

November 2011

District and Club Edition

District 5710

420 SE 6th Street, Suite 121

Topeka, KS 66607

Phone: 785.232.7216

Fax: 785.232.8126



Reach Within to Embrace Humanity

District Governor
2011-12

John Vandewalle

Newsletter Editor

Linda Ireland

Executive Assistant

exec5710@swbell.net

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

Accelerate and Celebrate Rotary!



2012 will mark a very important change to our District Assembly and District Conference. For many years these two events have been combined; however, in 2012 Assembly and Conference will be split into separate events. District Assembly, being renamed "Accelerate Rotary", will be held on Saturday, February 11, 2012 and the District Conference will be held April 27-29, 2012.

Our District was one of the few through Rotary that combined these events. The purpose of Assembly is to prepare for the upcoming Rotary year that begins on July 1st. Conference is a celebration of the year that is coming to a close. These changes will allow us to provide exciting and informative training at Accelerate Rotary and to showcase the great work being done across the district at Conference.

We are excited to invite ALL OF YOU to these events!

"Accelerate Rotary" is a planning and learning session that will get you ready and fired up for the next Rotary year! This one-day event is mandatory for all Presidents-Elect and strongly encourage for all district Rotarians. If you are new to Rotary or just want to know how to get more out of your Rotary experience, "Accelerate Rotary" will provide you the tools to be better Rotarians and more effective leaders of your club's efforts. Accelerate Rotary will be held February 11, 2012 at the Topeka Holiday Inn Holidome.



"Celebrate Rotary 2012—Light the Fire of Leadership" will take place April 27-29, 2012. Last year's conference boasted 151 attendees from 33 different clubs! This year our goal is 200+! Mark your calendars for this opportunity to join other Rotarians who share your passion to make an impact in our communities at home and abroad. There will be golfing, social hours, a banquet, nationally recognized keynote speakers, a message from District Governor John Vandewalle, and INSPIRATION! Join us April 27 -29, 2012 at the Prairie Band Casino & Resort.



Watch the District website for more information and registration information that will be coming soon.

John Vandewalle
District Governor 2011-12

Kevin Tubbesing
District Governor 2012-13

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New Members Are a Breeze of Fresh Air—Who is ACCOUNTABLE?

By Bob Wilhelm, District Membership Chair

One of the benefits of being District Membership Chair is that it gives me the opportunity to visit many of our clubs in District 5710. As I visit our clubs, something is occurring time and time again. Frankly, it is so surprising to me that I'm not sure how to address it without sounding negative. Well....here goes.

In all my visits, not once, has anybody talked about the importance of inducting new members, unless I just happen to be there for that purpose. It appears to me that it's simply not part of the agenda; not even one discussion about why new members are important to your club. I go to board meetings and without fail, the LAST item on the agenda is MEMBERSHIP. And, since board meetings have a tendency to run over- time, 1 or 2 board members usually have to leave and don't even hear the Membership Report.

What would it be like to be a club that fully understands the value of making new members the #1 focus—talks about membership at EVERY MEETING, not just a few times a year.

This begs a question. Is anybody responsible or ACCOUNTABLE for new members? Is it your membership chair or your club president? Or, is it just sort of your members at large? What about the board? Seriously, is anybody held accountable, expected to make sure you reach your club goal?

Wouldn't it be exciting, if, in your club, when the board holds their monthly meetings, the most energizing report at each and every meeting, the report the entire board can't wait to hear, is the Membership Report stating goals and performance to date. But, how could this happen? I mean, come on now. We have service projects to discuss and

plan, and the budget, of course, is critical to every club. And then, we have to spend a sufficient amount of time discussing foundation. Once again, what would it be like to be a club that fully understands the value of making new members the #1 focus. I think this would be a club that simply understands the importance of growth. This is a club that talks about membership at EVERY MEETING, not just a few times a year. This is a club that engages and challenges their membership to sponsor new members. This is a club that realizes that more members equals more service hours, more revenue for expanded

service and a growing commitment to foundation. This high performing club could contrib-

ute more to the eventual elimination of polio, more clean water around the world and helping orphans who have no Mom or Dad, nobody, but Rotary. This would be a club that's growing in numbers and in charitable giving as a result of their focus on increasing the size of their club.

***NEED HELP WITH MEMBERSHIP! CONTACT:
Bob Wilhelm, 913-406-8063 or email to
bobnlin@aol.com***



NEW MEMBERS EQUAL

- More service hours
- More Revenue for service projects,
- A growing commitment to The Foundation

If your club membership needs a motivational reason to induct new members, think about kids drinking water saturated with e-coli in Guatemala. And, then if you decide you really want to grow your club, talk about the importance of sponsoring new members EVERY WEEK and build in some ACCOUNTABILITY by reporting results.

