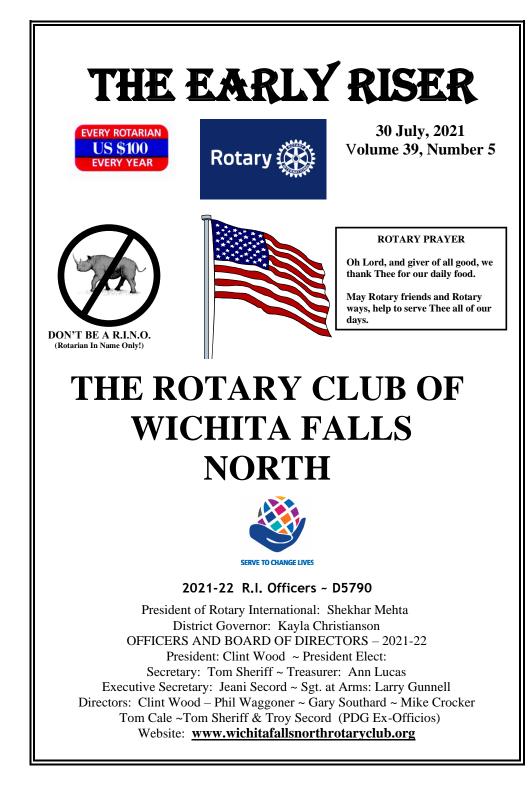
Rotary International's new peace center. Among them, the peace center's first cohort represented 11 countries and spoke, in addition to English, a dozen African languages, including Luganda, Swahili, and Zulu. "Coming from diverse backgrounds, and yet with a shared desire for peace in Africa, they are the epitome of unity in diversity," said Anne Nkutu, a member of the Rotary Club of Kampala Naalya and the host area coordinator for the Makerere University peace center.

With an average age of 40 when they were admitted to the program, the fellows are not novice peacemakers. These are established professionals with a minimum of five years of experience in peace and development. They arrived at Makerere University — home to an established program in peace and conflict studies — already working on an initiative, or with an idea for one, that promotes peace or social change within their workplace or community. "The fellows are more interested in the practical side of peacebuilding," said Helen Nambalirwa Nkabala, the director of the peace center. "They want to see how things are done, as opposed to our regular students, who are more interested in the theoretical aspects. So the fellows come off as, and indeed are, change agents."

Prior to arriving at Makerere, the peace fellows began their studies with a two-week online session, the first stage in Rotary's new yearlong certificate program in peacebuilding, conflict transformation, and development. (The peace center at Chulalongkorn University in Bangkok, which previously offered a three-month version of the certificate program, has also adopted this new model.) Following the 10-week session in Kampala, they will return home to begin implementing their social change initiatives, checking in periodically with their instructors and fellow students. They will return to Makerere in early 2022 to complete the program.

Earlier this year, as they prepared to depart for Kampala, Rotary magazine spoke with six of the peace fellows via Zoom and WhatsApp. The conversations were a crash course in African history and politics. They were also an inspiration, offering a glimpse of the possibilities that lie ahead for Africa once these peace fellows — and those to follow in the years ahead — complete their studies at Makerere and disperse across the continent to share what they have learned.



## FUTURE PROGRAM ASSIGNMENTS

July 30	David Collins
August 6	Mike Crocker
August 13	Larry Gunnell
August 20	Ajay Kumar
August 27	Ann Lucas
September 3	Bill Neale
September 10	Tom Ostovich
September 17	Jeani Secord
September 24	Rob Noble
October 1	Troy Secord
October 8	Tom Sheriff
October 15	Gary Southard
October 22	Phil Waggoner
October 29	Tom Cale

## NEWS FROM OUR LAST CLUB MEETING AT THE VANTAGE POINT CONDOMENIA: (Notes are by Jeani Secord. Thanks!)

Guests - Simon Welch with WF Food Bank & Joe Clement.

Invocation - Clint

Pledges – Jeani (she didn't mess up)

Clint mentioned that we will be inducting Joe as our newest member next week.

After a brief discussion, Troy made a motion to assign all of Rotary North's available funds for the Global grants to the Water project in Africa, the amount of \$1,551.00 + the original \$500.00 that the club agreed to give as a donation. Tom S. & Gary 2nd, motion passed.

Jeani mentioned that since we have \$1,551.00 available for a matching District Grant, we should decide on another project on top of the Dictionaries. If we wait until the next grant process, there's a chance there won't be available funds.

Simon Welch gave an update on what the Food Bank is doing, what they're trying to do (purchase another truck for deliveries) and how it works around the communities. Clint & Mike presented a check to the Food Bank in the amount of \$500.00.

Phil Waggoner was the program, he gave a detailed and interesting version of his & Mary Beth's road trip through out Mississippi. Some very interesting facts about the Civil war era.

Simon won the drawing and drew the King of Hearts, \$10. I don't know how much money was raised last week, so I don't know exactly how much will be won this week. I will find out.



**President Clint, Simon Welch and Mike** 

## NEWS FROM ROTARY INTERNATIONAL:

## **AFRICA'S AGENTS OF CHANGE**

The arrival of the first peace fellows at the New Peace Center in Kampala, Uganda, heralds the beginning of a New Era for Rotary and the continent.

In the last week of February, in Kampala, Uganda, 15 Rotary Peace Fellows gathered at Makerere University for the inaugural session of