

Rotary District 5710 Eastern Kansas Rotary

PO Box 394—Gardner, KS 66030

Phone: 913-244-7548

rotary5710.org



June 2017



DG Chris Ford



Inside this issue:

District News Pages
2 - 6

Club News Pages
6-13

DG Chris's Message

Dear Rotarians,

What a special opportunity we have to call ourselves Rotarians. Few organizations have compiled the number of leaders Rotary has, all with the desire to give of their time and money to improve their community. As our 2016-2017 Rotary year comes to an end, I'd like to share some District statistics with you all regarding our accomplishments:

- We sent 8 students overseas and received 11 in our International Youth Exchange Program
- We have 7 Interact Clubs and 5 Rotaract Clubs
- 80 Students are attending RYLA this summer, an all-time high
- 42 out of 44 clubs participated in District Grants
- 7 Global Grants initiated covering all 6 Areas of Focus
- \$58,321 donated to Polio Plus... with an additional \$58,000 to be given before June 30th
- \$1,165,589... is the reported money given by our clubs in their communities outside of Grant funding

THE LAST ACCOMPLISHMENT I HOPE WE CAN ACHIEVE IS GROWTH. We currently sit at 2,414 Rotarians, we started this year with 2,417... I hope we finish on June 30th with a positive number!

Thanks for a wonderful year!

Chris Ford

District Governor

We Can Do It!



2017



TEAM Rotary Training (formerly FML)

Transform your club.

Engage your members.

Advance your mission.

Make a Difference!

Saturday, August 19, 2017

8:30am-1:30pm

Cider Gallery

810 Pennsylvania St.

Lawrence, KS

District News & Events



Rotary Leadership Institute Graduates Seven Rotarians

District 5710 graduated its sixth Rotary Leadership Institute (RLI) class on May 20, 2017.

RLI is a grassroots multi-district leadership and Rotary development program that engages Rotarians and in turn strengthen their clubs and increases membership retention. This three session program emphasizes both leadership skills and knowledge of Rotary. All Rotarians, from brand new members to veterans including prior club presidents have participated, enjoyed their experience, and increased their skills by attending.

A special congratulations goes to the following Rotarians for successfully completing all three sessions of the sixth RLI program our district has just concluded. They are:

Nellie Caldito

Bill Crowe

Rod Harms

Larry Martin

Tim Miller

Adrienne Olejnik

Toni Viens

Shawn Whitcomb

Overland Park

Leawood

Manhattan Konza

Leavenworth

Gardner

Topeka South

Johnson County Sunset

Santa Fe Trail



On behalf of our District leadership and RLI facilitators, thank you to all of our recent graduates for their time and very active participation. They now join 41 other Rotarians who graduated from our first four District 5710 classes. And because we had to postpone the last session from March to May due to inclement weather, I expect we will be adding several more RLI graduates once they complete their makeup session to be conducted during summer, 2017.

A big thank you goes to **Neil Wakefield, Ellen Bogdan, DeEtte Lombard, Blanche Parks and Tom Gray** for being amazing facilitators. Your giving up not only the Saturday you facilitated, but also the time spent preparing for your session is appreciated.

The next Rotary Leadership Institute Class will be from August to October, 2017. The exact dates and location will be determined shortly.



District Conference Fun and Fellowship



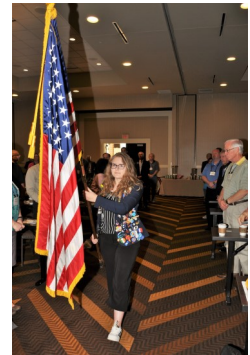
Want to see **MORE**
Conference photos?
[Click here!](#)



Youth Exchange

By Stephen Wheatley, Youth Exchange Officer

My fellow Rotarians. As one exchange year comes to a close we must look ahead to the next year. We are almost there with our placements for our next group of inbound students. We are looking for a host club and first host family (August-December) for a boy from France for the Shawnee Mission West school area. We are also looking for a host club and families for a young man from Austria. Please contact Stephen Wheatley at wheatleydc@sbcglobal.net for further information.



