



ROTARY NOTARY

Member Birthdays:

Scott Jensen	10/17
John Schlicher	10/17

At Rotary Today:

Greeter: Brittany Sweeney

Special Guest:

Rob Ramseyer

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

Kelly Dandurand

Rotary Anniversaries:

Tammie Rhea—6 years

Wedding Anniversaries:

Michael Moeder and Rebecca

Tong—4 years

Photography:

Ric Wolford

Technology Assistance:

Anthony Ndungu

Quote of the Week:

Twenty years from now you will be more disappointed by the things you didn't do than by the ones you did. So throw off the bowlines. Sail away from the safe harbor. Catch the trade winds in your sails. Explore. Dream. Discover.

— Mark Twain

“RURALPRENEURS:” TUMBLEWEEDS AND TALENTS

Ron Wilson is the Director of the Huck Boyd National Institute for Rural Development, named for McDill “Huck” Boyd, a family newspaper publisher from Phillips County. He gave rural Kansas a voice by working on issues to benefit elderly, youth, and needy persons.



When the Rock Island Railroad declared bankruptcy in the late 1970s it could have meant catastrophe for northwestern Kansas. The railroad was planning to abandon more than 400 miles of track, which were a lifeline to farmers, businesses, and communities in the region. Rail service could have ended in that part of our state, but for McDill “Huck” Boyd.

The obstacles to keeping the railroad open seemed insurmountable—the federal government wasn't going to bail it out, and the Kansas constitution prohibited a state bailout. But that didn't deter Huck, who cared so deeply about families and businesses in rural Kansas that he worked with the governor at the time—John Carlin—to present a proposal to voters. Ultimately, the Mid States Port Authority was created, which bought the track.

Today there is a private sector, shortline railroad operating on what would have been abandoned track.

That's just one of many examples of how Huck Boyd served rural Kansans, and why the Huck Boyd National Institute for Rural Development was created. Our speaker, Ron Wilson, shared several stories of amazing community-spirited Kansans who have turned ideas into jobs and national recognition for our state's rural communities.

For example, there's Pack St. Clair, who decided in 1968 to build a top-of-the-line boat in landlocked Kansas, no less. Acquired by Malibu Boats in 2017, Cobalt Boats in Neodesha, Kansas employs 910 people with annual revenues of \$140 million.

Located in Humboldt, Kansas, B&W Trailer Hitches got its start as a

result of the farm crisis of the 1980s. To provide for their families, Roger Baker and Joe Works designed a gooseneck hitch with the mounting hardware underneath the truck bed and a ball that turned over and stowed in place. Their innovation—the Turnoverball Gooseneck Hitch—revolutionized the trailer hitch industry. Today 390 employee-owners operate the firm.

Last, there's Linda Katz, who created the Prairie Tumbleweed Farm. A retired insurance agent, she created a website that she wanted to be fun. She posted photos of tumbleweeds on the website along with whimsical stories about growing them for generations. The idea was more than whimsy to a reader out east, who wanted to order some. It became a business, which is no longer in operation, but remains as an example of how Kansans with an idea and the grit to see it through, succeed. Just like Huck Boyd.

Announcements:

Sign up to deliver turkey dinners to grateful families on Tuesday, November 23, then mix it up with your fellow Rotarians following the turkey deliveries on Tuesday, November 23 at the Social Tap Drinkery. Bring your spouse, a co-worker, or a prospective Rotarian! More details to come as the holiday approaches.

**District Conference:**

Our annual District Conference will be held October 29—30 here in Wichita. District Governor **Fred Heismeyer** promises a fun, as well as educational time. More details to follow!

Next Week:

Meurig Cundy, franchise owner of Happy Feet and TGA Golf, will be our speaker.

SHOW YOUR SUPPORT FOR THE POLIO PLUS CAMPAIGN



Rotary's goal of ridding the world of polio is closer than ever. Rotarians have contributed more than \$2.1 billion and countless volunteer hours to protect nearly 3 billion children in 122 countries.

Throughout Rotary International, October 24 is World Polio Day. Rotary has been working to eradicate polio for more than 35 years, and we've made incredible progress in the fight to rid the world of it forever.

As a founding partner of the Global Polio Eradication Initiative, we've helped to reduce polio cases by more than 99.9 percent since our first project to vaccinate 6 million children in the Philippines in 1979. It's crucial to eradicate polio from the last two countries where it remains endemic—Afghanistan and Pakistan—and to keep other countries polio-free.

If all eradication efforts stopped today, within ten years polio could paralyze as many as 200,000 children each year.

Kelly Dandurand is heading up this event for EWR and has set a goal of raising \$3,000 in total contributions toward the Polio Plus Campaign. Remember, your *donation to the campaign will count toward your Paul Harris fellow standing.*



DID YOU KNOW?

- Polio mainly affects children under age 5.
- There is no cure, but polio is preventable with a vaccine.
- It costs about \$3 to fully protect a child against polio.
- In 2017 430 million children were vaccinated in 39 countries.
- It costs about \$100 million to conduct polio surveillance worldwide.
- Rotary International launched PolioPlus, the first and largest internationally coordinated private-sector support of a public health initiative.