

September 2010

District Edition

District 5710

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2010-11*

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To submit articles and pictures for the District Newsletter, send to Linda Ireland by the 15th of each month.

Message from RI President Ray Klinginsmith

Bigger, Better, Bolder

This year marks a significant anniversary for Rotary! Although the Rotary Club of Chicago started in 1905, the first convention of Rotary clubs was held in August of 1910 with 60 Rotarians representing 16 clubs. Our history as an organization of Rotary clubs started with that meeting in 1910, and we are now commencing a second century of service for Rotary as an association.

All of us want this century of service to be even more successful than the last. Therefore, this is an opportune time to ask: Are we taking the right steps to ensure that success? Are we doing the right things? Do we have a clear vision of the future? In the words of "America the Beautiful," can we "see beyond the years"?



As Rotary's 100th president, I believe we are moving in the right direction. Our 33,000 clubs are Rotary's biggest asset, and our success in the next 100 years will depend on the ability of our clubs to remain vibrant and vital. Their strength will determine our success!

The RI Board has taken several steps to offer more assistance to our clubs this year, including creating the Rotary Coordinators program to assist district governors in providing information about Rotary International's programs and best practices to the clubs.

I firmly believe that if we help our clubs to become better and bolder, then the clubs will become bigger – both because of the increased pride of our Rotarians in their clubs and the increased awareness of Rotary by prospective members. Therefore, my goal is to help the district governors to help their clubs to become Bigger, Better, and Bolder!

This is a great time to be a Rotarian. Together we can make this century of service even more exciting than the last!

Ray Klinginsmith
President, Rotary International

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Developing That Freshman Rotarian

By Rich Barbuto, District Membership Chair

It is a sad reality that half of all new Rotarians will leave Rotary in their first three years of membership. Most often, this is a result of a perception that the benefits of membership are outweighed by the obligations. Stated another way, the new Rotarian's expectations of Rotary are not met. Often they report feeling disconnected with the other members or fail to see how their efforts have contributed to building a better community. With care on the part of the members of the club, this unfortunate state of affairs can be avoided. Clubs can actively develop freshmen Rotarians and within a year or so, produce a committed and active club member. New members keep our clubs vibrant and relevant in our communities.

A freshman Rotarian is a Rotarian in their first year of service. This is a formative period. Look carefully at your club. Does your club actively take measures to develop new members? Or, are new members thrown in the mix to learn Rotary by osmosis? While this latter method may have worked for you personally and maybe the bulk of your members, it has probably also resulted in many 'former Rotarians.'

Changing a freshman Rotarian into a veteran, committed Rotarian depends on deliberately pursuing two lines of action – information and engagement.

INFORMATION

- The best time to begin educating the freshman Rotarian is before they are inducted into the club. Review the benefits and obligations of membership. Go over attendance requirements and expected costs of membership. Elicit from the candidate their expectations – what is it they hope to accomplish as a Rotarian. If you don't have a good match, perhaps membership should be deferred.
- Process membership expeditiously. *Rotarian* magazine doesn't start until RI has registered the new member.
- After induction, consider a formal information program designed specifically for the freshmen. Try a special meeting for freshmen 15 minutes prior to regular meetings once a month. Have committee chairs brief their various programs.
- Ensure the freshmen can access the club, district, and RI websites. There is limitless information available on these sites.
- Club officers and sponsors need to specifically ask the freshman Rotarian if they have any questions about any aspect of Rotary. What comes 'naturally' to veterans is often a mystery to the new member.
- Get the new members to district events, especially the District Assembly and the Foundation, Membership, Leadership Seminar. These two activities are specifically designed to educate and motivate. They are always worth the time and effort. I might add that veteran members can get re-energized by attending as well.

ENGAGEMENT

- Assign the freshmen to a committee that aligns with their skills and desires. Do this early. The committee chair then needs to expeditiously allot some task. Teaming a new member and veteran on the same task is usually a good idea.
-

District Membership Numbers

Month of August

Clubs with zero entered for the current month's membership/attendance % did not submit a Secretary's Report to the District website for the month of August by the deadline date of September 15.