Rotary International Convention—Register by December 1 - Save on Registration



Early Registration Discount Deadline = December 1, 2011

Register by December 1 for \$160/person and save \$85/person vs. the on site Registration Fee

Speakers

In addition to RI President Kalyan Banerjee, President-Elect Sakuji Tanaka, President-Nominee Ron Burton and TRF Trustee Chair Bill Boyd, the stage of the Impact Event Center in Bangkok will be graced by the following speakers which have been announced by Rotary International:

Hugh Evans



Hugh Evans is the Co-Founder and CEO of the Global Poverty Project. An Australian, Evans was only 14 when he went to the Philippines as part of trip sponsored by World Vision. He found himself living in a tent in a Manila slum that was built on a garbage dump. The following year, he spent a year in India. Both of these experiences crystallized the idea that it is by pure chance that each of us is born into the circumstances we all find ourselves and he made the decision to employ his creativity to work toward shattering the accepted status quo of the world's poor.

In 2002 he visited South Africa as World Vision's first Youth Ambassador. Following the trip he set up the Oaktree Foundation, Australia's first youth run aide organization with the mission of young people working together to end global poverty. This was followed by the "Make Poverty History" campaign that influenced the Australian Government to increase its foreign aid budget from 0.3% to 0.5% of Gross National Income, resulting in an additional \$4.3 Billion per annum for the world's poorest.

In 2008 with the help of grants from the UN and AusAid, he co-founded the Global Poverty Project which has become one of the world's leading organizations working to eliminate poverty.

His accomplishments are legendary and he has the backing of renowned individuals such as performer Hugh Jackman and U2 front man and humanitarian Bono.

Muhammad Yunus



Muhammad Yunus, "Banker to the Poor," is a Bangladeshi economist who founded the Grameen Bank in 1983, fueled by the belief that credit is a fundamental human right. His objective was to help poor people escape from poverty by providing loans on terms suitable to them and by teaching them a few sound financial principles so they could help themselves

From Dr. Yunus' personal loan of small amounts of money to destitute basketweavers in Bangladesh in the mid-70s, the Grameen Bank has advanced to the forefront of a burgeoning world movement toward eradicating poverty through microlending. Today, replicas of the Grameen Bank model operate in more than 100 countries.

Over the past decade numerous Rotary clubs and districts have sponsored Matching Grants that have partnered with the Grameen Bank to aid the poorest of the poor in providing for themselves and their families.

In 2006, The Nobel Peace Prize was awarded jointly to Muhammad Yunus and Grameen Bank "for their efforts to create economic and social development from below".

Pre and Post-Convention Tours

Be sure to visit the Host Organizing Committee web site <http://www.rotaryconvention2012.com/> and look at all of the Pre and Post Convention tours that have recently been posted to the site. There is a wide variety to choose from. If you plan to make your trip to the convention an "extended" visit, one of these tours could easily be worked into your schedule. Next month, we'll highlight some of them.

DON'T FORGET TO REGISTER BY 12/1/11 TO GET THE EARLY REGISTRATION DISCOUNT

Rotarians Respond Again to Needs from May Tornado—Now in Reading, Kansas



Seventy volunteers from eleven Eastern Kansas Rotary Clubs spent Saturday, November 11th, with chain saws, wood splitters, backhoe and hand saws clearing trees damaged in the EF-3 tornado that hit the town of Reading on May 21. The tornado killed one person and demolished 54 of the town's 101 homes, nearly all of its businesses and its post office.



The trees and brush threatened a bridge over Mud Creek. Workers dragged branches and tree trunks from the river bank onto the field, where they were cut with chainsaws or log splitters to make firewood for the community. Branches and other debris were stacked to be burned.



"After our work in Joplin, Kelly Wolfert (Overland Park South) and I felt the need to help in tornado torn Reading, Kansas which is within our district boundaries, about a two hour drive from Kansas City," said Joni Pflumm,

Shawnee Rotarian. In June, a group of Kansas City area Rotarians restored a public park in Joplin.

From Topeka Capital Journal: Topeka South Club members Maria Wilson (L) and Kip Slattery © steadied a section of tree trunk as the blade of a log splitter sliced it into thinner planks.

Joining the Rotarians were volunteers from Heart to Heart International with a mobile health unit on site for unexpected injuries. With their medical staff they provided general medical checkups, laboratory and flu vaccines for Reading residents. Also joining the team were District 5710 Youth Exchange Students from Taiwan, Chile, Switzerland, Belgium and Romania.



