Kyoai Gakuen where he attended classes during his stay. Michaela was awestruck by the vista from Mt Asama located near the resort town of Karuizawa in Gunma Prefecture. Mt. Asama is the most active volcano on the main island of Honshu and rises 8,344 feet in height. It's usually quiet, sending plumes of steam when active but otherwise provides breath-taking views, hiking and respite from Japan's summer heat and humidity. Michaela and Chikako stayed at

the Fusegawa residence, Chikako's aunt and uncle's house. Mrs Fusegawa is a teacher at Kyoai Gakuen and frequently hosts international guests and students from Olathe. Michaela loved the food, the warm hospitality and the friendships she made at her school, Chuo (Central) High School located in Takasaki – next door to Maebashi.

Accompanying our ambassadors were Maebashi West Rotary's Summer Exchange Ambassadors, Chikako Kitazume and Akane Abe. The Blank and Miller families will be hosting these students from July 20-Aug 10. Since our schools are not in session, a wide variety of activities are being planned in order to expose the students to Kansas / Olathe history, culture, food and arts... and, of course, our infamous Midwest hospitality. Highlights include a tour of the Mahaffie Farmstead, City Market and Steamboat Arabia, Deanna Rose Farm, the Johnson County Fair, Starlight Theater, a water park, swimming and kayaking, and lots of shopping. George Schlagle is treating the group to the Theater in the Park Show, Beauty and the Beast this Thursday evening, including a back stage tour and opportunity to meet the performers. Other Rotarians supporting the Olathe-Maebashi exchange by providing their time, money and/or hospitality include Karin and Doug Brownlee, Bill True, Chris Osborn and Dianne Daugherty. There's still time to show your support by making a donation to the Olathe Rotary "Int'l Exchange Activity Fund". **The students will attend both the Aug 2nd and Aug 9th Rotary meetings. Be sure to meet them and say "Hi!"**

In other student exchange news, the Olathe Rotary Club will be hosting a 1-yr exchange student for the 2017-2018 school year. His name is Takeru Inagaki from Nagoya Japan. He will be attending Olathe Northwest High School and will be hosted during the fall semester by Donald and Margery Erckert. He arrives Aug 9 and will be introduced at a Rotary Club meeting soon after.

Dianne Daugherty (pictured far left above) has been a member of the Olathe Rotary Club since 1988 and serves as the club's Youth Exchange Officer. She, husband Jerry and daughter, McKinna lived in Maebashi for 3 years. Upon their return, Dianne changed her career path and began teaching Japanese in 1997. She has been teaching for the Olathe Public schools for 16 years and at JCCC for eight years. She was instrumental in establishing the club partnership with the Maebashi West Rotary Club along with community and school relationships between Olathe and Maebashi. She also oversaw the Trees of Friendship project where about 400 cherry trees were donated by Mr. Akio Fukushima and planted in area Olathe Parks.

The Paul Harris Fellow - Changing People's Lives

Rotary started with the vision of one man — Paul Harris. The Chicago attorney formed the Rotary Club of Chicago on 23 February 1905, so professionals with diverse backgrounds could exchange ideas, form meaningful, lifelong friendships, and give back to their communities.

The Paul Harris Fellow program recognizes individuals who contribute, or who have contributions made in their name, of \$1,000 to **The Rotary Foundation of Rotary International**. (Can accumulate through recurring gifts, or given all at one time.) The honor was established in 1957 to show appreciation for contributions that support our Annual Fund, PolioPlus, or an approved Foundation grant. To recognize someone else as a Paul Harris Fellow, a Rotarian can give that amount in their name....recipient does not need to be a Rotarian.

Rotarians who give \$1000 annually become members of the **Paul Harris Society**.

The Rotary Foundation has a **four-star rating from Charity Navigator**, an evaluator of U.S. charities. The rating, which is the highest that Charity Navigator assigns, reflects the Rotary Foundation's sound fiscal management and commitment to accountability and transparency.