The membership count listed for July 1, 2010 reflects the information Rotary International received on club Semi-Annual Reports (SAR's) submitted for that date. *(Not all clubs have submitted their SAR's to RI yet, so this number may change.)* This is the number that will be used to calculate membership growth in our District for 2010-11.

Zeros in the chart reflected information not reported by the club.

Rotary International to Fill General Secretary Position

General Secretary Ed Futa will leave Rotary International after 12 years of service when his contract expires in June. Rotary International is searching for a new general secretary. Information about this position is available at Rotary International by [CLICKING HERE](#).

"The selection of a new general secretary is the most important decision to be made by the RI board this year, and we want to assure that Rotarians around the world are aware of Ed Futa's retirement and the resulting search for his successor!"

There is no fixed deadline for the receipt of applications. However, we will begin selecting the most promising candidates in late October, and we hope all persons interested in serving as the general secretary will submit their applications by mid- October

The position is open to Rotarians and also non-Rotarians.

CLUB	7/1/2010 Membership	Membership As Of 8/31/2010	August Attendance
Atchison	79	74	58.93%
Baldwin City	15	0	0.00%
Blue Rapids	21	21	64.30%
Blue Valley	14	14	83.00%
Bonner Springs	0	24	78.00%
Burlingame	12	13	75.00%
Burlington	33	33	65.91%
Council Grove	0	0	0.00%
De Soto	39	43	0.00%
Emporia	68	62	53.70%
Emporia Sunrise	14	0	0.00%
Frankfort	24	24	73.00%
Gardner	61	64	73.44%
Garnett	30	0	0.00%
Holton	24	24	56.00%
Howard	19	19	66.18%
Indian Creek Sunset (Prov)	6	0	0.00%
Johnson County	43	41	67.66%
Junction City	86	83	41.00%
Junction City Flint Hills	0	21	0.00%
Kansas City	54	59	66.50%
Lawrence	197	198	49.08%
Lawrence Central	32	31	0.00%
Lawrence Jayhawk	66	68	69.49%
Leavenworth	94	94	67.81%
Leawood	55	56	87.23%
Lenexa	43	46	70.00%
Louisburg	42	41	53.50%
Manhattan	210	212	58.80%
Manhattan Konza	73	74	54.14%
Marysville	50	50	71.00%
Olathe	0	0	0.00%
Olathe Santa Fe Trail	39	34	61.00%
Osawatomie	0	22	78.00%
Oskaloosa	34	32	65.00%
Ottawa	17	17	80.00%
Overbrook	32	32	85.00%
Overland Park	146	143	61.62%
Overland Park South	89	90	64.66%
Paola	32	34	64.00%
Shawnee	60	59	75.00%
Shawnee Mission	62	0	0.00%
Spring Hill	16	16	80.00%
Topeka Downtown	196	190	52.12%
Topeka North	16	16	62.00%
Topeka South	114	116	54.00%
Topeka West	21	20	89.00%
Valley Falls	18	18	70.00%
Village West	0	38	75.68%
TOTALS/Average Attendance	2396	2366	60.31%

Clubs With Over 70% Membership Attendance for August

Will your club be listed here next month?

Topeka West.....	89.00%
Leawood.....	87.23%
Overbrook	85.00%
Blue Valley	83.00%
Ottawa.....	80.00%
Spring Hill.....	80.00%
Bonner Springs.....	78.00%
Osawatomie.....	78.00%
Village West	75.68%
Burlingame	75.00%
Shawnee	75.00%
Gardner.....	73.44%
Frankfort	73.00%
Marysville	71.00%
Lenexa.....	70.00%
Valley Falls	70.00%

*Average Attendance
(for the reporting
clubs) for the month
of August:
68.97%*

Clubs with 60% to 70% Attendance:

- Blue Rapids (64.30%)
- Burlington (65.91%)
- Howard (66.18%)
- Johnson County (67.66%)
- Kansas City (66.50%)
- Lawrence Jayhawk (69.49%)
- Leavenworth (67.81%)
- Olathe-Santa Fe Trail (61.00%)
- Oskaloosa (65.00%)
- Overland Park (61.62%)
- Overland Park South (64.66%)
- Paola (64.00%)
- Topeka North (62.00%)

New Members of Manhattan Rotary Club



L to R: C. Clyde Jones, nominator; New Member Kay Scarbrough; and Manhattan Club President Sue Maes



