

January 2012

District and Club Edition

District 5710

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Reach Within to Embrace Humanity

District Governor
2011-12

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

Accelerate Rotary-Kick Your Rotariness into High Gear!



Accelerate Rotary
Eastern Kansas

This FREE power packed, one day event will jump start the 2012-13 Rotary year.

Rotary International, District 5710 Assembly, February 11, 2012 8a-4p, Topeka Holiday Inn Holidome

Who should attend? Everyone!

- 2012-13 Club Presidents—Special sessions to get you up to speed fast.
- New Rotarians—Learn what Rotary is all about.
- Club Officers and Leaders—Leadership is the key to club growth.
- All Rotarians—Need a refresher course? What to become a club leader? This is the place to be.
- Spouse/Guest—Why is everyone passionate about Rotary?

CLICK HERE TO REGISTER AND FOR MORE INFORMATION

February 11, 2011

Topeka Holiday Inn Holidome, 605 SW Fairlawn, Topeka, KS

8:00 am to 4:00 pm

2012 District Conference—"Celebrate Rotary"

April 27-29, 2012

"Light the Fire of Leadership"

Prairie Band Casino & Resort

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- Golf tournament—World Renowned Firekeeper Golf Course
- Wine Tasting
- Mock Casino Games
- Inspiring Keynote Speakers
- Club Presentations
- Opportunities for Sharing and Growing
- Saturday Evening Banquet
- Sunday Memorial Service and Foundation Program



Message from 2011-12 RI President Kalyan Banerjee

At Arlington National Cemetery outside Washington, D.C., stands a memorial to the Seabees, formally known as the U.S. Naval Construction Force. An inscription reads, “With willing hearts and skillful hands, the difficult we do at once; the impossible takes a bit longer.”

In Rotary, we already have our own mottoes. If we didn’t, I might be given to nominate those two lines. The power of combined effort, as Paul Harris once wrote, knows no limitation. When we work together, the impossible becomes possible.

I thought of this when I read, a few months ago, an article in the *New England Journal of Medicine*, the premier medical journal in the United States. Titled “The Polio Endgame,” it outlined a strategy for a post-polio era, including managing post-eradication risks.

Thirty years ago, such an article could never have been published. Today, it is a testament to the power of dedication, of persistence, and of combined effort. The impossible has, indeed, become possible. A post-polio world, once the stuff of dreams, will soon be here.

My friends, the day that polio will be eradicated is close at hand. We have to be ready for it with a powerful Rotary – a Rotary of enthusiasm and confidence, of bold vision and clear ambitions. It is time for us to prepare by taking an honest look at our clubs. Are our projects meaningful, sustainable, and relevant? Are our meetings productive and enjoyable? Are our clubs welcoming to new members, and are our schedules and events friendly to young families? And once people join us, do we welcome them properly, involve them enough? Do we make them a part of the family of Rotary quickly enough?

The figures tell us that while enough new individuals join Rotary every year and everywhere, too many exit Rotary, on an ongoing basis. What unfulfilled hope do they leave with? What expectations are we not meeting? Can we do more and better?

Now is the time to focus our energies on our clubs, and on the way people see them. It is time to show our communities that the Rotary of today is not the Rotary of their preconceptions. Rotary is a way to connect, to do more, to be more – it is a way to take our idealism and our vision, and turn them into reality.

Message from RI Foundation Trustee Chair—Bill Boyd

Areas of focus are the causes that drive Rotary

[Areas of focus](#) are the causes that drive Rotary. We are now halfway through the pilot of our [Future Vision Plan](#), and as I look to the future I think the most significant change will be the adoption of the six areas of focus – and not just for our Foundation. I recently heard RI Director Stuart Heal, the chair of the Strategic Planning Committee, say that our areas of focus fit very comfortably into our RI Strategic Plan.

Today’s generation supports causes rather than organizations, and so we in Rotary should be able to clearly identify the causes that drive us. When somebody asks you what Rotary is, you do not have to fumble for words. Tell the person that we are an organization of service-minded individuals around the world who are working to make the world a better place with our efforts in water and sanitation, basic education and literacy, maternal and child health, disease prevention and treatment, economic and community development, and peace and conflict resolution. You can say that in 20 seconds!

“Plenty of organizations talk about issues, but Rotary is about action, not words”

You can see how this may bring new members to Rotary and increase the giving to our Foundation. If you approach corporations for a contribution, they are much more likely to respond if they know how their money will be spent, and that we will spend it wisely. We are building on a strong record of performance over a long period of time. Bill Gates has said as much on a number of occasions. He has shown his faith in us through his significant gifts for polio eradication.

While I am writing this from a Foundation perspective, the membership factor should not be overlooked. Plenty of organizations talk about issues, but Rotary is about action, not words.