New Members for May 2017

Downtown Topeka

George Pearson, Robert Raff, Edie Snethen,
Jeff Zimmerman

Emporia

James Geitz

Lawrence

Emily Hail, Tom Markus, Richard Renner

Lawrence Jayhawk

Tanner Hawkinson, Mario Medina

Leawood

Chuck Sipple

Manhattan

James Reed, Woody Shoemaker, Mark Weddle

Manhattan Konza

Caroline Jankovich

Overland Park South

Andrew Kaluza

Shawnee Mission

Matthew Fry, Brad Telker



Please Welcome Our District's New Public Image Chair!

By DGE Adam Ehlert

Please join me in welcoming our new Public Image Chair for 2017/2018, **Pat O'Donnell**, of the Olathe club, who will follow in Emily Randel's footsteps.

For a reminder of Emily's great work, take another look at this video that she created for last month's District Conference: <https://vimeo.com/216528917>

Similar to the video's content, Pat will help us tell our story. As Rotarians, we have a tremendous impact upon our communities and upon the entire world. But historically, Rotary has done a fairly mediocre job of letting the communities and the world know about it. Our Public Image initiative, though, dovetails with the direction provided from above. As clubs use Rotary Club Central for tracking of good works done and dollars raised, we're better able to quantify our impact—both locally and at the RI level. Our district is very creative and very generous. And for crying out loud, let's have some fun telling our story! We are, after all, *Rotarians Making a Difference*.

Suggestions are welcome, either to me ([Adam Ehlert](#)) or especially to Pat—he can be reached: poppy-od@gmail.com.



Rotary Night at the KC Zoo

The Rotary Club of Kansas City, MO would like to invite you to Rotary Night at the Kansas City Zoo. Please join Rotary Clubs from across the Metro for this fun evening!

[Register Here!](#)

ROTARY NIGHT AT THE KC ZOO

Thursday, June 22, 2017



5 PM—8 PM



Hot Dogs & all the fixins + chips, cookies & drinks

\$15/person (kids under 3 are free)

RSVP by 6/19/2017



(Price at the gate will be \$20/person)

The Rotary Foundation & End Polio Now

By Jim Mattes

We have another week without a polio wild virus case! The count remains at 5 cases for 2017 compared with 15 for the same period in 2016. There have been no circulating vaccine-derived poliovirus cases in 2017 compared with 3 for the same period in 2016. Significantly there were no positive environmental samples. Keep up the good work and close the 2016-17 Rotary Year out with a bang!

Don't forget that the District will match your Polio Plus donation through the end of the Rotary year—up to \$25,000.

AND - Mark your calendars for the 2017 Foundation Banquet on November 11.



Let's Celebrate Rotary and the Centennial of the Foundation!



celebrate Rotary ...Rotary fellowship and The Rotary Foundation centennial

Centennial Banquet and Celebration
6 p.m. Saturday, June 17, 2017
Kansas City Airport Embassy Suites

Join us...

... as Rotarians from Africa and area clubs come together to enjoy fellowship and celebrate the centennial of our dynamic Rotary Foundation that has been a powerful, life-saving force throughout the world.

Start off at the Presidential Reception where you will get acquainted with other Rotarians as well as our African guests – a great way to build friendships and

develop relationships. You'll also meet Past RI President Ray Klinginsmith and other senior Rotary leaders.

The Centennial Banquet will feature our honored guest, Ray Klinginsmith. The Kansas City Club will be honored for its \$26.50 gift that launched the foundation.

After the banquet, hit the dance floor and "get down" and live it up!

Schedule & Fees

6:00: Presidential Reception: \$26.50
7:00: Dinner & Dance: \$40
For those under age 40: \$20

Hosts of African Guests: \$75
(all events plus Saturday lunch)
Attire: Rotary casual



Registration: <http://celebrate.rotary13.org>

Embassy Suites: 816-891-7788 (ask for Rotary room rate)



You can find out more information—and get registered [HERE!](#)

We Can Do It!