L to R: David Dreiling, nominator; New Member Kristopher Lewison; and Manhattan Club President Sue Maes

New Members for August

DeSoto.....	Dennis Gower
Holton	Gale Gakle
Kansas City.....	Mike Reeves
Leawood	Mary Haugh, Richard Waldron
Lenexa	Lonnie Cannon, Amy Ruo
Manhattan.....	Kristopher Lewison, Kay Scarbrough
Manhattan Konza	Michelle McAllister, Sean Ruth
Ottawa	Brian Dennis
Overland Park.....	Ryan Dixon
Overland Park South.....	Tim Barron, Kimberlee Williams
Paola.....	Brenda Reeder
Topeka Downtown	Walt Pursell
Topeka South	Michael Culp, Robert Gunther, Marie Hall, Danette Tipton



Dennis Glover welcomed as a new DeSoto Rotary member at a weekly breakfast meeting.

Indian School Children Inspire Generous Giving

More than 120,000 school children in RI District 3020 (part of Andhra Pradesh, India) joined together to raise US\$115,000 for Rotary's US\$200 Million Challenge. Mobilized by Rotary clubs, the students obtained donations from parents, neighbors, and others in their communities.

Kishore Cherukumalli, 2009-10 governor of District 3020, came up with the project idea, believing that the public should participate in and contribute to making India Polio-free. The effort spread public awareness of both polio eradication and Rotary.

"People started telephoning Rotarians [to say] that they were hitherto not aware of the good work done by Rotary," says Rotary Foundation Trustee Ashok Mahajan. "The management of the schools that the Rotarians approached were more than willing to be our partner and thanked Rotary for giving them the opportunity to contribute to the cause. Parents called Rotarians to know more about Rotary, some showing interest to join Rotary."

Two festive music night fundraisers organized by Rotarians netted an additional \$30,000 for the challenge.

World Polio Day October 24

World Polio Day is October 24, a perfect opportunity to join the fight to end the disease. As of August 31, Rotarians have [raised about \\$145 million](#) for Rotary's US\$200 Million Challenge. These contributions will help Rotary raise \$200 million to match \$355 million in challenge grants received from the Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation. The resulting \$555 million will directly support immunization campaigns in developing countries, where polio continues to infect and paralyze children, robbing them of their futures and compounding the hardships faced by their families. As long as polio threatens even one child anywhere in the world, children everywhere remain at risk. The stakes are that high. To view RI's "The Last Hurdle" [CLICK HERE](#).

Has your club set up a fundraiser for PolioPlus this year yet? If not, consider these ideas for creative fundraiser ideas from Rotary International, which have been successful for Rotary clubs and districts—[CLICK HERE](#). Suggestions for projects from other clubs in District 5710 are available on the home page of the District website: www.rotary5710.org. **NOTE: To see what club projects/events are already scheduled for October, see the District calendar.**

Dates to Remember for 2010-11

OCTOBER: VOCATIONAL SERVICE MONTH

9/28-10/30 GSE team from Kansas to Australia

NOVEMBER: ROTARY FOUNDATION MONTH

13 Foundation Banquet, Sheraton Hotel, Overland Park

14 Deadline for nominations of District Governor Nominee Designate for 2013-14

HOLD CLUB OFFICER ELECTIONS IN NOVEMBER

DECEMBER: FAMILY MONTH

1 Applications for 2011-12 Youth Exchange Students due to Steve Wheatley

15 Deadline to send 2011-12 club President and Secretary name and contact information to Rotary International, DG John Vandewalle, DGE "Mo" Greenwood and District Office. **NEW DEADLINE DATE**

2011

JANUARY: ROTARY AWARENESS MONTH

1 Semi-annual dues to Rotary International

16-22 DGE "Mo" Greenwood to 2011 International Assembly, San

FEBRUARY: WORLD UNDERSTANDING MONTH

19 Pre-PETS (East), Tentative Date, Location TBD

23 Rotary's birthday (1905)

MARCH: LITERACY MONTH

5 Pre-PETS (West), Junction City, Tentative Date, Location TBD

31 Presidential Citations to DG John Ambassadorial Scholarship Applications Due

TBD Ambassadorial Scholarship Interviews, Atchison

TBD District Educator of the Year applications due

APRIL: ROTARY MAGAZINE MONTH

7-9 President-Elect, Secretary-Elect training in Salina - ALL incoming Presidents are required to attend.