Andrea Norris Presented the Citation for Meritorious Service by The Rotary Foundation



Andrea Norris, chair of the Lawrence Rotary Club's International Service Committee and District Group Study Exchange Outbound Chair, was awarded The Rotary Foundation Citation for Meritorious Service for District 5710. Andrea's award was presented during the District's Annual Foundation Banquet. The award honored Andrea for "sustained and outstanding service" to The Rotary Foundation through her work with Group Study Exchange teams and on International Service projects. Andrea has traveled to Panama twice helping with service projects in that country, was a member of the 2008 South Korea Outbound team and has coordinated Group Study Exchange teams, both outbound and inbound, for our district.

Pictured to the right: Andrea Norris and her husband Tom Beisecker



PDG Fred Krebs Chosen for Ingram's Icons of Education

Article from Ingram's (Kansas City Business Magazine), January 2012

Fred Krebs is a character. Really: He's Benjamin Franklin. He's Galileo. And Kit Carson, Abe Lincoln or William Allen White. Whatever the role he's called to play, this Johnson County Community College professor dons the battle gear of a black-belt educator and wades into the fray of teaching history. His use of period costumes and character portrayals, more than mere measurements of his commitment to the task, speak volumes about the energy and passion he brings to it: "Have car, will travel ... have personality, will split," he jests.

The audience response to seeing a Ben Franklin two centuries after his demise? "Almost all of the time, there is a lively discussion that takes place about these figures' ideas and what has transpired because of their influence on history," Krebs says. But his are characters with distinctions: "I'm not a re-enactor. My costumes are a tool to create the atmosphere and to give people reasons to think about historical ideas within the humanities. It's a tool to encourage people to read more books and think about the significance of these characters."

Citing the intellectual influence of the late James Seaver, a professor of ancient history at University of Kansas, Krebs acts out his belief "that people need to have a lifetime of reading and discussing great books. It's vital that we find ways to get people to read major works and be involved in mentoring and discussion so they can learn how to think about significance."

That's not an idle academic exercise or reading books for the sake of reading. Instead, it speaks to something fundamental about what kind of nation we will be, he says, "The core of the liberal arts defines what our society needs to develop citizenship in a democratic republic."

"I get a lot of students saying 'I've never written an essay,' or 'History has always been difficult for me, but you've taught me how to organize my thoughts.' I teach them how to think, speak, write and talk about something so that later on they may want to read more about it; now they can and have a new understanding about it."



Always Wear Your Rotary Pin—Never Know What Will Happen!!

By Topeka Downtown President, Anita Wolgast

Topeka Downtown Rotary Club had very special guests for the Annual Christmas Party. It all started with one of our newer members, Greg Simms, wearing his Rotary pin to work. This is what I shared with our members, families and little guests at the December 22 Christmas Party.

"I want to share a story that started many years ago at a Downtown Rotary Christmas party. A little girl was invited by the Rotarian grandfather to come to the party with him. She had a wonderful time and even got to meet Santa Claus who made a special trip to be at the party.

That little girl, Cara, grew up and became a teacher working with pre-school children here in Topeka at Building Blocks Pre-School. One of the children in her class, Addison Simms, 4, has a father who is a Rotarian. That father, Greg Simms who is the CEO of the American Red Cross, shared a story that happened when he took his daughter to school in early December. The story goes like this:

' A few weeks ago when I was dropping Addison off at school and we were talking holiday plans, Cara, Addison's teacher, noticed my lapel pin and asked if I was a Rotarian. I said I was, and had a meeting that day. In reply she shared that some of her best Christmas memories were of a Rotary party that her grandfather used to take her to when she was little. In return, I mentioned that our club would be hosting a party, and asked if she'd be interested in attending with the children as my guests and she said she'd love to. I then reached out to you, Anita, and you know the rest. Cara will be seeing her grandfather this weekend, and is planning on surprising him with the story of their visit today and share a photo or two,' said Greg Simms.

Our hope is that the same kind of magic will be there for you children today! We hope that you will someday belong to Rotary and bring your own children and grandchildren to the very special Christmas party. Maybe you will be wearing your Rotary pin and someone will ask you about being able to come to the Christmas Party."



Rear Row Adults: President Anita Wolgast, Cara, and Marie Pyko, Christmas Party Chair with the children from Building Blocks Pre-School.

RI Convention—Bangkok 2012



For more information about the RI Bangkok Convention, [CLICK HERE.](#)

Emporia Rotary Club Sponsoring Emporia Middle School Interact Club

Robert Ousak and Andy Hawley, adult sponsors of the Emporia Middle School Interact Club, visited the Emporia Rotary Club and provided an enthusiastic report on what the new student-run club is doing. Still in the organizing stage, there are ten to fifteen seventh and eighth graders who are attending club meetings weekly. Consisting of a diverse mix of students, the students are interested in service opportunities. The two sponsors allow the students to run their own meetings, and what they have done already on their own is impressive.