2017

CLUB EVENTS

Shawnee Mission Rotary

**Pancake Breakfast
as part of Old Shawnee Days
June 3 and June 4
7 a.m. - 11 a.m.**

Tickets \$5, Children \$2.50
Herman Laird Park,
11600 Johnson Drive
Shawnee, KS 66203

Manhattan Rotary

**Golf Tournament & Social
Monday, June 26
Colbert Hills Golf Club
Shotgun Start at 1:00 PM
Email vern@mcfs.org for
more information.**

Club News & Events



Junction City Receives Significant Achievement Award

Each year, the District Governor has the opportunity to nominate one club in the District for the Significant Achievement Award. The criteria specifies that the Club address a "Significant problem or need in the community." Last year, Past District Governor John Donovan nominated Junction City for its "Rotary Babes" project.



In 2010, the State of Kansas released the Infant Mortality Survey, which showed that Geary County had the highest infant mortality rate in Kansas. This information hit the club hard. **They determined that they were going to make a difference.**

Looking for a way to leverage their vocational expertise and community reach, they looked for programs to support, further extending their reach into the community, vice trying to start something completely new. The Geary Community Health Care Foundation had recently started a "mothering" initiative called Delivering Change.

Part of the Delivering Change program is "Becoming a Mom." This is a 6-week class, one night a week for three hours. Challenging both parents and other caregivers to attend all 6 classes.

The Rotary club of Junction City decided to get involved with this class. They had members attend all classes to support the clients. They mentored and encouraged and supported 30 to 40 participants in each class. They let them know the community appreciated them and their babies. Each Rotary meeting, all of the members filled out cards with encouraging and supportive personal messages.

They did this for two 6-week class periods over 4 months. The club raised money to be able to purchase for the members of the class who attended 4 to 6 weeks of the classes, baby monitors, diapers, "Pack n Plays", baby wraps and wipes.

They have greatly increased the visibility of Rotary in Junction City to the point they get acknowledged in passing in public in ways most of us would find embarrassing. Having built this rapport with the community helps the young families know they care and want them to make their doctors appointments, take their prenatal vitamins, follow the doctors instructions, etc. As of 2015, the infant mortality rate in Geary County, Kansas has fallen in half.

As PDG John said in his nomination, "they have truly renewed their club life and purpose, and expanded an awareness of Rotary in Geary County."

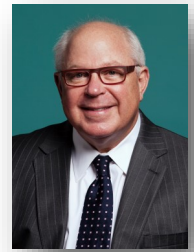
Planning Assistance Available to all District Clubs

Overland Park Rotarian **David Stallings** has been assisting three Johnson County clubs by facilitating discussions among members about the future of their clubs. Stallings has now offered his service free, to any Rotary Club in District 5710 that would benefit from his assistance.

He recently retired as the Chief Administrative Officer (CAO) and Chief Financial Officer (CFO) of the law firm of Seigfreid Bingham, PC in Kansas City, Missouri. Stallings also brings a wealth of knowledge in the nonprofit sector having served as Chief Financial Officer (CFO) for the Girl Scouts of Northeast Kansas and Northwest Missouri.

From 2005 to 2010, David provided consulting services exclusively to nonprofit organizations. David has served as an adjunct professor teaching Public Finance, and Financial and Legal Frameworks of Nonprofits in the Masters of Public Administration program in the Bloch School of Business at the University of Missouri – Kansas City (UMKC) and graduate programs at Rockhurst University in Kansas City.

He currently serves as Membership Chair, for the Overland Park Rotary Club. Interested Clubs may contact him at: Email: David@DavidAStallings.com Phone: 913-406-1202



Topeka West Rotary Contributes to Community

The Topeka West Rotary Club selected three Topeka non-profit organizations to receive funds to assist in achieving their ongoing missions in the community.

1. The **Girl Scouts of NE Kansas and NW Missouri** - \$1,000 from the Club's Foundation/ Youth Enrichment Program.
2. **Beginning to End** - \$1,000 (An after school program teaching life skills to young children and introducing them to the Arts and related areas.)
3. The **Boys and Girls Club** - \$500

The Club had interesting and informative guest speakers for the month, including:



David Beck brought three local **Rotary Youth Exchange Students**, representing the countries of France, Italy and Taiwan, who spoke to our Club sharing their experiences while living and going to school in our community this year.

Dale Matherly spoke about creating a new Circles of Greater Topeka Program to assist individuals and families to achieve financial stability.