Through Paul Harris and Paul Harris Society gifts, members are supporting work in Rotary's six areas of focus: **promoting peace, fighting disease, providing clean water, saving mothers and children, supporting education, and growing local economies around the world.**

******Not only will Paul Harris gifts help Rotarians reach out and touch mankind all over the world, a large portion of a club's contributions to The Rotary Foundation, will be returned to that club's district in the form of District Grants to help local clubs with the resources needed to spread these great programs to those most in need of them in their own communities.**

Olathe Rotary is proud to have 317 Paul Harris Fellows named since 1973.

Our Rotary Foundation drive is normally in October and November, but donations are accepted any time during the Rotary year (7/1/17-6/30/18). Rotarian Darrell McDaniel is our Rotary International Foundation Drive Chair.

**Olathe Rotary has named 11 Paul Harris Fellows
during the 2016-2017 Rotary Year. Their names and short bios follow:**

Clark Stewart: This is Clark's ninth Paul Harris Fellow Award. Clark has been the President and Chief Executive Officer of Butler National Corporation since September 1, 1989. Clark served as the President of Tradewind Industries Inc., from 1979 to 1985. From 1986 to 1989, he also served as an Executive Vice President of RO Corporation. Since 1980, he served as the President of Tradewind Systems, Inc. Butler National Corporation operates in the Aerospace and Management Services business segments. The Management Services segment includes architectural and design services, professional casino gaming management, temporary employee services and management services for Indian gaming enterprises. Aerospace includes custom aircraft PMA and Supplemental Type Certificate solutions, aircraft and aircraft parts certification services, avionics installation and repair, the manufacture of switching equipment for Boeing aircraft, fuel tank protection devices for aircraft, and systems integration and structural modifications to business and commercial aircraft. Clark and his wife Sue Ann Antenen married in 1964 and have 2 children, Pamela Shinkle and Craig Stewart. When not working, Clark enjoys flying, being involved with Little League Baseball, and yard work. He has served on the boards of a number of local businesses and organizations.

Tom Knappenberger: This is Tom's fourth Paul Harris Fellow Award. Tom joined Olathe Rotary May 1, 1992. He received his BS, DVM, and MS degrees from Kansas State University. He served two years in the United States Army Veterinary Core. In 1965 Dr. Knappenberger, an Olathe resident since age 10, returned home and began Knappenberger Veterinary Clinic. In 1968 he married Shirley, who has worked beside him in the office ever since. They have 4 children Linda Meyer, Rex Harrison, (Owner of Paw Palace Boarding and Grooming), Todd Knappenberger, and Scott Knappenberger. They also have 6 grandchildren. Over the years Tom has been very involved in the community. He taught veterinary science to 4-Hers for many years, served on and been president of the Johnson County Fair Board, the Johnson County Extension Board, served as a project leader and community leader of the Sharon 4-H Club, and served on his church council. Tom received Veterinarian Family of the Year, Olathe School Wall of Fame, and City of Olathe Character Award. Tom's hobbies include woodworking, stained glass, reading, and spending many hours in the bleachers of his grand children's activities. Also in his spare time he enjoys attending many Kansas State Football and Basketball games. Tom's sponsor was Tom Hall.

Frank Devocelle: This is Frank's fourth Paul Harris Fellow Award. He joined Olathe Rotary in 1976. He was born in Springfield, IL, and received his degree from Quincy College, and his MBA from Western Illinois University. He married Molly Miller in 1969. They have four children: Heather, Heidi, Cindy, and Christine. Frank has been President and CEO of the Olathe Medical Center since it opened its newest campus on 151st Street. He has been involved in many organizations and activities for many years. A few of Frank's many honors follow: Olathe Citizen of the Year 1989, Distinguished Community Service Award-MNU 1996, Community Service Award Commerce Bank 1999, Cathedral Builder Award City of Olathe 2013, MNU Lifetime Achievement Award 2014. Frank enjoys reading, baseball cards, and travel. His sponsor was Robert Hughes.