It was reported that the students organized a food drive, and collected 430 food items to donate to the Abundant Harvest. The students delivered the food items and spent several hours organizing and working behind the scenes at the Abundant Harvest. The students plan to go back in the spring to serve food first-hand to individuals and families who are in need.

The Emporia Rotary Club will be inviting the Interact Students to help with their service project and will in turn, help the students with theirs.

Club members Nancy Horst helped to initially organize the club, has been able to attend some of the meetings. The Emporia Middle School Interact Club meets on most Wednesday's when school is in session at 3:45.



Emporia Middle School Interact Club Sponsors, Robert Ousak and Andy Hawley.

New Year—New Project for Gardner Rotary Club—CERT

From the Gardner Club's Rotary News Wheel

CERT PROGRAM BEGINS

We have all heard Margaret Mead's quote: "Never doubt that a small group of thoughtful, committed citizens can change the world; indeed it's the only thing that ever does." That definitely applies to the Gardner Rotary's Community Service Committee.

After a program last year about Emergency Preparedness, the committee came together with an idea—to be part of Emergency Preparedness in Gardner. With the help of committee member Del Sawyer, they learned about the CERT program. CERT stands for Community Emergency Response Team. CERT provides a 10-week training course in conjunction with Johnson County Fire District 11 that provides skills to individuals that allows them to help first responders in the event of an emergency or disaster. These trained volunteers can help save lives and protect property.

The class started this month [January] and according to the committee, it is full and includes some Rotarians as well as regular citizens. Way to go Karen Weston, Betty Chanay, Del Sawyer and the entire Community Service Committee for finding a need and a way to make this important class happen. The committee applied for a grant from the District and received matching funds to help cover the cost of this project. Well done!



President Cherlyn White-Conklin at the first CERT training class.

Lawrence Central Rotary Club features "Help us Learn . . . Give us Hope"

Colonel Gary LaGrange, US Army, Retired was a featured speaker for the Lawrence Central Rotary Club in December. Colonel LaGrange has a passion for helping children in difficult places. He firmly believes that education is an essential ingredient in bringing about the stability and order that we seek around the world. Helping children learn properly and gaining their trust helps the society that they are part of mature and move toward order.

Colonel LaGrange formed "Help us Learn . . . Give us Hope." Based on a successful effort in Viet Nam 40 years ago, the corporation has multiple objectives.

- **Supports Iraqi and Afghan and African school aged children by providing basic school supplies and sponsorship.** Their education is the greatest hope for their future and the stability we seek.
- **Enables soldiers to win hearts and minds by focusing on children.** Good will builds through direct distribution and relationship building.
- **Directly engages US citizens in the process of assisting children and our soldiers in Iraq, Afghanistan and Africa.** You can make a difference while helping our county achieve its objectives in Iraq, Afghanistan and Africa.
- **Builds on a similar Viet Nam experience.** Focusing on children has a profound effect.

The vision is to provide each child with a back pack filled with basic supplies and to provide the teachers of the schools with sufficient basic stock to sustain them for a period. The items included are: Back Packs or book bags, pencils, sharpeners, erasers and pens, paper (notebooks, reams of paper, writing pads), crayons, coloring books, construction paper, scissors, rulers, calculators, chalk and blackboard erasers, tape, staplers, small toys that fit in the back pack (beanie babies, stuffed animals, cars, Frisbees, jump ropes, chess, checkers, soccer balls), tooth brushes and tooth paste.

To learn more, visit www.helpuslearngiveushope.org

To invite Col LaGrange to speak to your club, contact him at lagrange1@cox.net or on the above website



L to R: Steve Lane, Colonel Gary LaGrane, Bob Swain

Topeka South Rotary Club Celebrates 25th Anniversary

The Topeka South Rotary Club celebrated its 25th Anniversary in December. The event started by inviting several charter members, who are no longer in the club, to come celebrate the anniversary. Tim Etzel, Erik Johnson, Mark LaFond, Larry Lutz, Mike Murray, Brady Robb, Jacob Thomas and John Valley attended our regular meeting on December 16th and were given special recognition. Original charter members who are still in the club are Gerold Bergen, Stuart Douthett, Roger Johnson, Michael Land, Donald Schnacke and Dale Warren were recognized at our annual party where we were joined by Dick Crawford and his wife Donna from Topeka Downtown Rotary and Dr. Paul Rebeck and his wife Carolyn from Topeka West Rotary along with District Governor John Vandewalle. Topeka Downtown and Topeka West were the sponsoring clubs for Topeka South in 1986 and Dick and Paul were the Presidents of their respective clubs at that time.



