

Rotary District 5710 Eastern Kansas Rotary

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rotary5710.org



September 2016



DG Chris Ford



DG Chris's Message

Dear Rotarians,

Servitude is in our DNA... but does your Community know it?

Community Service is where Rotarians shine. It's how we will build our brand for Generations to come. Truly focus on being an expert in capturing your Community Service and broadcasting your good via every outlet at your disposal.

Additionally, as Leaders, we should all take a hard look at how our Community views Rotary; are we a dormant organization that has succumb to irrelevance due to poor perpetuation OR are we a vibrant, growing, community service organization that both young professionals and retirees seek out for both personal and professional growth?

Leading by example is what we do! As long as we focus on Service and improving the lives of youth in our Communities, we will continue to attract the right candidates to be called... a Rotarian!

Chris Ford

District Governor

Have You Visited the District Website Lately?

The District Website is full of Information for ALL Rotarians, including a list of District Clubs, where they meet, and contact information—which you can find at this link [Club Directory](http://www.rotary5710.org/ClubDirectory).

You can also find; the Presidential Citation, Theme Brochure, Membership resources, Speakers Panel, Grant information and much more!

www.rotary5710.org

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SAVE THE DATE!

Indoor skydiving! Top Golf!
Clay shooting! Bocce ball!
Service projects! And more!

If you like any of these activities, save the date now for the 2017 Rotary District 5710 Conference & Assembly, May 5-6, 2017 at the Sheraton Hotel in Overland Park. We're still seeking volunteers to help coordinate the conference, especially from clubs outside of Johnson County.

If you're interested, please contact Jason Leib at jasonl@jasonleib.com or 913-940-1446.

District News & Events



End Polio Now Flash Fundraiser

District 5710 has launched a Flash Fundraiser to End Polio Now. The idea is to tell non-Rotarians about the important work Rotary is committed to finishing in the fight against polio. Share our campaign's website throughout your social networks: www.gofundme.com/neksrotary Let your friends, family, neighbors and co-workers know that their contributions will be matched by the District and by the Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation. Rotary and people like Past District Governor Aziz Memon who spoke at Foundation, Membership, Leadership Seminar know how to do this work. We just have to stay committed until the work is done. Invite others to join us!

[Copy this link](#) in an email, or share the campaign posts from the District's [Facebook](#) or [Twitter](#) pages.

FLASH FUNDRAISER

with Eastern Kansas Rotary to:

END POLIO NOW

gofundme.com/neksrotary 

Speaker's Bureau

Looking for a speaker? We can help. The following is a list of speakers provided by clubs in the district. Maybe you'll find your next program!

Craig Wolfe, Communications Director KS Sierra Club, *Climate Crisis: Threats & Opportunities*. [Click here for more info.](#)

Anne Brewer, *How Domestic Violence Impacts the Workplace*, info@annebrewer.com

Jamie Hofling, Climate and Energy Project, *Energy Efficient Programs Affecting Kansans*. [Click here for more info.](#)

Bill Sevrens, Author & Former Baseball Player, *Keepers of the Sandlot*. www.keepersofthesandlot.com 913-544-5878, sandlotkeeper@gmail.com.

Do you have a speaker suggestion? Please email it to Mandy@Rotary5710.org. And watch your future newsletters for more speakers!

International Project Fair in Cuenca, Ecuador

Would you like to assist through humanitarian projects the many victims from the 7.8 earthquake that struck Ecuador on April 16, 2016?

Dear fellow Rotarian,

It is our pleasure to invite you and your Club to attend our XII Rotary Project Fair to be held in Cuenca at the Hotel Oro Verde on Friday 11th, Saturday 12th, and Sunday 13th of November, 2016.

A project fair is a program which enables Clubs to find international partners for developing humanitarian projects financed with Global Grants. During this three-day Rotarian encounter, Ecuadorian clubs will exhibit their projects to visiting Rotarians who will learn about them and, if interested, make agreements for joint work and support.

Due to the severe 7.8 earthquake that struck in April 16 the Provinces of Manabí and Esmeraldas, many projects prepared by Ecuadorian clubs to assist the numerous victims of this disaster will be presented at this Fair.

Besides the convenience for choosing an international project, visitors will personally meet their promoters and other local Rotarians establishing important partnerships as well as long lasting friendships

It is also an opportunity for Clubs to fulfill the requirement of participating in an international project in one of the 6 Areas of Focus outlined in the Future Vision Plan in order to obtain the 2016-2017 Presidential Citation



The fair is also useful for foreign clubs to offer their projects to local clubs and establish working partnerships.

