

The Rotary Wheel

P.O. BOX 4376, OLATHE, KS 66063

February 2018

CHARTERED AUGUST 9, 1937



OLATHE ROTARY CLUB

District 5710



Club 1625



Happy Valentines Day to Our Rotary Family!

Olathe Rotary Speakers/Events

- Feb 07 Mike Meyer, Band of Angels
- Feb 14 Jeffrey Meyer, Authentic and Influential Leadership
- Feb 21 Steven Menke, Olathe Chief of Police
- Feb 24 Monthly Service Project Evergreen Living Innovations
- Feb 28 Mary Redmond, Body Language

Vernon Avant, Program Chair
coachavant@gmail.com

Our Rotary International Drive Again Was A Big Success

We completed our annual Rotary Foundation Drive for our club in December for this 2017-2018 Rotary year. We raised a total of

\$9,590.00

from member contributions, again making our club a "Star Club" (where members contribute an average of \$100 or more per member). Our club has been a Star Club over 25 years....quite a feat to accomplish!

Over the years, our club has contributed over

\$457,189.00

We can be very proud of our contributions to the Rotary International Foundation.

A breakdown on our contributions for the current Rotary year follows:

No of Members	\$ Contributed	Total \$ Amount Contributed
1	50	50
44	100	4400
1	150	150
6	200	1200
1	250	250
2	300	600
1	400	400
1	540	540
<u>2</u>	<u>1000</u>	<u>2000</u>
59		\$9,590

The average contribution per member is \$162.54 for the current Rotary year.

THANKS TO ALL MEMBERS CONTRIBUTING TO MAKE OUR ROTARY FOUNDATION DRIVE A VERY SUCCESSFUL EVENT ONCE AGAIN.

Darrel McDaniel, Olathe Rotary RI Foundation Chair

2017-2018

Olathe Rotary Club Officers and Board

7/1/2017 to 6/30/2018

Vanessa Vaughn West, President

Larry Rinne, Past President

Pat O'Donnell, President Elect

Dacia Moore, Secretary
Year 1

Jason Armstrong, Treasurer
Year 1

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 6/30/2018

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

The Olathe Rotary Club Foundation Fund Balance as of the First Quarter of 2018 Held At the Greater Kansas City Community Foundation:

\$62,889.05

Olathe Rotary Service Project

Our service project this month will be Saturday, February 24th at Evergreen Living Innovations. We will be helping with some painting projects. If you would like to be on the Olathe Rotary Evergreen project, contact Jasen Mangrum, jmangrum@lawingfinancial.com or Nathan Rackers, nathan.rackers@scouting.org, Olathe Rotary Service Project Co-chairs.

Our December Service Project Again A Success

Many thanks to all who rang bells on behalf of Olathe Rotary for the **Salvation Army** in December and to our project chair, Kent Donley.

Our bucket donations brought in **\$1368.05**. Additional donations after our bell ringing day totaled **\$160.00**. Kent Donley matched donations with an additional **\$1528.05**. Therefore the total for our day of bell ringing was:

\$3,056.10





George Schlager.....Thank You For Serving Rotary Since January 1st, 1977

I am a 4th generation Johnson county resident. I grew up in Lenexa at 116th and Switzer Road (1/2 mile south of Doubletree Hotel) when it was a dairy farm. Hay fever is not compatible with farming so I went off to KU to major in business. Being an entrepreneurial guy and to help put myself through school, I had a part-time job taking care of foosball tables in bars when all the tables were controlled by franchise. That translated to free beer and free foosball at all bars in Lawrence. When I graduated from KU with a business degree I was having fun in school and finding a job and going to work did not sound too exciting. To stay in school, I signed up for a new program – a JD/MBA program. Successful participants would receive a law degree and MBA in 4 years. I kept my part-time job. By the end of my first year in law school, I was married to Gale and having food with our meals was looking better and better. I liked law school so I dropped the MBA part of the program.

My first job in the field of law was with the Hackler law firm in Olathe handling a wide range of cases. After two years, being on my own looked like it was a better deal so I started my own firm. Within two weeks of starting my own firm, Paul Schlager, my dad's cousin, brought me into Rotary. That was in 1977. I enjoy my time practicing law. I have a solid base of clients. Many of them are friends, neighbors, relatives and acquaintances. Many own real estate. My law practice is mainly in the areas of wills, trusts, probate, estate planning and real estate. I have licenses to practice law in both Kansas and Missouri. I also have a real estate broker's license in both states.

Part of what I enjoy in the practice of law is the opportunity to assist clients through difficult and emotional times. Death of a loved one or strained personal relationships trigger many of those emotional times.

While I have not tried to get perfect attendance, I do enjoy the weekly meetings and the projects. One of the most memorable projects for me was the interstate cleanup around 119th Street. Our oldest daughter was about 8 or 9 and helped that day. She brought home for Mom her acquired treasures. Those consisted of a nest of baby mice and a small snake. Mom's enthusiasm improved when Andra's love of animals transformed her into Dr. Andra Long DVM.

Gale and I participated in the first Heart to Heart trip to Russia in 1992. That was an eye-opening experience. It provided an example of what we can accomplish as a group through Rotary.

Our son, Aaron, has helped over the years selling newspapers for Greater Kansas City Days. We used that as an excuse to get him out of school in order to attend the opening day game at the Royals. Today, Aaron is Vice President for Development at Copaken Brooks in Kansas City. Also the entrepreneur, he has a patent pending for a unique use of affordable housing in an urban setting.

Our third child, Anne', has now landed state-side as an agent for Jones Lang LaSalle Real Estate representing office tenants. Prior to that position, her foreign exploits took her to numerous countries, including India, Egypt, Thailand and the Philippines doing business research.

Gale and I like to travel and for about 6 years our vacation plans had two questions: 1) Where do we want to go on vacation? and 2) Where is Anne' this year? We have enjoyed trips with Anne' to India, Thailand, Egypt, Jordan, Israel and Ecuador.

Each of our children chose wonderful spouses. We have 5 grandchildren, the oldest is 3. Growing up I was expected to follow "all the rules." I have worked at forgetting those rules. I am having a great time with all the grandkids. Grandkids without rules – what could possibly go wrong?

Olathe and Rotary have been great to me. I have always tried to give back to the community. Today I am able to continue to figure out what that means. God's will is at work in my life, as I continue on.

I am still a farmer at heart. I manage about 1,000 acres of farm land, the favorite of which is our "play farm" in Linn County on Sugar Creek. It is a great place to hunt, fish and hike. My life does not get better than sitting on the deck of the cabin overlooking Sugar Creek, drinking some of my homemade wine with my family and friends.



One of George's farm tenants, Bill Voigts, Baldwin City, donated tomatoes, corn, squash, mellons, etc. to help in our Rotary effort to supply the Salvation Army food pantry. In 2016 and 2017 over several weeks, George and Pat O'Donnell made many trips to pick up and deliver the beautiful fruit and vegetables to the Salvation Army.



George has three Paul Harris Fellows, is Past Olathe Rotary President, and is a Rotary International Bequest Society Member (pledging \$10,000 or more via estate plan to The Rotary International Foundation). He also pledged \$20,000 to the Olathe Rotary Club Foundation through his estate plan.