Dates to Remember for 2010-11

2012

JANUARY—ROTARY AWARENESS MONTH

FEBRUARY—WORLD UNDERSTANDING MONTH

11 Accelerate Rotary,
Topeka Holiday Inn Holidome

NEW DATE

(Snow Date—March 24)

MARCH—LITERACY MONTH

3/16

to 4/16 GSE D5710 to D1380 (Finland)

APRIL—ROTARY MAGAZINE MONTH

12-14 PETS/SETS, Salina, KS

20 D1380 (Finland) GSE Team Arrives

4/27-29 District Conference

Prairie Band Casino & Resort

Mayetta, KS

MAY

6-9 [Rotary International Convention](#)

Bangkok, Thailand

20 D1380 (Finland) GSE Team Departs

JUNE—ROTARY FELLOWSHIPS MONTH

AUGUST

11 FML (Foundation, Membership &
Leadership) Seminar

NOVEMBER

12 Foundation Banquet
Sheraton Hotel, Overland Park

Upcoming Club Events

[CLICK HERE FOR CLUB EVENT DETAILS](#)

LEAVENWORTH ROTARY CLUB

Art Auction and Wine Tasting

February 11, Crancers, 530 Delaware, Leavenworth
5:30 to 9:00 pm—\$30 single/\$50 couple

Contact: Ellen Bogdan: ebogdan@kc.rr.com

WESTERN JOHNSON COUNTY

“Around the World” 1st Annual Fundraising Event

February 18, Cedar Creek Clubhouse, Olathe

6:30 to 9:30pm—\$50/person

Contact: Marka Williams, willm134@nationwide.com

www.WestJoCoRotary.org

ATCHISON ROTARY CLUB

Harlem Ambassadors

March 1

OVERLAND PARK SOUTH ROTARY CLUB

Jazz in the Woods—2012

June 15, 16, 2012

Corporate Woods, Overland Park South

District Membership Numbers

Month of December

The membership count listed for July 1, 2011 reflects the information Rotary International received on club Semi-Annual Reports (SAR's) submitted for that date. This is the number that will be used to calculate membership growth in our District for 2011-12.

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 July by the deadline date of January 15.

Keep Your Club in the "Green"

*2011-12 Color—GREEN
(see August newsletter for details)*

The Presidential Citation and the Changemaker Awards stress the importance in increasing club membership. Goal—net 1 member or more for the 2011-12 Rotary year. The clubs highlighted in "green" are on the way with a net in the "plus" column for the year.

Check out the [Membership Section](#) of the District website for lots of information to help you get, and keep, your club in the "green."

District Goal—to see all clubs in "green"!

CLUB	7/1/2011 Membership	12/31/2011 Membership	YTD Gain/Loss	December Attendance
Atchison	77	75	-2	48.40%
Baldwin City	16	17	1	62.00%
Blue Valley	12	14	2	89.29%
Bonner Springs	23	24	1	64.00%
Burlingame	13	12	-1	61.11%
Burlington	31	28	-3	59.00%
Council Grove	52	0	NA	0.00%
De Soto	41	42	1	45.24%
Emporia	62	64	2	51.81%
Frankfort	23	23	0	65.00%
Gardner	56	55	-1	65.45%
Garnett	24	0	NA	0.00%
Holton	27	30	3	53.00%
Howard	17	17	0	57.00%
Johnson County	35	34	-1	67.86%
Johnson County Sunset	23	28	5	35.71%
Junction City	66	71	5	44.00%
Junction City Flint Hills	15	15	0	46.67%
Kansas City	56	57	1	65.40%
Lawrence	192	0	NA	0.00%
Lawrence Central	27	26	-1	50.00%
Lawrence Jayhawk	65	70	5	65.27%
Leavenworth	87	87	0	71.66%
Leawood	56	54	-2	86.79%
Lenexa	46	47	1	66.85%
Louisburg	45	42	-3	41.67%
Manhattan	193	200	7	58.99%
Manhattan Konza	78	81	3	38.68%
Marysville	48	47	-1	73.00%
Olathe	96	100	4	55.00%
Olathe Santa Fe Trail	27	28	1	42.00%
Osawatomie	25	26	1	71.00%
Oskaloosa	28	30	2	50.00%
Ottawa	27	29	2	66.67%
Overbrook	30	28	-2	90.20%
Overland Park	137	133	-4	72.44%
Overland Park South	89	86	-3	61.07%
Paola	38	38	0	63.00%
Shawnee	56	59	3	73.00%
Shawnee Mission	54	54	0	60.65%
Spring Hill	17	17	0	63.00%
Topeka Downtown	188	180	-8	50.00%
Topeka North	23	24	1	50.00%
Topeka South	114	116	2	60.34%
Topeka West	22	22	0	75.00%
Valley Falls	16	16	0	75.00%
Valley Heights	21	0	NA	0.00%
Village West	40	42	2	61.11%
Western Johnson County	30	33	3	75.00%
TOTALS/Average Attendance	2584	2321	26	** 59.95%

**Percentage for Clubs Reporting

Clubs With Over 70% Membership Attendance for December

Will your club be listed here next month?