As you are aware, all projects financed with Global Grants have to abide to the Future Vision Plan, which may be still new to many Districts and Clubs. However, our District 4400 was selected as a Pilot District in 2010 and now has the necessary knowledge and experience to develop projects in compliance with the Plan.

Thus, we have the know-how to guide other Districts and Clubs in fulfilling requirements and processing the necessary paperwork with The Rotary Foundation in a very fast and effective manner, so that projects can be started very quickly.

Please contact our Chair of the XII Project Fair Committee, PDG Manuel Nieto (gob15_16d4400@hotmail.com or a.albuja.comunicacion@hotmail.com) for any information you may need. You can also visit our district webpage www.rotaryecuador.org

For on-line registration, please [click here](#).

We hope to greet you soon in our country well known for its hospitality. Yours in Rotary,

Fressia Abad Governor
District 4400 – Ecuador

COSTS:

Costs for visiting Rotarians and their companions:

Registration fee - US\$ 200 per person which includes a guided tour to the Historical Center of Cuenca, lunches during the 3 days of the Fair, coffee breaks, welcome dinner and its transportation

Lodging at Hotel Oro Verde - UD\$ 103.70 in single room and US\$ 109.80 in double room, incl. taxes per day

EXCURSIONS AND TOURS (at very affordable costs!!)

Detailed information on tours and costs are published at our District 4400 webpage www.rotaryecuador.org.

Or please contact mortega@creter.com.ec



SALT LAKE CITY ROTARY YP SUMMIT OCTOBER 28-30, 2016

This fall, Zone Institute is providing a unique opportunity to help you increase engagement among the young professional members in your district's clubs.

Zone Institute will include a young professionals summit that's open to any Rotarian (whether in club or district leadership, *or not*) under the age of 40. The summit aims to create a zone-wide community of young professionals who are energized about Rotary and trained with the tools to serve your district well.

Interested? Identify young professionals from your district to take part in the Zone YP summit. Send them to us, and they'll come back ready to invest their time and skills in your districts as hands-on leaders, speakers at club and district meetings, and membership coaches.

Registration is \$50. Early-bird registration is June 6 – July 8. Applicants or their districts/clubs are responsible for lodging and travel costs. To keep costs low, home stays will be available for free to those who want them, and some travel scholarships will be available based on need.



DEVELOP...

**Your district's young
leaders!**

SEND...

**At least two of your
district's young
professionals
(under 40) to the YP
Summit**

VISIT...

**[SLCYoungProfessional
Summit.com](http://SLCYoungProfessionalSummit.com)**

**for more information
and to directly
nominate your
district's
representatives**

**ROTARY ZONES
21B-27 INSTITUTE
Young
Professionals
Summit
Salt Lake City, Utah**

October 28-30, 2016

New Members for August 2016

Atchison	Rachel Dannar
Baldwin City	Jeanette Blackmar
Burlington	Craig Marshall
Manhattan	Richard Jones
Paola	Katie Dalton
Topeka Downtown	Greg Harry
Topeka South	Tiffany Anderson, Abel Frederic, Kevin Nincehelter



News & Info from Rotary International

World Polio Day Toolkit

Rotary's fourth World Polio Day celebration, on 24 October, will highlight extraordinary progress in the eradication campaign and emphasize the work that remains before we wipe out the virus for good. With the number of new cases worldwide nearly halved from this time last year, we have the opportunity to rally our resources and see the last case of polio this year.

Health officials and Rotary's celebrity polio ambassadors will head to Atlanta, Georgia, USA, for the event, the first to be held at the U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC). It will be streamed live and then will be available for viewing anytime at endpolio.org.

[Download the World Polio Day toolkit](#) for information and resources on planning and promoting a successful World Polio Day event, such as a viewing party or fundraiser.

Use our graphics to craft engaging social media posts, and use #endpolio to follow and join the global conversation.

Write to local media and government officials: Pitch a story about your club's contributions to the campaign, and remind them why it's important to keep fighting.

Rotary District Collecting Relief Funds for Louisiana Flood Victims

Rotary clubs of District 6200 are collecting relief funds to help thousands of victims after record flooding devastated communities in southern Louisiana, USA, earlier this month. Torrential rains caused rivers, streams, and bayous to swell, damaging or destroying more than 60,000 homes and killing at least 13 people.

The U.S. Coast Guard and emergency responders helped rescue more than 30,000 residents from the rising flood waters. As of 25 August, more than 3,000 residents were still in emergency shelters even after the water receded.

[Donate](#) to District 6200 disaster relief fund.



