



The Serving Tray

Rotary Club of Kirksville -- Charter 371 -- District 6040

www.kvrotary.org



April 16, 2025 - Volume #75



BEN MARTIN, CHAIR - DISTRICT FRIENDSHIP EXCHANGE COMMITTEE

Amanda Brand introduced Ben Martin, a member of the Rotary Club of Lee's Summit (see bio attached to cover email.) Ben, pictured with President Ruth, is an avid traveler and is therefore a great choice to chair this committee. He spoke about the Friendship Exchange generally and about Zambia 2035, an exchange with Rotary District 9210, and the incoming team. He said, pursuant to a \$295,000 grant for Project Cure, we are sending eight containers of surplus medical equipment to Zambia which will arrive before our team arrives for the exchange July 9-21. Two of our **outgoing team** members, Linda Blessing and Carolyn Primm are our guests today. Each traveler is responsible for his or her own expenses, estimated to be from \$3,800-\$4,000. Except for first night at a hotel in Johannesburg, team members will stay in Rotarian homes.



Ben said the **incoming team** from Zambia will visit Kansas City, St. Joseph, and Kirksville in June. In Kansas City they will attend a Royals game and enjoy the city's famous BBQ. Debi is planning some fun Kirksville activities including visiting a farm. She is seeking hosts as well as drivers and planners.

Some potential outgoing exchanges for 2026 and beyond include Districts 3040 and 3060 in Western India; Cologne, Germany; and Cuba. Ben brought a map (pictured right) for us to stick a pin in a place we would like to be a Friendship Exchange site. He also brought a suitcase with stickers from all his many travels.



Check www.rotary.org/friendship-exchange for details about Friendship Exchanges..

CHURCH BUS OR VAN needed for Friendship Exchange. Contact Elizabeth Gregory if you can help her find one <rotarylizkv@gmail.com>.

"A CANDLE AGAINST THE DARK," written by Ben Martin, raised \$140,000 for Polio Plus. A shortened version will be presented at the District Conference. Carl Chinnery and his daughter will perform.

50-50 Drawing: Larry Whitney did not pull the ace of spades; pot now up to \$1,757. (He pulled the joker and opted to draw again) Happy Bucks \$30, Shoes for Orphan Souls \$28.

Guests:

Elsie Gaber (Thousand Hills club)
Linda Blessing (Schuyler Co. club)
Carolyn Primm (guest of Linda Blessing)

Upcoming Programs:

April 23: Marie Murphree/New Businesses in Kirksville
April 30: TBA; **May 7:** Jeff Romine/Club's Flag Fundraiser
May 14: Ruby Green-Frank Baldwin Free Enterprise Award
May 21: TBA; **May 28:** NO MEETING Dist. Conf. 5/30&31