Overbrook	90.20%
Blue Valley	89.29%
Leawood.....	86.79%
Topeka West	75.00%
Valley Falls	75.00%
Western Johnson County	75.00%
Marysville.....	73.00%
Shawnee	73.00%
Overland Park	72.44%
Leavenworth	71.66%
Osawatomie	71.00%

Average Attendance (for the reporting clubs) for the month Of December: 59.95%

Clubs with 65% to 70% Attendance:

Johnson County—	67.86%
Lenexa—	66.85%
Ottawa—	66.67%
Gardner—	65.45%
Kansas City—	65.40%
Lawrence Jayhawk—	65.27%
Frankfort—	65.00%

New Club Members for December

Atchison	Christopher Hansen, David Spurlock
Holton	Tim Morse
Lawrence Jayhawk	Riley Scott
Louisburg	Kristy Yeager
Overbrook	Diane Morrison, Kent Morrison
Paola	Tammy Dowd
Shawnee	Rebecca Lang, Raymond Liggett
Topeka Downtown	Trey George
Western Johnson County	Gary Proctor



Atchison Rotary Club New Members! L to R: Rea Laffin, New Member Christopher Hansen, President Goldie Boldbridge-Brown and New Member David Spurlock.

INMED—Disaster/Crisis Relief

Message from Mike Searcy, Leawood Rotary Club

“I sit on the Board of INMED and would like to share this opportunity with people and organizations I believe could benefit from their Disaster Response Training program.”

The INMED Crisis Response Training will be held on March 16. If you would like more information about this program—[CLICK HERE](#)

Or go to www.inmed.us/drisis_response_training.asp



CLUB NEWS

Atchison Rotary Club

- Through a partnership with UMB Bank, the Atchison Rotary Foundation and the Atchison Rotary Club, contributions were made to two Atchison organizations in support of their work in the Atchison community. The Atchison Backpack Buddies Program, a children’s week-end feeding program of Second Harvest Community Food Bank, received funds in the amount of \$4,200 to help children eat consistent healthy meals. The Atchison Free Health Clinic received a contribution of \$2,250 for its Children’s Dental Health Program. The Montessori Education for San Lucas Toliman, Guatemala project, founded by Rotarian Jack Bower, also received a contribution of \$1,500 to support the distribution of educational materials for the set up of additional classrooms.
- Funds for the above projects were made possible through a Rotary District Grant that was matched by UMB Bank, and members of Rotary through the Atchison Rotary Foundation.
- The club welcomed new members Christopher Hansen and David Spurlock.
- Christmas gifts for needy children were donated by Rotarians. In addition, the children received scarves and gloves through the generosity of a local business firm.
- The club rang bells for the Salvation Army.
- The club’s Christmas party was enjoyed by all at which Rotarians Marta Myers and Susan Myers showcased their musical talents as part of the “Singing Sensations.”
- Congratulations were extended to President-Elect Reed Berger who received the :Leader-full Community Award.



Contribution presented to Atchison Backpack Buddies Program. L to R: Richard Berger, President of Atchison Rotary Foundation; Matt Daniels, Program Coordinator for Second Harvest Community Food Bank; Susan Coffey, Coordinator of the Atchison Backpack Buddies Program; Goldie Boldridge-Brown, club President; Lorin Affield, Director Atchison YMCA which serves as the fiscal agent for the Backpack Buddies Program, and Kent Wohlgemuth, President UMB Bank and Atchison Rotarian.



Contribution presented to Atchison Free Health Clinic. L to R: Kate Werring, Board Member, Atchison Free Health Clinic; Kathy Butler, Executive Director, Atchison Free Health Clinic; Goldie Boldridge-Brown, club President; Richard Berger, President Atchison Rotary Foundation; and Ken Wohlgemuth, President UMB Bank and Atchison Rotarian.



To the right: Contribution presented to the Montessori Education for San Lucas Toliman, Guatemala. L to R: Goldie Boldridge-Brown, Club President; Jack Bower, Atchison Rotarian.

To the Left: L to R: Ron Wilson, Kansas Leadership Foundation; President-elect Reed Berger, recipient of the award; and Jacque Pregont, President Atchison Area Chamber of Commerce and Atchison Rotarian.