CLUB/DISTRICT EVENTS

**Mark your
calendars
now...**

**President-Elect Training
(PETS) will be
March 23-25, 2017
in Wichita this year!**

**More info on registration
and hotels coming soon!**

Club News & Events



Multi-club Summer Social Event

On Aug. 20, 2016, Rotarians from various clubs in and around Johnson County gathered at Robert Thompson's house in Gardner for food, fellowship and fun. David Sneider of the Lenexa Club brought his grill and cooked hamburgers and hot dogs.

Chuck Udell and DG Chris Ford judged a watermelon-seed spitting competition. John Vandewalle won the men's division, and his wife, Jane, won the women's division. We swear this was not rigged!

Later, we voted for the best Hawaiian shirt. There was a tie, so we held a hula hoop tie-breaker. Jason Leib was the winner by a fraction of a second! A bouncy house for the children kept the little ones happy. It was truly family-friendly fun and a memorable evening, thanks to the perfect weather.



Overbrook Rotarians Help a Fellow Rotarian with Personal Project

Reverend Bill Tudor, a 92-yr old retired minister and active member of the Overbrook Rotary Club since 2008, lives alone on his grain and livestock farm near Overbrook. He has a long driveway from the main road to his house. There is grass pasture on both sides of the drive requiring a cattle guard in the driveway to keep cattle from walking out. Over the years as a result of continual use and erosion the guard has settled about a foot below drive level creating a pretty big dip in the driveway.

Fellow Overbrook Rotarians decided to surprise Bill and volunteered to fix the guard. Seven men and two boys (future Rotarians we hope) showed up with a tractor, hand tools, and the materials need to lift the cattle guard and shore up the footings under



it restoring a level crossing for vehicles. They volunteers were: Mike Bronoski, Club President; Larry Butell, Club Foundation Co-Chair and son Brock Butell; Derrick Dahl, Club Public Relations Chair; Jon Wilhite, PDG & Club President Elect; Don Schultz, Club Membership Chair and grandson Dylon Harris; plus, Club members JA Cordts and Jerry Meng.

Reverend Tudor rewarded the volunteers by honoring them with a donation in their name to the Rotary Foundation. It's a great day in Rotary when one good deed turns out to be a Win-Win for all!

Overbrook Float Highlights Hometown Volunteers

The Overbrook Rotary Club had an entry in this year's Osage County Fair Parade and it took second place. The parade theme this year was "Hometown Volunteers." The float portrayed various activities that the club does to help the community, including:

Manning the phones at the local public television fund drive

Handing out dictionaries to local school kids

Work done for the library landscape project

Semi-annual blood drive

Sponsorship of fishing derby

Highway pickup



Lawrence Rotary Purchases Shoes for Children in Need

With a District Grant and member donations, the Lawrence Rotary Club was able to purchase **431 pairs** of back-to-school shoes for local children whose families needed some help. The project was completed in partnership with the Douglas County United Way, Salvation Army, and the Ballard Center. Pictured here are Jane Baker (an honored member of our Rotary Family!) and club members Jane Bateman, Steve Glass, Stan Shumway, and Dave Baker.



Clubs Come Together to Show Appreciation to Law Enforcement

Rotarians from **Overland Park, Leawood and Lenexa clubs** gathered at I-Lan Park on July 31 to create appreciation bags for law enforcement officers in Leawood and Overland Park.

Fruit, nuts, candy, chocolate and special "thank you" cards were assembled by both the young and young at heart. Afterward, the bags were taken to local police stations, where the kids enjoyed giving them to our local heroes: our men in blue.

Thanks to **Trish Reedy** and **JC Burcham** for organizing this fun - and important - service opportunity!



What's Happening in Leavenworth...

Special Visitor to Rotary

Senator Pat Roberts visited with Rotarians this month; he provided a "Washington" update to our membership. After his update, Senator Roberts took questions from the floor, and President Elect Tamara Sevcik presented Senator Roberts with our Century of Service Banner and a Rotary coin thanking him for taking time out of his busy schedule to visit with us today.



Banner Presentation

Rotarian Jessica Martin exchanges our club banner with a member of the Quai d'Orsay Rotary Club in Paris, France, on her recent business trip for University of Saint Mary.

Silent Rotarian of the Year Named

At a recent meeting, Rotarian **Karel Sigtenhorst** was named Leavenworth Rotary Club's Silent Rotarian of the Year. Karel has been an invaluable asset to our club serving as our Sergeant at Arms ensuring our meetings run smoothly and quietly keeping things in order for our club. While presenting the award, Rotary District 5710 Governor, Chris Ford, noted that folks like Karel are typically the glue that keeps everything together for an organization. This award is typically presented when the District Governor visits with our membership; pictured with Karel is District Governor Chris Ford. Many thanks to Karel for his hard work in support of our club overall, especially over the last year.