15 GSE Team from Australia to Kansas

19 Paul Harris's birthday

28 District PDG Dinner, Overland Park

29 District Assembly, Overland Park

30-5/1 District Conference, Overland Park

MAY

15 GSE Team returns to Australia

21-25 Rotary International Convention, New Orleans, LA

TBD RYLA

JUNE: ROTARY FELLOWSHIPS MONTH

TBD "Mo" Greenwood Inauguration, Location TBD

October Club Events

GO TO THE DISTRICT WEBSITE HOME PAGE AND CLICK ON "CLUB EVENTS" IN THE GOLD COLUMN FOR DETAILS

OCTOBER 19

Sunset of Johnson County—CHARTER CELEBRATION!

6:00 pm. Ritz Charles, Overland Park

Contact: Cindy Huston, chopks@hotmail.com

OCTOBER 26

Emporia—Busing tables at Pizza Ranch, 5:00-8:00 pm

Come and enjoy some of the best pizza in Kansas!

Contact: Chuck Frazier, pdg5710@cablone.net

OCTOBER 30—Oskaloosa—Chili Cook Off, 11 am to 4 pm

Enter your chili! Cash Prizes! Come eat chili!

Contact: Quentin Davis, 785-863-2092

OCTOBER 31—Topeka North—European Pheasant Hunt, 9 am

Muddy Creek Game Birds, Meriden, KS

Contact: Rick Tanner, (H) 785-286-3757, (C) 785-640-2941



District Youth Exchange Corner

A MESSAGE FROM DISTRICT 5710'S YOUTH EXCHANGE OFFICER, Stephen Wheatley



Another successful year is behind us and a new year has begun. We have 13 outbound students from our district that are now beginning their year abroad. We also welcome 14 new students (pictured on page 8) from around the world. We are excited to get to know them better and to show them how wonderful the people of Kansas are. In turn they will teach us a little about their culture. This year we have many clubs involved that have either never hosted before or are hosting for the first time. I would like to see more clubs get involved next year!

This brings me to next year. We are beginning to receive inquiries from clubs about sponsoring a student from their local high school to be an exchange student. Now is the time to begin the process. First is finding the student. Remember that *children of Rotarians are eligible*. So if a member of your club has a high school student that might be interested, it is a great place to start. The student will fill out a short application to apply through the club. These can be obtained by emailing District Youth Exchange Officer (YEO) Stephen Wheatley at wheatleydc@sbcglobal.net. The student is then interviewed by a team of Rotarians from your club. If your club deems he or she as a good ambassador for Rotary and the United States, the student then begins the Long form application. This form is quite extensive and we need 4 identical originals with original signatures. This application can sometimes take 4-6 weeks to complete due to medical and school information that will need to be gathered. These applications need to be completed with all signatures and information and sent to District YEO Steve Wheatley **by December 1st**. If you have any questions about getting involved with Rotary's Youth Exchange program please email us.

District Youth Exchange "Students of the Month"

Each month will feature a profile of some of our District Youth Exchange "Students of the Month" so the district members can get to know these outstanding youth.

Camille Vanderheyden (on the left) comes to the Gardner Rotary Club from Hombourg, Belgium. Her two favorite hobbies are playing the violin and riding her horse. This is her first time in the United States and is eager to improve her English. Camille would like to have a job working with animals.

Joe' Lavet (on the right) comes to us from Boirs, Belgium. She is being co-hosted by the Lenexa and Shawnee Rotary Clubs. She enjoys playing the piano. This is her first time in the United States as well. She wants to visit many parts of the United States so that she can "form her own opinion about this big country and compare what she has seen with stereotypes she has heard about." Joe' hopes to have a job working with children some day.



Both girls are very excited about their year here. Both of them have French as their native language.