Dr. Tiffany Anderson shared with the Club her first-year experiences as USD 501 Superintendent.

Officer **Josh Heaslet** of the Topeka Police Department's K-9 Unit, brought his Service Dog, Bruce, and spoke about the training program and services the dogs provide for the Department.

July 12th was selected as the date the Club will conduct it's annual Installation of the 2017 -2018 officers and directors. And, an excellent excuse to have a fun social event for Club members and significant others.

The TWR also achieved Star Club status for 2016 - 2017 with an average gift per member of \$110. The Club is also raising money to donate before June 30th to the Shelter Box Program.



Manhattan Recognizes Rotarian of the Year



Richard Wertzberger of the Manhattan Noon Club received the Rotarian of the Year award from Manhattan Noon Club President Vernon Turner at the Club's annual recognition event held May 11th.

Congratulations Richard on your Service Above Self!

Past President Betty Stevens reports that they have received word that a Global Grant Scholarship has been awarded to K-State Student Caitlyn Webb for the London School of Economics and Political Science in London, England. Way to go Caitlyn!

Manhattan Golf Tournament



Manhattan Rotary Club Annual Golf Tournament & Social Monday, June 26, 2017



*\$50 will be sent to the Rotary Foundation for each Rotarian golfer
An additional \$50 will be sent to the charity of each golfer's choice*

WHO:	Anyone who enjoys golf, fellowship and desire to eradicate polio		
WHAT:	Fundraiser/Social for Rotary International		
WHEN:	Monday, June 26, 2017 – Registration Noon, Shotgun at 1:00 PM		
WHERE:	Colbert Hills Golf Club, 5200 Colbert Hills Dr, Manhattan, KS 66503		
WHY:	To raise funds for the eradication of polio and support local charities		
FORMAT:	4 Person Scramble – Shotgun Start at 1:00 PM		
COST:	\$125 (includes box lunch, green fees, cart, range, prizes)		
SPONSORS:	Hole sponsors will be recognized with company name on identified hole		
PAYABLE TO:	Manhattan Rotary		
MAIL TO:	3508 Vanesta Drive, Manhattan, KS 66503		
QUESTIONS:	Vern Henricks	vern@mcfs.org	785-564-2121
	Greg Denver	gdenver@securedpayrollpartners.com	785-341-7859
	Steve Lambert	stevelambert@colberthills.cm	785-776-6475

[Click here for Registration Form.](#)

OP Rotary Donates 75,000 Books to KC, KS School District

The [Rotary Club of Overland Park](#) provided the Kansas City Kansas School District ([USD 500](#)) with a donation of **75,000 new children's books**. Forty-nine schools (elementary thru high school) and Head Start Programs in USD 500 received these donated children's books. In addition, several charitable organizations whom serve the Kansas City, KS, community received new book donations. The entire book donation had a **monetary value of \$825,000**.

A press event was held Thursday, May 18, 1 PM, at Kansas City Kansas Community College Dr. Thomas R. Burke Technical Education Center.

More than 20 Rotarians, KCKCC Tech Center Staff and VIP's including: Mayor Mark Holland, Kansas City Chiefs Ambassadors, Dr. Doris Givens (President, KCK Community College), Dr. Cynthia Lane (Superintendent USD 500), and Erin Carlstrom (VP of Educational Programs) Feed the Children and their film crew attended.

Rotary's education mission is to strengthen the capacity of communities to support education and literacy for children & adults. This second Children's Book Drive was an impactful way to provide children in the Kansas City Kansas School District an **educational literacy gift** as students departed for Summer Break.



An impactful quote from the Press Event:
"This is what community is all about...Rotary, the Community College, the Mayor's Office, the Unified Gov't of Kansas City, KS, the Chief's Ambassadors, Parks and Recreation, the Public-School District, Head Start and nonprofits all coming together to 'make a difference' in the lives of children. This is what community is truly all about."
 Erin Carlstrom, VP Education Programs, [Feed the Children](#).

Lawrence Jayhawk Extends Hand of Friendship to Visiting Rotarian



Manuel Gracas de Deus visited the Jayhawk Rotary Club and exchanged banners with President Brandon Young.