CLUB NEWS

Emporia Rotary Club

- The club is sponsoring the Emporia Middle School Interact Club (see page 5).
- Barbara Wry kicked off a six month membership drive for the club. Five team captains began a draft to choose club members to fill up their teams. Jami Reeve, Teresa Maley, Jason Bosch, Greg Bachman and Nancy Horst filled their teams and huddled up to choose a name for their team and strategize potential members to approach and ask to visit the club. The team captains will provide weekly updates.
- Marshall Miller was awarded his sixth Paul Harris Fellow.
- While at the District Foundation Banquet in November, Rotarian Sam Purohit's daughter received a special treat. Vaidehi Purohit, who is living in the Kansas City area, attended the banquet with her father, Sam. After the banquet, District Governor John Vandewalle presented the Paul Harris Fellow to Vaidehi. Sam contributed his PHF points to present the award to his daughter.



Barbara Wry kicks off the membership drive!



L to R: Jodi and Marshall Miller



L to R: Sam Purohit, Vaidehi Purohit, DG John, Jodi and Marshall Miller.

Gardner Rotary Club

- The club's Community Service Committee started a Meals on Wheels route in December. Gardner had a great need to add another route to Meals on Wheels, as the routes were simply getting too large to manage. By Rotary agreeing to take a route, Meals on Wheels were able to divide the routes and make them smaller. This enables the clients to get their deliveries in a timely manner. The Gardner Rotary Club is proud to add this project to their list; they know they are making a great impact!
- Community Service also started promoting the CERT (Community Emergency Response Team) training program. (See page)
- Ron Yarborough was recognized as a PHF +3. Neil Wakefield, Todd Winters and Jason Nokes were recognized as the newest Paul Harris Society Members. Way to go everyone!



Holton Rotary Club

- Parade of Lights.
- Fantastic social meeting with homemade soups and breads.
- Member Recognition: Pat Fontaine.

CLUB NEWS

Junction City Flint Hills Rotary Club

- Ongoing projects: Veteran's Memorial Landscaping and Maintenance and VFW Flag Trailer Project.

Kansas City Rotary Club

- Congratulations to Rosemary Podrebarac for being named the new Board Chairperson of the United Way of Wyandotte County in 2012.
- This and That: There are seventeen past presidents that are still active members in the Kansas City Rotary Club.
- There are four sets of father and sons presidents in the history of the club: Ferris and Bob Kimball; Jim and Bill Porter; Jim and Greg Shondell and Harold and Bruce Schlosser.
- Members with the oldest tenure in the club are: Bob Kimball (1961), Jim Knight (1964), Joe Butler (1966), Bill Strumillo (1969), Bill Mullarky (1977-member of the Oklahoma City Club prior to joining Kansas City).

Lawrence Rotary Club

- John Rathburn and Chris English lead the effort when club members rang bells for the Salvation Army at several local businesses. The all-day activity raised \$2,551 for the Salvation Army campaign.
- The Blue Cup funds raised during November were given to Cordley Elementary School for Holiday Gifts. The club has partnered with Cordley Elementary for many years and in addition to the Holiday Gifts the club has provided funds for school snacks and donated approximately fifty books each year for the school library.
- The club is now on Facebook and Twitter. The Twitter email address is lawrenceksrotaryclub@gmail.com and on Facebook, log in with www.facebook.com/lawrencerotary.
- At the December 19th meeting a choir from Cottonwood, Inc., the Douglas and Jefferson counties Community Developmental Disabilities Organization, presented a variety of songs concluding with a selection of Christmas carols. The choir was rewarded with an enthusiastic round of applause for their performance.

Lawrence Central Rotary Club

- The club had Colonel Gary LaGrange, US Army, Retired as a speaker in December. He gave a very inspirational talk on his corporation—"Help us Learn . . . Give us Hope." See page 6.

Leavenworth Rotary Club

- Rotarian Dan Sheehan was the winner of the Weekend Get-Away drawing. The club raised \$3,600 to support scholarships for community students. A Rotarian donated a weekend choice of timeshare at one of six locations. Rotarians donated \$50 a chance to the club foundation.
- ***The club is sponsoring a Wine Tasting & Art Auction on February 11th in conjunction with the Young Professionals of Leavenworth County. This is a combined effort to raise club funds and also partner with another organization in the community in an effort to generate interest in membership in Rotary. GREAT IDEA!!***
- Club members welcomed CPA Mary Scott sponsored by J. Scott Miller into the club. Mary is not new to Rotary. She was a Rotarian for several years in St. Joseph, Missouri, prior to moving to the Leavenworth area. She said she has always wanted to get back to Rotary and now that her business is fully established, she wants to play an active part in Rotary and the good work being done by the club.