District Youth Exchange Inbound Students



Listed by Student Name—Country/District: Back Row, Left to Right

Jean Montané - France/1700 - Topeka Downtown Rotary Club, **Joy (Joé) Lavet** - Belgium/1630 - Lenexa & Shawnee Rotary Clubs, **Axel Frangi** - Sweden/2380 - Junction City Rotary Club, **Christian Otzen** - Denmark/1460 - Overland Park South Rotary Club, **Antonia (Toni) Brinkman** - Germany/1870 - Blue Rapids Rotary Club, **Hector Gonzalez** - Argentina/4845 - Russell Kansas Rotary Club/5670, **Hanna Rikenmann** - Switzerland/2000 - Blue Valley Rotary Club

Front Row, Left to Right

Carola Bereuter - Austria/1920 - Manhattan Rotary Club, **Camille Vanderheyden** - Belgium/1630 - Gardner Rotary Club, **Ana-Maria (Ana) Jijaescu** - Romania/2241 - Paola Rotary Club, **Oihana Fernandez** - Spain/2202 - Overland Park Rotary Club, **Hironomi Ueki** - Japan/2710 - Olathe Noon Rotary Club, **Joselyn (Jozze) Cevallos** - Ecuador/4400 - Village West Rotary Club, **Alina (Allyna) Curea** - Moldova/2241 - Junction City Rotary Club, **Elin Gotting** - Sweden/2360 - Lawrence Jayhawk Rotary Club

Youth Exchange Outbound Student Blogs

Listed below are the blog addresses for some of our District Outbound YE Students. The links to these blogs is listed under "District Links" on the home page of the district website. Need a pick me up? Check out a blog!!

FIRST	LAST	CLUB	COUNTRY	BLOG
Mollie	Bieber	Manhattan	Belgium	http://biebzinbelgium.blogspot.com
Taylor	Caraway	Spring Hill	Germany	www.taylorseuropeanadventure.blogspot.com
Caitlin	Fitzgerald	Shawnee	Sweden	www.cfitzsweden.blogspot.com
Weston	Halberstadt	Overland Park South	Belgium	www.barefootinbelgium.blogspot.com
Amelia	Hanzlick	Overland Park	France	www.ustofrance.blogspot.com
Katie	Klaasen	Gardner	Chile	www.kforeignexchange.blogspot.com
Phil	Kroh	Shawnee Mission	Denmark	http://philthedane.blogspot
Dana	Peterson	Ottawa	Ecuador	http://eatprayspeakspanish.blogspot
Laura	Wehemeir	Gardner	Switzerland	www.laurasswissadventure.blogspot.com

Top 10 Reasons to Go to the Rotary International Convention in New Orleans

With this newsletter, we begin a series of reasons why **you** (along with your partner and Rotary friends) should go to the Rotary International Convention in New Orleans, May 21-25, 2011! This month's reason – **Number 10:**

Because New Orleans needs a collective Rotary HUG!

We have been reminded that it was five years ago that Hurricane Katrina hit New Orleans and the levees were breached, killing over 1800 people and rendering thousands more homeless. The resulting devastation made parts of New Orleans look like a war zone.

As a city whose economy has always been largely dependent upon tourism, the losses caused by Hurricane Katrina were not only of lives and physical structures, but also of the city's economic infrastructure.

One of the reasons why rebuilding progress was so slow was due to the fact that tourism declined sharply and this traditional source of revenue—which includes everything from hotel taxes to parking taxes—largely dried up.

The people of New Orleans have been incredibly resilient, even in the face of more tragedy caused by the Gulf Oil Spill. But while there is progress, they are still not “over the hump.” New Orleans needs your tourist dollars perhaps more than *anywhere else* in the United States.

New Orleanians would rather talk about the future than dwell on the past, but they still need to know the rest of the country and world cares about them. Your visit signals that you're not afraid to look at devastation and that you're visionary enough to see a hopeful future. And the rebuilding has been moving along. Organizations, like Rotary and Habitat for Humanity are making a difference.

You will be able to join one of the specially arranged tours where you will be able to see where the levees broke and where Rotarians helped to rebuild houses and other structures in the devastated area. You will also have the opportunity to assist on one of the many ongoing projects. A Rotary Volunteer experience to go with the convention experience. Listen for more details on special “Voluntourism” opportunities.

Sometimes we all just need a hug. By coming to New Orleans you will be giving the people (and Rotarians) of New Orleans a great big one, both literally and figuratively! See www.rotary.org for more details and to register.



