



ROTARY NOTARY

Member Birthdays:

Shane Pullman	4/30
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At Rotary Today:

Greeter: Brittany Sweeney

**Invocation, Flag Salute,
and Four-way test:**
Tom Church

Special Guests:

John Jones
Kay Koehler
Luke Pfeifer

Rotary Anniversaries:

Jim Boone—37 years
John Alefs—33 years
John Vetter—31 years
Jessica Dunbar—1 year

Wedding Anniversaries:

Markus and Melissa Meyer—12 years
Michael and Lauren Caffrey—11 years

Quote of the Week:

Happiness is not by chance, but by choice.

—Jim Robm

BBBS: HELPING KIDS SUCCEED THROUGH MENTORING

Shelly Chinberg is the Regional Area Director of South Central Kansas in Kansas Big Brothers Big Sisters. She has spent her entire career in development and advancement on behalf of not-for-profit organizations, and is passionate about their role in our community.



If you want to know how to change a life, just talk with Shelly Chinberg. She'll tell you how being a "Big" (a big brother or big sister) to a youth who is facing adversity can make all the difference in that child's perspective.

The mission of Big Brothers Big Sisters is simple: to create and support one-to-one mentoring relationships that ignite the power and promise of youth. Adult mentors initiate and lead the development of friendship with a child or young adult from age 5 to 25. The relationship is not about parenting or authority.

"Littles," or the youth who are matched with an adult, most often live in households that are either at or below the poverty level. The majority come from a single-parent home. More than half live in homes where there is either alcohol or drug addiction.

With these challenges in their lives, having an adult "Big" who can offer regular one-on-one attention gives these youth an opportunity to connect in a positive way. Activities they share together don't have to be costly or over-the-top entertainment. Something as simple as going for a walk together in a park or sharing a meal can be the highlight of a young person's week. Chinberg reminded us that things we may think are everyday can be amazing new experiences for a little. "Let your ordinary be their extraordinary," she advised.

There are two ways an adult can mentor a child through BBBS. The first is community-based, where an individual, a couple, or a family is matched with a child. Prior to being matched, the applications of Bigs and Littles are reviewed by in-house Match Support

Specialists, who look for shared interests and hobbies. The goal is to establish a meaningful relationship.

The second avenue for mentoring is a site-based match where the Big typically meets the Little at his/her school during the Little's lunch time. In this setting, the Big meets with the Little 3—4 times per month for 30—45 minutes for a minimum of two semesters.

If you're worried about being a "perfect" match for a Little, Chinberg says not to worry—you don't have to be perfect. Don't worry about your age, either. You'll be matched with a child who's delighted to have you in his life. Not much disposable income? No worries there. Many free and low-cost entertainment options abound in Wichita.

Are you ready to help a child by being a Big? Call the BBBS office today for more information!

Announcements:

Beginning with our May 4 meeting we'll collect personal hygiene items, socks, and puzzles to benefit veterans. We'll present these donations to our May 25 speaker from the VA hospital. Thanks in advance for supporting this wonderful cause!

Sign up by May 4 for the May 11 Fireside at the Wichita-Sedgwick County Historical Society. Reservations are required for all members and guests. The deadline for reservations is May 4 and guest lunches will be \$13.00.

New member orientation is on May 18 at 10:30 a.m., right before our regularly scheduled meeting. If you haven't connected with Kim to let her know whether you'll attend, please do so!

Family Rotary Night at the Wichita Wind Surge:

Mark your calendars! **June 1** is Family Night for all Wichita area Rotary clubs at the Wichita Wind Surge baseball. Come out and see the new Riverfront Stadium and enjoy a summer evening of baseball with your fellow Rotarians. Tickets are \$16 and we'll have special seating.

Next Week:

Mario Miranda, Director of Technology and Security from the U.S. Navy International Programs Office, will be our speaker.

MEET NEW MEMBER DARIN KATER

Darin Kater was introduced by his sponsor, **Dave Sproul**. Darin found his way back to our club after a 14 year break! He's devoted more than 30 years of his career to not-for-profit service and higher education. Currently, he's the Vice President of Development at the WSU Foundation. Darin is a native Kansan who is happily married to his wife Tara. Welcome back, Darin!

**MORE PAUL HARRIS HONOREES**

The Paul Harris Fellow recognition acknowledges individuals who contribute, or who have contributions made in their name, of \$1,000 to the Rotary Foundation. Here **Greg Ek** presents **Tom Church** with his Paul Harris +2 pin and **Fred Heismeyer** with Paul Harris +6! Wow! Way to go!

Greg Ek presents **Dave Sproul** with his Paul Harris +2 pin. Thanks, Dave, for your generous gifts to Rotary International. You're making a big difference in the world and we appreciate you for it!