Manuel is a member of the Rotary Club of Luanda, Angola, Africa. Manuel was in Lawrence for his daughter's graduation from the University of Kansas.

Burlington Rotary Club - Community Service and... Catfish?

Delivering Dictionaries

The Burlington Rotary Club recently provided student dictionaries to Coffey County third-graders. Members of the Rotary club went to each Coffey County elementary school to present the dictionaries to the students and their teachers. The dictionary project has become an annual project for the Burlington Rotary Club. Originally, the dictionaries were presented to third-graders at Burlington Elementary School. The club expanded the project to include all third-graders in Coffey County. This year, extra dictionaries were given to students at Westphalia Elementary School.



The Burlington Rotary Club of 40 members is excited about supporting literacy initiatives and volunteering to serve the community of Burlington and surrounding areas.

Rotarians prepare for annual Catfish Capital Tournament, Fish Fry



The Burlington Rotary Club's third annual Catfish Capital Tournament and Fish Fry is right around the corner. The tournament, for two-person teams of all skill levels, will begin at noon Friday, June 2, and conclude at 2 p.m. Saturday, June 3.

The fish fry with all the fixings, which is open to the public, will be held at 5 p.m. Saturday at Rock Creek Country Club. There will be a chicken option. Team prizes and individual prizes will be awarded following the fish fry.

The fishing tournament and fish fry celebrate Burlington's catfishing heritage and the town's designation as Catfish Capital of the World. Coffey County offers some of the best all-around catfishing, whether you are fishing for yellow cats, blue cats, or bullhead.

The catfish tournament is a catch, measure and photo format. Length, not weight, of up to five catfish will determine the winner. Teams will be able to fish anywhere and using any method allowed by law.

Cash prizes will be awarded to winning teams in two flights. Individual cash prizes will also be awarded for longest flathead catfish, longest blue catfish, longest channel catfish, longest bullhead catfish, longest catfish caught by 8-14 year-old, longest catfish caught by fisherman 7 years old and under, and shortest catfish submitted.

Official rules are available on Facebook at the Burlington Rotary Catfish Capital Tournament and Fish Fry page.

For more information, contact Patty Sanborn at (620) 364-5810 or email Catfishcapital17@yahoo.com.

A Club Visit to De Soto

By Mandy Sheldon

Recently, the Rotary Club of De Soto invited me to their meeting to speak about Clubrunner and Rotary.org. I always enjoy visiting other clubs, and highly recommend it to all Rotarians. De Soto is a "singing club" - one of just a handful in our district, but their style differs from any other club I have visited. These two gentlemen, **Bob Zindler** and **Larry Inman**, brought their guitars for what was less a Rotary meeting sing-a-long as it was a mini-concert. I loved it. Does your club have this much fun? Let me know—I'll share it in the Newsletter!



Leavenworth Rotary News and Events



Rotarian Jeff Pittman was named as a Paul Harris Fellow in April; pictured left to right are Rotary President Mark Gerges, DeEtte Lombard, Rotary Foundation Chair; Jeff and Rotarian Wayne Shehorn. Jeff was recognized for his service to Rotary and to the Leavenworth community. Congratulations Jeff!



Members of the Leavenworth Rotary Club and the Lansing Lions Club teamed up again to sponsor an over-the-counter medicine drive in support of the Saint Vincent Clinic. Several club volunteers donated their time and energy to ensure this endeavor was a success. Thanks to community members for all donations, OTC medicines and cash. All in all, the two clubs collected almost \$3400 in needed medicines and cash donations for the clinic. The next bi-annual medicine drive is scheduled for October 2017. Many thanks again for the overwhelming community support of this endeavor. Volunteers pictured left to right are Lansing Lion, Forrest Holdeman, Rotarian Rick Hansen (back row); front row, Lansing Lion Janette Labbee, Rotarian Shari Hansen and Lansing Lion AC Byrd. Special thanks go to Jackie Chandler and Dillon's Grocery Store for allowing us to use their store as our collection point! Pictured during the delivery of the monetary donations and OTC medicines to St. Vincent Clinic are from left to right are Bess Bonewits (Marketing and Development Manager, St. Vincent Clinic), Lansing Lion Rick Dodson, Rotarian Tamara Sevcik, and Briana Cavinaw (Manager of St. Vincent Clinic). Since the inception of this effort, we have collected over \$21,000 in OTC medicines and cash donations.



