

ROTARY NOTARY



Member Birthdays:

Larry Hund	10/23
Jaden Randle	10/29
Tom Church	10/30
Fred Heismeyer	10/31

At Rotary Today:

Rotary Anniversaries:

Denise Hearson—7 years

Wedding Anniversaries:

Anthony and Emma Ndungu—10 years

Photography:

Ric Wolford

Quote of the Week:

Indeed, we're strongest when the face of America isn't only a soldier carrying a gun but also a diplomat negotiating peace, a Peace Corps volunteer bringing clean water to a village, or a relief worker stepping off a cargo plane as floodwaters rise.

— Colin Powell

A SPECIAL GUIDED TOUR AT MCCONNELL AIR FORCE BASE

Col. Nate Vogel addresses EWR members and their guests. He is the Commander, 22nd Air Refueling Wing, (ARW) McConnell Air Force Base. The 22nd ARW is the host Wing for the Kansas Air National Guard's 184th Intelligence Wing and the Air Force Reserve Command's 931st ARW.



Members of East Wichita Rotary had a rare opportunity to visit McConnell Air Force Base at this week's meeting. Rotarians and their guests saw both the KC-135 refueling tanker and its replacement, the KC-46, up close after a presentation hosted by Col. Nate Vogel, Chief Master Sgt. Melissa Royster, and Leigh Bellinger, 22nd ARW Public Affairs Chief of Community Relations.

The 22nd ARW is one of only three "supertanker" wings in the Air Force. If you live and/or work on the east side of Wichita, you have undoubtedly seen its refueling tanker, the KC-135, flying overhead. The KC-135 has been in service with the US Air Force (USAF) beginning in 1957. It is also referred to as the "Boeing KC-135 Stratotanker." It is the US Air Force's first jet-powered

refueling tanker. Its original purpose was to support bombers, but its ability to fuel both bombers and fighters in midair, giving them more time at the front, expanded their use. The aircraft has been modified several times to upgrade avionics and improve fuel management systems.

Even with modifications the KC-135 continues to be expensive to operate. The USAF sought proposals to replace the aging aircraft and, following a dispute, awarded the contract to Boeing, which had submitted a design based on its 767 model. The first KC-46 Pegasus model was delivered to the USAF in January 2019 and currently, 21 are stationed at McConnell. Ultimately, the USAF intends to procure 179 Pegasus aircraft by 2027.

Rotarians were able to walk out onto the tarmac and tour

both tankers. For most of us it was the first opportunity to go inside the aircraft and view the avionics as well as the cargo areas. Several attentive airmen were on hand to answer questions about their work as pilots and boom operators. In the KC-135, the boom operator (affectionately known as a "boom"), lies on his back in a small area called a "pod" and operates the boom using a joystick. In contrast, the KC-46 boom operators sit upright in an area near the pilot.

In stating the mission of the 22nd ARW, Col. Vogel told us that it is to "fuel the fight through combat-ready Airmen, aircraft, and mission support." He and the base of nearly 7,000 personnel plus nearly 8,000 retirees are proud to be a part of south central Kansas, where their economic impact in FY 2018 was estimated to be \$617.2 million. As Wichitans and Rotarians, we're glad you're here.

Announcements:

We're getting
closer and
closer to
reaching our
goal of
serving



Thanksgiving dinners to 61
deserving local families. Please
make a donation and/or
volunteer to deliver dinners.
Then mix it up with your fellow
Rotarians following the
deliveries (approximately 5:00
p.m.) on Tuesday, November 23
at the Social Tap Drinkery, 4510
E 19th St North, Suite 101.
Bring your spouse, a co-worker,
or a prospective Rotarian and
kick off the holiday season with!
EWR!

MORE AT ROTARY TODAY



Special thanks
to EWR member
Cathy McClain, who
organized today's
Rotary fireside at
McConnell Air Force
Base. Cathy flew
KC-135 tankers in
Afghanistan and Iraq
and also served as
wing commander
for the 22nd Air
Refueling Wing from
2004–2006.

District Conference:

Our annual District Conference
will be held October 29—30
here at the Wichita Marriott.
District Governor **Fred
Heismeyer** and his better half
Joyce Heismeyer promise a
fun, as well as educational time.
Click on the following link for
registration details:
[https://www.eventbrite.com/
e/rotary-district-5680-
conference-registration-
172191899607](https://www.eventbrite.com/e/rotary-district-5680-conference-registration-172191899607)

IN FRONT OF THE KC-46 “PEGASUS”



Above is a group photo of East Wichita Rotarians and their guests in front of the Air Force's newest tanker, the KC-46 Pegasus. Following a competition between Northrop Grumman and Boeing, this aircraft, which is based on the Boeing 767, was chosen in 2011. The first model was delivered to the US Air Force in January 2019.

Next Week:

The new Executive Director of
Habitat for Humanity, Danielle
Johnson, will be our speaker.

POLIOPLUS—DON'T FORGET!

Kelly Dandurand is heading up our PolioPlus campaign for EWR and has set a lofty but achievable goal of raising \$3,000 in total contributions. In previous issues of Rotary Notary we have shared the importance of this campaign in eliminating the polio virus around the world. Even a small donation of just \$10 will help give the oral vaccine to three children. You don't even have to leave your home or office to make a difference!

Also, your donation to the campaign will be matched **three times** by the Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation. And if that's not enough, your *donation will count toward your Paul Harris fellow standing*. Have we given you enough reasons to contribute? We hope so! Thank you in advance!