L to R: Sponsor J. Scott Miller and New Member Mary Scott.

CLUB NEWS

Lawrence Jayhawk Rotary Club

- President John Conard accepted several awards at the District Annual Foundation Banquet. The club was recognized as the third highest-giving club in the district, averaging \$300 per club member. John accepted awards for Teresa Mulinazzi Kempf who was recognized as a Paul Harris Society member, and Chris Barteldes as a Rotary Foundation Major Donor.
- Brad Finkeldei was selected as a member of the 2012 Lawrence Chamber of Commerce Board of Directors.
- John Heeb is a member of the Cottonwood Board of Trustees. Cottonwood is a not-for-profit organization that provides employment, residential, and community support services for children and adults with developmental disabilities.
- Doug Lawrence is among a select group of consultant who were interviewed for a recently released book, *GPS (Goals & Proven Strategies) for Success*. The chapter credited to Doug is entitled "Speaking as a Performing Art: Three presentation 'silver bullets' you can take to the bank." Other experts featured in the book include Stephen Covey, Les Brown and John Gray.



Michael Williams, recently inducted Rotarian, demonstrates "Service Above Self" as he encourages shoppers to contribute to the Salvation Army kettle.



New Rotarian inductee Monte Soukup, (right) invited Pride Leggins to join him in ringing the bell for the Salvation Army. Monte is Pride's mentor for the confirmation class at Good Shepherd Lutheran Church.



On December 8th, John Esau (left) presented hats, gloves and mittens to Chris Anderson (right), Kennedy Elementary School principal. The much-needed warm apparel was contributed by the club members. John is the club's Community Service Chair.

Leawood Rotary Club

- Member Chuck Udell has been appointed as the Southern Johnson County coordinator of the 2012 Inbound GSE Program from Finland.
- Welcome new member, Scott Green!
- The club hopes to have 2-4 Rotary members attending a WASH trip to Guatemala in May. The trip was postponed due to torrential rains augmented by tropical storm Lee in September 2011.
- The club was happy to host Barry Grissom, US Attorney General as a speaker.
- President Michael Searcy received a flag on behalf of the Leawood Club from Andrea Brown from the Eutin Internship Program. Andrea is a Rotarian student sponsored by the Leawood Club.



L to R: President Michael Searcy and Andrea Brown.

Louisburg Rotary Club

- Focus on the Future, January 30, 2012. The club will host their second program at the First Christian Church. Approximately 100 students from a Career and Life Planning class at the local high school will hear from six different Rotarians about Rotary and their professions. The club will encourage the students to attend RYLA. The club will sponsor one student this year.
- The club welcomed one new member in October and one new member in December.

CLUB NEWS

Manhattan Rotary Club

- Congratulations to Jamie Hughes and Brian Burton, Manhattan High School Students of the Month for December. The Manhattan Rotary Club is please to honor these outstanding students and wish them well as they complete their education at MHS. Pictured L to R: Brian Burton, Jamie Hughes and President Mark Queen.



Overbrook Rotary Club

- The club sponsored the local blood drive. They collected 25 pints which is considered good for a town the size of Overbrook.
- The Annual Christmas Party was a pot luck held at the home of Jim and Mary Gates. Jon Wilhite presented a Paul Harris Fellow to Mary Gates. Mary has been know as “Mrs. Music” to their community for many years—teaching music, choir leader and many other activities.
- District Polio Eradication Chari Robert Thompson (Gardner Rotary Club) presented a program on Polio-Plus. The club sent a check for \$100 for PolioPlus.
- District Group Study Exchange Chair Andrea Norris did a presentation for the club on her Rotary trip to Panama.
- The club inducted two new members—Diane and Kent Morrison.
- Long time member Dr. Ruble passed away. The club sent a donation to PolioPlus in his memory.



Overland Park South Rotary Club

- The club's Future of Hope Foundation awarded a grant of \$2,000 to Sunflower House, a non-profit, United Way agency serving Wyandotte and Johnson Counties in Kansas. Its mission is to protect children from physical and sexual abuse through education, advocacy, forensic and medical services. The grant will be used for a program that educates children on what constitutes appropriate physical contact.



Shawnee Rotary Club

- Collected 126 coats from our club and donated to Johnson County Christmas Bureau. Collected and donated gifts for two families that were adopted by the club.
- Held Family Day at their meeting on December 23rd and had Santa Claus and a Magician perform. They had approximately 15 kids come take part in the family day.



Shawnee Mission Rotary Club

- On New Year's Day, the club had a community service project at the Johnson County Head Start making an existing playground more accessible for the disabled children. Far right picture: Mark Lieb, Alana Titus and Dennis Monahan.
- Tom Talkington received his PHF +2 pin.