Jason Park: This is Jason's first Paul Harris Fellow Award. Jason joined Olathe Rotary in 2009. His sponsor was George Schlagel. He was born in Shawnee Mission, KS, and attended Olathe North High School. He received his degree in Business Administration from Emporia State University. He married his wife Laura Scherman in May 2000. They have four children: Taylor, Kyndal, Brooke, and Jace. Jason is an All State Insurance Agency owner located on College Boulevard in Overland Park. He enjoys racing and boating and is involved with the Boys and Girls of Greater Kansas City.

Larry Rinne: This is Larry's 3rd Paul Harris Fellow Award. Larry joined Olathe Rotary in 2013. His sponsor was Jerry Johnson. He was born in Gardner, KS and graduated from Gardner High. He received his Aerospace Engineering degree from KU, and his MBA from the University of West Florida. While at KU Larry was in the ROTC program and received his regular commission as an Ensign in the US Navy in 1967. Larry married his wife Carol in 1997. They have one daughter, Tiffany Rinne Maclagan, who lives currently in Wellington New Zealand. He entered the Navy Flight Training Program and received his Navy Wings in just 13 months. As an F 4 Phantom pilot he completed 2 combat tours in Vietnam with VF-21 where he earned 9 Medals, a Navy Commendation Medal, and other decorations. He completed over 200 combat missions flying from the deck of the USS Ranger. He was chosen to go to the Navy's Top Gun School. As a Naval Reservist, Larry went on to complete a 25 year Navel career retiring in 1992 as a Captain. He is a seasoned financial service executive with over 25 years of experience in Mutual Funds, banking, brokerage processing and technology. His career took him from Hallmark cards in Kansas City to Mellon Bank in Pittsburg. From Mellon he moved back to Kansas City as President of Investors Fiduciary Trust Company. From Mellon he moved to Boston where he was Senior Vice President with the State Street Bank and Trust. In 1995 he moved to Chicago as Executive Director of Global Operations for Brinson Trust Company. He launched his third career as a Financial Planner, Investment Advisor Representative with Wall Street Capitol. Larry's hobbies are photography and traveling. He was President of Olathe Rotary 2016-2017.

Harold Boxberger: Harold is not a Rotarian and was nominated for a Paul Harris Fellow Award by Wayne Hemphill. He is a long time Olathe resident with a heart for service and giving. He is employed at American Century and is planning on working part time with an eye on retiring. He and his wife Susan have three children: Evan, Adam, and Audria. Evan owns the Pet Shop at 151st Street and Murlen. Harold has been the Mission Team outreach director at Advent Lutheran Church for more than 10 years. He has completed close to a dozen mission trips to New Orleans (post Katrina), Mexico (building a home), as well as the Dominican Republic, where he supports Children's International efforts providing housing, clean water, and education opportunities. He has been on the Board of the Metropolitan Lutheran Ministries for several years and is currently serving as Board President. Harold volunteers for everything – from a mile of highway cleanup, to coordinating volunteer efforts at work, serving breakfast to the homeless in KCK, and being on the support team of the Olathe Marathon. Harold was a good friend of Jim Silvers, our long time Rotary member who recently passed away.

2016-2017 Paul Harris Fellows...continued

Gerald Gentry: This is Gerald's 4th Paul Harris Fellow Award. He joined Olathe Rotary May 1993 and his sponsor was Ray Rhoades. He earned his BA and Phd from the University of Kansas and MA from Wichita State. Dr. Gerald is a Psychologist in Olathe, practicing for 40 years and specializing primarily in Clinical Psychology. Gerald married his wife, Lynn, December of 1960. They have three children: Greg, Lara, and Lindsay. They also have 6 grandchildren. Gerald chaired the Olathe Rotary Club Rotary Ramblers Relay for Life team for seven years. He rallied Rotarians to gather donations totaling \$49,195.54 for the American Cancer Society during the time he lead the team, making our team for several years the team with the highest amount of donations of all teams at the Olathe American Cancer Society Relay for Life. He also chaired the Olathe American Cancer Society Relay for Life and was a member of the organizing committee for several years.