At the end of the day, approximately 300 yards of the creek channel were cleared, resulting in 12 cords of firewood for the residents of Reading and several large piles of brush, that were burned. As the group was packing up its gear, a resident who lost her home in the tornado, Sonya Parker, came to pick up some firewood – several of the volunteers stayed to load her truck.

Barbara Schlobohm, a member of the Reading Long Term Recovery Committee, summed it up in a note to the organizers.

"What an absolute shock to see how much was accomplished! Thank you, thank you, for organizing this project – it was desperately needed".

The Rotarians who traveled to Reading came from Clubs in Rotary District 5710 in eastern Kansas: Lenexa, Shawnee, Overland Park South, Johnson County-Sunset, DeSoto, Gardner, Emporia, Topeka South, Leavenworth, Garnett and Manhattan Konza. Lunch for the volunteers was provided by Oklahoma Joes, Olathe, Kansas



L to R: Joni Pflumm (Shawnee) and Sandy Rieger (Gardner)

District 5710 members want to return to Reading in the spring to help with the restoration and landscaping of its city park.

Rotarians Display "Service Above Self" in Reading, Kansas (cont)



On behalf of Rotary District 5710, I want to thank all of you for getting involved in helping the people of Reading, Kansas. As Rotarians and friends, we pride ourselves in being able to touch the hearts of humankind—one person at a time.

Reading, KS was almost totally wiped out by tornadoes, but the people are coming back, despite the hammer of misfortune. To a large degree, this small community devastation was somewhat overshadowed and forgotten by the limelight received by the tragedy in Joplin, MO.

Each one of you, if you were there in person or in intent, contributed to the wellbeing and future of hope for the people of Reading. To all the leaders and organizers, be proud of yourselves. We are thankful that you chose to come to the fore on this occasion.

I am sure that we will be back in Reading in the spring to spurn their situation and give the people a renewed appreciation of the good in their neighborhood and a future of renewal.

This was a true District wide response that brought many clubs, Rotarians and friends together in our District and allowed us to realize that we can be Bigger, Bolder, and Better.

Reaching within to embrace Humankind is what it is all about.

DG John Vandewalle



DG John (Center) with District 5710 Inbound Youth Exchange Students from Taiwan, Chile, Switzerland, Belgium and Romania.



A special THANK YOU to Phil Putnam for providing these wonderful pictures. See more of his pictures by clicking on this link to his [SmugMug site](#).

Western Johnson County Rotary Club Making History

Our club is the first in Rotary history to be a 50/50 club, meaning half of our meetings are in the morning, and half are in the evening. Also, we became a 100% Paul Harris club within six months of our charter date. We feel this information may inspire other Rotary clubs that are targeting the next generation of Rotarians.

What's Your Key to Success? ... Our Key Is Compromise

by Lori Maher, Chartering President

"Coming together is a beginning. Keeping together is progress. Working together is success." Henry Ford

Compromise has been the key for the newly chartered Rotary Club of Western Johnson County, Kansas. Several established Rotarians initially joined together to form a club that would meet the needs of a growing population in Western Johnson County, Kansas. What we quickly discovered, was that a majority of the business owners in the area were young entrepreneurs – many of them with young families.

Coming together...Established Rotarians were seeking something different - an opportunity to cast a wider net and appeal to the next generation of Rotarians; prospective Rotarians were seeking something new - with inclusion and flexibility. Collectively, we knew the obstacles for recruiting young entrepreneurs - time commitment, financial constraints, flexibility, and perception. We knew we'd have to break down the barriers, but we were prepared. We were *all* confident, and proud to introduce Rotary to our professional, personal and social networks.



District 5710 Governor, John Vandewalle, M.D., visited the club several times during the chartering process. He challenged us to "Do something different – to think outside the box. Nothing was off limits." After several "thought group" meetings, we had an idea...let's become a 50/50 club! As chartering President, I remember drafting an email to DG John explaining our idea -- describing that we wanted to rotate weekly meetings between morning meetings and evening meetings to better accommodate prospective Rotarians who had young families or needed more flexibility in their schedules. This was my second term as a club President, and I knew that no other club had been granted such approval. John's response was almost immediate - "absolutely."