HELP our District Get to the RI Convention in New Orleans

Plea from DG John

HELP!! *The District needs someone or a club to step forward to organize, promote, plan for transportation (charter a bus?), etc to make it easy for member to attend the Rotary International Convention in New Orleans in 2011. An opportunity to attend a convention in the United States won't come again for at least 5 years!*

How great it would be to attend this convention as a District. We could participate in a volunteer project to help New Orleans—take a steamboat ride along the mighty Mississippi—eat in the legendary French Quarters—listen to lively jazz music—walk along the Riverwalk—and of course mingle with Rotarians from all over the world—a truly unique, priceless experience!!

Rotary International has staff to assist with groups of 25 or more. **BUT WE NEED HELP TO GET THIS GOING!!**

Preconvention pricing applies through **December 15**, then rates increase for both registration and hotels.

Click on links below to learn more about the convention:

[2011 RI Convention Promotional Video](#)

[Convention Brochure](#)

[Preliminary Schedule](#)

ROTARY INTERNATIONAL CONVENTIONS SCHEDULE

2011	May 21-25, New Orleans, LA
2012	Bangkok, Thailand, May 6-9
2013	Lisbon, Portugal, June 23-26
2014	Sydney, Australia, June 1-4
2015	Sao Paula, Brazil

Irvin "Irv" Hoffmann

The DeSoto Rotary Club regrets to inform District Rotarians that Irv Hoffmann passed away on September 11. Irv was a very active and enthusiastic member of the DeSoto and Lenexa Rotary Clubs. Irv served in the U.S. Air Force which led to a 40-year career with the Federal Aviation Administration as an FAA Air Traffic Controller. He also served as a Lenexa City Councilman and as President of the Kansas Silver Haired Legislatures. He established the Geriatric Nursing Scholarship Fund that the SHL awards each year. Irv was passionate about helping seniors, especially on issues relating to healthcare and transportation. Irv frequently provided presentations to Kansas legislators on these subjects.



His family suggest that donations be made to the SHL Irv Hoffmann Geriatric Nursing Scholarship Fund, or the Kansas City Hospice in care of Amos Family Funeral Home, 10901 Johnson Drive, Shawnee, Kansas 66203; or to the DeSoto Rotary Club to help fund a Picnic Bench Area Overlook at the Riverfest Park in his memory. Contributions for the Picnic Area can be mailed to DeSoto Rotary Treasurer, Max Atwell, 8475 Killcreek Road, Box 363, DeSoto, Kansas 66018.

Think Foundation Thoughts

A new list of [Weekly Rotary Foundation Thoughts](#) is now available from Rotary International. This collection of brief, thematic commentaries is an effective tool to help Rotarians learn how the Foundation is Doing Good in the World and to broaden participation in the EREY effort. There is a Thought for each week of the year!

Here is an example: "When you hear the number 963 million, it's difficult to get your head around it. But for the 963 million people who live with chronic hunger, it is not something they try to imagine but something they must try to survive. Malnutrition is the largest single contributor to disease; it imposes crushing economic burdens on the developing world. The Rotary Foundation is working to alleviate hunger and malnutrition. Many of the Matching Grants that the Foundation funds are for projects working toward the end of world hunger. Make your annual gift today."

Use these "Thoughts" to open your club meetings, rotating the reading among club members. Or put them in your club newsletters!

[CLICK HERE](#) for complete list

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K-State Recognizes Award Recipients

Kansas State University held a reception for winners of major scholarships, on September 14. President Kirk Schulz recognized recent recipients of Rotary, Goldwater, Phi Kappa Phi, Fulbright and other major scholarships. Pictured are McKenzie Snow, Rotary Ambassadorial Scholar, and Summer Lewis, Rotary Peace Fellow, accompanied by Steven Graham, who coordinates Manhattan Rotary Club's Ambassadorial Scholarship process, and Bill Richter, District Rotary World Peace Fellow Chair.



L-R: Steven Graham, McKenzie Snow, Summer Lewis, Bill Richter.

Get to Know Your District Leaders

Editors Note: This will be a continuing column in the District Newsletter. I sent a questionnaire to the Assistant District Governors and here are a few of the responses that I received.