Lynn Goodwin Gentry: Lynn is not a Rotarian and is married to Rotarian Gerald Gentry. Gerald nominated her for, and provided, her Paul Harris Fellow. Although Lynn is an award-winning architect, she says that her favorite job was being a "Mommy". She raised three children – without a lot of help from her husband who was commuting daily to Osawatomie State Hospital --while completing her architecture training at the University of Kansas. Now the Principal at Gentry Design Studio, Lynn was selected "Community Volunteer of the Year" in 2015 by the Kansas City chapter of the American Institute of Architects for her pro bono work designing more than 75 homes for Habitat for Humanity. This recognition, in turn, led to the Kansas City Star's Editorial Board selecting Lynn as one of five finalists for "Citizen of 2015".

Tom Gentry: Tom is not a Rotarian and is the older brother of Gerald. Gerald nominated him for, and provided, his Paul Harris Fellow. Tom was born and raised in Neodesha, KS. His many and varied interests became apparent early on. Tom sang baritone in the high school quartet, learned welding, enjoyed acting in school plays, and was elected Student Council President. Tom met the love of his life while attending Pittsburg State University. He and Martie married, moved to Kansas City and began raising their three young daughters. Tom formed Triad Engineered Aids, Inc. with two partners, who he persuaded to locate the firm in Neodesha. Employment soon peaked at over 30 carpenters and welders – a boon to Tom's hometown. Triad pioneered the design and construction of prefabricated concrete forms which could be re-used multiple times. Although much in demand for use on bridges and dams, Triad forms were also utilized in the construction of the Truman Sports Complex. Tom died unexpectedly at the age of 36. Although 45 years have passed, the memories and love of him remain.

Jasen Mangrum: This is Jasen's first Paul Harris Fellow Award. He joined Olathe Rotary August 2014. His sponsor was Sandy Wilson. Jasen was born in Lawrence, Kansas and was a graduate of the University of Kansas in 2001 with a degree in Business Administration. In recognition of his academic achievement, Jasen was inducted into Beta Gamma Sigma, the honor society for collegiate schools of business. He married his wife, Annette, September 2002. Jasen is a financial advisor with Lawing Financial in Overland Park where he develops comprehensive plans to help his clients become retirement ready through a combination of investment and insurance vehicles. Jasen also creates, rehabilitates and implements 401K plans for companies throughout the country. His hobbies include horse racing, sand volleyball, golf, and spending time with friends. He is columnist for Horse Racing Nation.com and travels to the sport's biggest events to cover them. Jasen enjoys giving back to the community by volunteering at Happy Bottoms, Higher M-Pact and Olathe Meals on Wheels. He has been a busy Rotarian since he joined Rotary in 2014. He began a 2 year term on the Olathe Rotary board in 2015. Once completed he began a new 2 year term on the board in 2017. He was co-chair on the membership committee in the 2015-2016 Rotary year. He promoted and organized the Rotary Ramblers to participate in the American Lung Asso. Fight for Air Climb in February 2016. He was the Silent Auction Chair for the 2016 Days of Wine and Rotary Fundraiser securing a large number of terrific silent auction items. He was the chair for the 2017 Days of Wine and Rotary event itself, still securing silent and live auction items.

Amy Martin: This is Amy's first Paul Harris Fellow Award. Amy joined Olathe Rotary in June of 2009. Her sponsor was Bob Wilhelm. Amy was born in Moline, Illinois. She received her degree in Computer Science from Creighton University. She married her husband, Derek Martian October 1990 in West Des Moines, Iowa. Amy and Derek have been residents of Olathe since 1993. All three of their daughters, Katherine, Abigail, and Elizabeth, graduated from Olathe schools. Amy owns and operates Amy Martin Portrait, a portrait studio specializing in contemporary portraits of children and families. She served more than 6 years on the Olathe School Board. July 2017, Amy completed her term as President of the Kansas Association of School Boards. She is involved in a number of local organizations. Her hobbies include gardening, yoga, and reading. Amy has been on the Days of Wine and Rotary Event Committee for several years, responsible for decorations and event set up.

**We thank our 2017 Paul Harris Fellows for their
commitment to the good works of Rotary!**

*Deadline for September Newsletter, August 30th
Submit your information to Sandy Wilson, swilson199@msn.com*