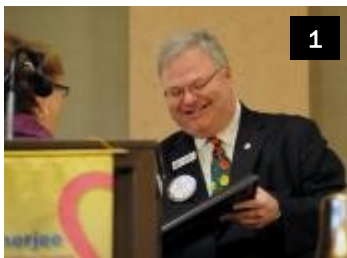
CLUB NEWS

Spring Hill Rotary Club

- The club sponsored a Halloween and Christmas party for the Senior Citizens. It was declared the BEST Halloween party of the Century by the Senior Citizens. All attendees dressed up in costumes—there were several flappers from the Roaring Twenties, an Al Capone, a very scary ghost and many others. For the Christmas party, the Senior Citizens all had their pictures taken with Santa, cookies were exchanged and all received a small gift.
- A Presidential Award was given to Glenda Gerrity of the Staff of City Hall for her work with the Special Olympics, and her courteous nature to all. An Avenue of Service Award was presented to Kim Thompson for among other things her eleven years as Fundraising Chairperson.
- Kim Thompson has qualified for a Paul Harris award. Rotarian of the Week/Month of December was Sharon Meek because of all of her volunteer work for both the Halloween and Christmas Party. In addition, she did all the purchasing of gifts for the adopted families.

Topeka Downtown Rotary Club

- The Rhapsody Ringers from First United Methodist Church entertained the Rotarians and their families with music of the season for the Annual Christmas party. This was followed by special music and stories for the children . . . and . . . a very special visit from Santa! See page four for a separate story related to special little guests attending the party all because a Rotarian was wearing his pin!
- President Anita Wolgast presented The Paul Harris Society Award to Jim Ogle, WIBW-TV Station Manager. Jim was unable to attend the Foundation Banquet in November when Gordon Lansford received the same award. (Picture #1)
- Board Member Eugene Williams thanked the outstanding team who helped present dictionaries to 4th grade classes at Quincy Elementary, Highland Park Central, Avondale East and Lowman Hills schools. (Picture #2)
- Trey George, Director of Topeka Housing Authority Foundation receives his Rotary pin as he is welcomed as a new member. Jim Johnston was his sponsor. (Picture #3)
- Board Member Curtis Sneden shares the plan for attracting young professionals to Rotary Membership! (Picture #4)
- Donated children's gifts, wrapping paper and cash to the Topeka Rescue Mission. Donated \$561 to Ronald McDonald House. Purchased books for Program Speaker to be donated to Avondale East Elementary.



Topeka South Rotary Club

- The club continue to volunteer at Let's Help twice a month.
- The club continues with their Sole Mates project that gives a new pair of shoes and socks to students at Scott Magnet and Eisenhower elementary schools. With the assistance of a grant from the YMCA, the club was able to provide shoes for 82 feet, 61 children benefited with new shoes.
- The club donated \$2,850, proceeds from their Annual Wine Tasting Fundraiser held in November, to the Christmas Bureau at the Topeka United Way which helped a total of 80 people by providing a Christmas meal and gifts.
- Gina Penzig, Weststar Energy, was inducted as a new member with the classification of Communications.
- Paul Harris Fellows were presented to Jeanine Wells, Kent Pope, and Phil Tysinger at their Holiday Party for their service and contributions to the club.

CLUB NEWS

Western Johnson County Rotary Club

- In December the club collected over 250 coats to benefit Johnson County Christmas Bureau.
- The club continues to grow! At current the club is at 33 members with a goal of 35 members by the end of the Rotary year. The club continues to educate the YOUNG club members on Rotary Foundation. Building on their 100% Paul Harris status, they are working to help new members attain that status by years end as well. The club is also focused on achieving the Presidential Citation.



ROTARY CLUB

Western
Johnson County



1st Annual Around the World Party and Fundraiser supporting several local deserving causes
Enjoy food and drinks from around the world. Bid on exciting silent auction items.

February 18, 2012 — 7:00 pm to 10:00pm

Cedar Creek Clubhouse, 25775 West 103rd Street, Olathe, Kansas 66061

\$50 per person

Contact: Scott Hamel (913-208-6439); email: scott@ConstructionDesignWorks.com

~~~Save the Date~~~

11 February 2012 (5:30 - 9:00 pm)

*Art Auction and Wine Tasting/Hors d'oeuvres*

sponsored by

*Leavenworth Rotary*

*in collaboration with*

*Young Professionals of Leavenworth County*

WHERE: Crancer's (530 Delaware, Leavenworth)

Tickets \$30/Single or \$50/Couple (purchase before 14 January and receive \$5 off price)

~~~Great time to purchase something special for your Valentine!~~~



POCs

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