The Assistant District Governors (ADG) are appointed by the District Governor to assist incoming Presidents to set club goals and review club plans and objectives. Then throughout the year they coordinate District Governor visits and at least quarterly, they attend a club meeting. They are the constant contact person for their clubs and strive to help each club meet their full potential.



Ron Tennissen (Lieutenant Governor, over all the ADG's)

Ron became a member of the Johnson County Rotary Club in 1994. A friend asked him to join. After leaving the corporate world and doing consulting from his home, he needed an outlet to meet, socialize and work with people in the community. Ron enjoys the friendships that he has made in Rotary and being a part of an organization that has such a positive impact on the world. "The friendships extend beyond my own club to the friends and acquaintances I have made at other clubs," said Ron. Ron's wife is Vicki who is a nurse. They have been married 37 years, have three daughters, and a 3-year old grandson who was born on Ron's birthday.

ANSWERS TO FUN QUESTIONS:

WHERE WERE YOU BORN AND RAISED? Born in Wichita, Kansas and raised in Valley Center, Kansas, which at that time was a small farming town north of Wichita. Today it is a suburban bedroom community adjacent to Wichita.

AS A CHILD, WHEN I GREW UP I WANTED TO BE: I had multiple ambitions... a few included a police officer, serve in the military, schoolteacher, TV new reporter and own a Cadillac. In college I thought if I could ever make \$10,000 a year I would have made it! While I achieved all of the above, except TV reporter, and more I still don't know what I want to be when I grow up.

WHAT WAS YOUR FAVORITE TOY AS A CHILD? My favorite toy was undoubtedly the electric train I received as a Christmas present when I was 4-years old. I still put the train under the Christmas tree every year.

WHAT WAS THE COOLEST TECHNOLOGY WHEN YOU WERE A CHILD? Television was without a doubt the coolest. The first TV station went on the air in central Kansas in the very early 1950s. I will never forget racing home after school to watch the first episode of Superman shortly after getting our TV.

ANY NICKNAMES? WHY? Some friends call me Tennessee Onions... I have no idea why other than my last name looks so much like Tennessee.

WHAT IS YOUR COMFORT LEVEL IN THE KITCHEN: I do well in the kitchen, its no gourmet cooking, but I can hold my own.

(Continued on next page)

Get to Know Your District Leaders (Cont)

Ron Tennissen Continued:

IF I COULD EAT JUST ONE FOOD (REGARDLESS OF CALORIES!) IT WOULD BE: Pizza!

IF I COULD HAVE ANY CAR IT WOULD BE A: Porsche

THE BEST DAY OF THE WEEK IS: WHY? Sunday because of memories. As a kid that was the only day my father didn't work.

MY PERFECT VACATION WOULD BE: A couple of weeks in Tahiti staying in a hut-like hotel room with a glass floor over the ocean.

MY HOBBIES AND INTERESTS ARE: I like to play golf, work in the yard, travel and fish with my grandson.

IF YOU LIKE TO READ, WHAT BOOKS ARE IN YOUR LIBRARY? Mostly spy and police novels along with history books.

WHEN YOU LOOK IN MY CLOSET THE COLOR YOU WILL SEE THE MOST IS: A mix of colors. My trousers tend to be khaki and my shirts mixed. Nate Nast shirts are my favorite label. I have several in multiple colors and patterns. The shirts originated as bowling shirts, and have been made popular by Charlie Sheen who wears them in his role on Two and a Half Men.

MY FAVORITE COLOR IS: Yellow

SOMETHING FEW PEOPLE KNOW ABOUT ME: That I was a police officer in Wichita and that is where I met my wife. Her boss at Sedgwick County Mental Health asked her to help him train a group of police officers on drug and drug abuse. She reluctantly agreed and I later asked her for a date. I left the police department for a sales position with Marion Laboratories.

A HUMOROUS/EMBARRASSING MOMENT IN MY LIFE WAS WHEN: Too embarrassed to tell about embarrassing moments! Maybe the most humorous occurred on my 40th birthday, when my wife planned a surprise party for me, with the help of my co-workers and friends. I was picked up after work by a hearse, put in a wooden coffin and driven to a bar. However, that was only the beginning. After a couple of hours in the bar my co-workers loaded me back into the hearse and drove me to the Lenexa community center for the real party where about 100 friends greeted me—one dressed as a minister! On the drive to the community center, with a few beers inside of me, I would rise up and wave at people in other cars. Needless to say, responses from people in the other cars was very, very funny!