Rotary Club of Leavenworth honored two special teachers at our last meeting. The first teacher recognized was Mr. Justin Bode (Secondary Teacher of the Year). Mr. Bode has been with the Leavenworth School District for 11 years, all at Leavenworth High School. Mr. Bode shared that one of his greatest accomplishments as an educator comes from the relationships he has built with his students both in the classroom and outside the classroom. The second teacher recognized was Mrs. Caitlan Johnston (Primary Teacher of the Year). Mrs. Johnston has been with the Leavenworth School District for seven years, working at David

Brewer Elementary, and most recently at Henry Leavenworth Elementary. Mrs. Johnston maintains a focus on promoting kindness in her classroom and ensuring students respect themselves and one another. Each was awarded a Service Above Self award along with a \$250 gift card (provided by the Leavenworth Rotary Foundation). Mrs. Johnston and Mr. Bode will represent the Leavenworth Unified School District in the regional portion of the 2018 Kansas Teacher of the Year recognition program, sponsored by the Kansas State Department of Education. The Kansas Teacher of the Year Program identifies, recognizes, and utilizes representatives of excellent teaching the elementary and secondary classrooms of the state. The program's mission is to build and utilize a network of exemplary teachers who are leaders in improvement of schools, student performance, and the teaching profession. Pictured left to right are Mark Gerges, Rotary President, Mr. Bode, Mrs. Johnston and Tamara Jo Sevcik, Rotary Teacher of the Year Chairman.

We hosted a non-perishable food drive this month for Catholic Charities and collected quite a bit to help fill their food pantry shelves; many thanks to Rotarian Brian V. for taking the lead on this event and to all Rotarians who served to make this food drive a big success; pictured here prior to the food delivery are past District Governor John Donovan and Rotarian Don Murphy. The next food drive will be later this year.



Overbrook Rotary Active with Youth Programs

May was a busy month for Overbrook Rotary. Through the help of a Rotary Grant, the club organized its annual Water Safety Program for all the local kindergarten and first grade students. Each child received an informational book & CD, a coloring book, and a sticker. There were 155 total students who viewed the presentation and interacted with Josh the Otter (a local Rotarian). Several Rotarians participated in the presentation. More information can be found at <https://joshtheotter.org>.



Also, every year the club gives an award for the outstanding boy and girl graduating from junior high and high school at our local school district, Santa Fe Trail. These were presented May 12th and 13th.



In Memory— Past District Governor David Baker

Our District lost a Past District Governor on May 16, 2017. Although he was only in our District for a short time, Dave was a devoted Rotarian. Here is an excerpt from his Obituary:

After graduating from K.U. he joined First National Bank of Topeka as a teller. He spent over sixty years in the financial arena, in Topeka, Hutchinson, Wichita and most recently as Vice President of the Bank of Eureka Springs, AR. He and his wife retired in Lawrence in 2013. Dave was a devoted husband, father and grandfather who enjoyed the times spent with his family especially this past February while celebrating and early 60th wedding anniversary with them on a Caribbean Cruise.



He was an active civic leader in the communities where he lived, serving on the United Way, Chamber, American Cancer Society and many other organizations.

He almost accomplished 50 years of perfect attendance as an active Rotarian. He served as President three times, chairman of many committees and participated in many conferences. He was selected Rotary District Governor 6110 in 1999 – 2000 which covered 77 clubs in parts of Arkansas, Oklahoma, Missouri and Kansas.

His passion since 1986 has been the Eradication of Polio Worldwide. He wanted that to happen in his lifetime. He attended many International Rotary conventions and was looking forward to this year's in Atlanta, Georgia. He had nearly 50 years' perfect attendance. He received the 4 Avenues of Service Award, the Foundation Award and the International Commitment Award. He believed and lived the Rotary Motto "Service Above Self". Dave was a Paul Harris Fellow, member of the Bequest Society and Benefactor. He loved reading to kids in the Elementary School and working with youth related programs.