Special Guests Welcomed



Rotary International District 5710 Youth Exchange Officer, Dr. Stephen Wheatley (Atchison Rotary Club), joined Rotary Club of Leavenworth this week to present information on the Rotary Youth Exchange Program. Rotary Youth Exchange is the opportunity of a lifetime for the more than 8,000 students who participate each year. Dr. Wheatley shared a bit about the program such as youth exchanges are for people ages 15-18 who have demonstrated leadership in their school and community, are flexible and willing to try new things and open to cultural differences and can serve as an ambassador for their own country.

Each year District 5710 sends out and receives an average 11 Rotary Youth Exchange students. Each student will usually have one or two host families and one Rotarian counselor. The students are involved with all the club fundraisers and community service events. This is a cultural program, not an academic program but the students do attend high school and are expected to do well. This is a life changing year for the students, and they all grow up and mature so much. This program touches so many other people as well to include host parents, extended family, counselors, teachers, other students, and Rotarians to name a few. Although this is a Rotary program, host families do not have to be Rotarians. Pictured with Dr. Weakley are, on the left, Tania Witheford (former Youth Exchange student from Cambridge, New Zealand, 1984-1985 in Sequim Washington; she has also sponsored a Youth Exchange student from Durango, Colorado) and on the right, Johanna Lebeth (current Youth Exchange student at Atchison High School) from Austria.

Western Johnson County Club Staying Busy and Having Fun

Check presentations, visits from the District Governor and PR Chair, food collections, a membership drive, fundraising golf tournament, park cleanups, and Royals Baseball are keeping the Western Johnson County Club vibrant and engaged.

The Boys and Girls Club of Greater Kansas City, Olathe Chapter and Charlie's House were presented with proceeds from the Guns and Horses event held earlier in the year.

Members also collected 215 lbs of food and necessities for the Multi Service Center of Johnson County in one evening at the monthly club social.



Downtown Topeka Rotary's "Women of Influence"

Go Topeka's Entrepreneurial & Minority Business Development honored six outstanding Women of Influence on the evening of Wednesday, August 24th at the Capitol Plaza Hotel.

Three of the six Women of Influence are members of Downtown Topeka Rotary - Joan Wagon (Woman of Achievement), Angel Zimmerman (Mentorship) and Carol Bradbury (Community Service).

Congrats!!



Topeka Downtown Celebrates Freedom

Topeka Downtown Rotary's first annual ROTARY FREEDOM FESTIVAL featured an afternoon re-living the revolutionary past of Kansas in downtown on Kansas Avenue between 4th and 5th streets on July 31, 2016.

The Rotary Freedom Festival featured historical re-enactments of the U.S. Army's dispersal of the Free State Legislature in 1856, Tours of Constitution Hall and historic downtown Post Office, and military vehicle display. Rotary Freedom Festival is a fundraiser for a \$20,000 grant to the Center for Peace and Justice during the next three years to prevent conflicts and bullying among young people in the city.

The Rotary Club will work in tandem with the Center for Peace and Justice to conduct annual "peace camps," bullying and conflict resolution training in Topeka public schools and parent-adolescent mediation programs across Shawnee County.



Overland Park Rotary Club Loses Iconic Member

Benjamin D. Craig, 87, well-known banker, community leader and longtime Rotarian passed away on August 5, 2016 after a brief battle with cancer.

Ben began his banking career in Overland Park in 1964 serving as President of Metcalf Bank for thirty-five years and then as Chairman of the Board until 2007. He remained Chairman Emeritus after the bank was sold Central Banccompany until his death.

As a dedicated public servant, Ben served as President, Chairman, and officer of numerous charitable and service organization boards and committees. He was instrumental in much of Johnson County's landmark infrastructure including Johnson County Community College, Shawnee Mission Medical Center and the Deanna Rose Farmstead. Ben was also a founding member of the Overland Park Chamber of Commerce.

As a member of the Rotary Club of Overland Park, Ben had a remarkable 52 years of perfect attendance. He was a friend and mentor to all. Club President, Trish Reedy commented, "I know Ben had an impact on so many of us, and I share my condolences for each of you saddened by this loss. He was such a wonderful man and I know we all aspire to be like him."

Club member and Overland Park Chamber President Tracy Osborne captured Ben's legacy best by saying, "Ben has taught us well. He led with integrity, vision and by his personal example. My life is enriched by having known him, and our region is prosperous from his decades of commitment."

Ben leaves daughters Denise Koonse (Charles), Kellee Hearst (Rex), granddaughters Amanda Lubiewski (Michael) Kelsey Houchen (Andrew) and great-granddaughters Abigail and Emily Lubiewski. Ben also leaves his friend and companion of the last 10 years, Vivian Sirratt. Ben was preceded in death by his wife of 52 years, Evadean.