Charles Volland

(ADG to Blue Rapids, Frankfort, Junction City, Junction City Flint Hills, Manhattan, Manhattan Konza, Marysville)

Charles joined Rotary in 1986 and has always been a member of Junction City Rotary Club. He was invited to join by PDG Charles Neale; however his father was a Rotarian in Valley Falls. Charles stays in Rotary because of the fellowship and the opportunity to be part of a great humanitarian organization. Charles is married to Katharyn and has a daughter, Jill, and grandson, Kael and granddaughter, Emmalyne.

ANSWERS TO FUN QUESTIONS:

WHERE WERE YOU BORN AND RAISED? Born in Hutchison, Kansas. My father was a school administrator so I lived in several different Kansas communities. Graduated from Valley Falls High School in 1963.

WHEN I TAKE A MOMENT JUST FOR ME, I LIKE TO: Read

MY HOBBIES AND INTEREST ARE: Music and theatre

IF YOU LIKE TO READ, WHAT TYPE OF BOOKS ARE IN YOUR LIBRARY? My favorite authors are Grisham, Follett, as well as historical novels.

WHEN YOU LOOK IN MY CLOSET THE COLOR YOU WILL SEE THE MOST IS: Blue

MY FAVORITE COLOR IS: K-State Purple!!



Get to Know Your District Leaders (Cont)

Moe Cougher

(ADG for Atchison, Bonner Springs, Kansas City, Leavenworth, Shawnee, Village West)



Moe has been a member of the Lenexa Rotary Club since 2000. He joined Rotary to give back to his community. He stays in Rotary because of the avenues of service and the wonderful people associated with Rotary at all levels. "It's the greatest service organization in the world, and I am proud and humble to be a very small part of it," said Moe. He is divorced and has two grown and married children and 5 grandkids—3 boys and 2 girls.

ANSWERS TO FUN QUESTIONS:

WHERE WERE YOU BORN AND RAISED? Born in Wichita, Kansas

AS A CHILD, WHEN I GREW UP I WANTED TO BE: A major league baseball player. Only thing that held me back was talent.

WHAT WAS YOUR FAVORITE TOY AS A CHILD? Toy guns.

WHAT WAS THE COOLEST TECHNOLOGY WHEN YOU WERE A CHILD? Fire and early versions of the wheel!

ANY NICKNAMES? WHY? Moe is a nickname for Maurice. I was named after a WWII buddy of my dad, whom I never met but intensely disliked.

WHAT IS YOUR COMFORT LEVEL IN THE KITCHEN: I am told that I am a very good cook, and I am very comfortable in the kitchen.

IF I COULD EAT JUST ONE FOOD (REGARDLESS OF CALORIES!) IT WOULD BE: Shellfish.

IF I COULD HAVE ANY CAR IT WOULD BE A: Porsche

THE BEST DAY OF THE WEEK IS: WHY? Friday. That's the day my Rotary club meets.

MY PERFECT VACATION WOULD BE: Sailing in the Caribbean or eating my way through Italy.

WHEN I TAKE A MOMENT JUST FOR ME, I LIKE TO: Work crossword puzzles

MY HOBBIES AND INTERESTS ARE: Cooking, fine dining, wine, clay target shooting, bird hunting

IF YOU LIKE TO READ, WHAT BOOKS ARE IN YOUR LIBRARY? Mostly mystery and spy novels

WHEN YOU LOOK IN MY CLOSET THE COLOR YOU WILL SEE THE MOST IS: Hawaiian shirts

MY FAVORITE COLOR IS: Blue

SOMETHING FEW PEOPLE KNOW ABOUT ME: That there are things that I wish fewer people knew about me!

A HUMOROUS/EMBARRASSING MOMENT IN MY LIFE WAS WHEN: I discovered that I was not young anymore.



Editors Note: This is my favorite picture of Moe. This was taken at the Lenexa ShrimpFest and Moe has a lobster hat on his head. Shows his true comic side!

MORE "GET TO KNOW YOUR LEADERS" NEXT MONTH