Keeping together...We've found that in like-minded groups, we can all aspire to a greater good and sometimes to get to a greater good, change is required. Through change, people grow and become closer to each other. Balancing the needs of young professionals *and* experienced professionals has been a refreshing and energizing challenge for the Board of Directors. The need for personal satisfaction and hands-on projects is not only prevalent in *new* clubs, it is prevalent in *young* clubs. Social media and networking events, such as a Facebook page, website, wine tasting at a local winery, pool side party to celebrate becoming a 100% Paul Harris Club, and Oktoberfest to celebrate Fall have provided a forum for members to interact and introduce family members and guests to the club.



Working together...Service came early for our club - we didn't have time to plan an event or identify a charity in need. One week after chartering, we had to immediately respond to devastation in two of our surrounding communities, and without growing together and becoming a close knit group through the chartering process, I don't know if we could have successfully and immediately responded to this need. (cont next page)



Western Johnson County Rotary Club Making History (Cont)

On May 21 and 22, 2011 respectively, Reading, Kansas and Joplin, Missouri fell victims to two of the largest tornadoes in history, both causing extreme devastation. Club members worked immediately to raise funds, collect food and clothing, and provide man hours, letting these communities know they were not alone, and providing them the support they needed to rebuild. Projects district-wide are ongoing to assist these communities in rebuilding and to sustain themselves long-term. On September 11, club members served lunch and dinner to local fire and police stations in Western Johnson County -- showing appreciation for our public safety professionals in remembrance of 9/11. An "Around the World" event featuring unique cuisine to benefit a local children's shelter is being planned for early 2012. Currently, the club is collecting coats to donate to the Johnson County Christmas Bureau so those less fortunate in our community can find warmth during the winter months.

But, perhaps our largest "working together" effort thus far is becoming a 100% Paul Harris Club - in our first six months of being chartered! This is an accomplishment that so few clubs achieve in their history and we are very proud! Again, established Rotarians came together with new Rotarians to accomplish a goal together - and share the vision and mission of Paul Harris and The Rotary Foundation.

Success... While the Club has only been a part of the Western Johnson County community less than a year, we have already experienced much success by coming together, keeping together and most importantly working together for the greater good of each other and our community. As Ralph Waldo Emerson once said, "Do not go where the path may lead; go instead where there is no path and leave a trail." Our hope is to leave a trail of hope, friendship and success in our community and inspire others to become a part of Rotary and do the same.



Message from World Peace Fellowship Candidate

DG John received this appreciative note he would like to share with the members of the District.

I wanted to extend a warm thank you for all of the assistance you provided to me over the last year for both the Rotary Ambassadorial Scholarship and for the Rotary Peace Fellowship. I was excited about both opportunities. Unfortunately for my family and I, others were selected. I wish them the best in following through with the great opportunity extended them by Rotary International.

Additionally, the help you gave me during the last year was very beneficial to my personal growth. I learned some important life lessons from Rotarians and about myself during the application processes. I think it is also worthwhile to say that regardless of the outcome, because of my application to Sweden for the Rotary Peace Fellowship, my wife and I are exploring the possibility of doing my PhD in Sweden at Uppsala University. We will see...

We are very busy right now with our preparations for going to Jordan. That being said, I will keep my mind open to the possibilities offered by Rotary. Most importantly, your efforts represent the Rotary Foundation and its guiding principles well.

Thank you,
Sean Webeck

Summer Lewis—District 5710 World Peace Fellow—“A Kansan In Nam”

From Summer’s Blog. [Click here to read more.](#)

So I've finished up two semesters in my master's program without having lost my mind or my sense of humor. And now I'm in Vietnam! I'm here for an internship with Roots of Peace, an NGO promoting cacao (yum) and black pepper (sneeze) production in Binh Phuoc Province (about 2 hours north of Ho Chi Minh City) and Quang Tri Province (along the DMZ line).

I arrived in Ho Chi Minh City (HCMC) on Sunday after a 9 hour flight from Sydney to Taipei, a 3 hour layover there, and a 3 1/2 hour flight into HCMC. I was met by the Roots of Peace Vietnam Country Director, Tucker, and his girlfriend, Thanh at the airport—in addition to some sunny, warm weather, a lot of honking, and quite a bit of congestion (people and traffic). We had some lunch (pork!) and made our way to the organization office/residence where I'm staying while I'm in HCMC.

After taking a cat nap, I awoke to gray skies and faint honking below. I opened the window and was assaulted by all sorts of smells—good ones from food cooking and rain, and not-so-good-ones from the river being dredged below. It was a real shock to my senses—exhilarating and disorienting at the same time.



We went out to dinner that night and I got to ride on the back of Tucker's motorbike. There are SO MANY MOTORBIKES HERE. I know everybody says that, but I didn't realize just how many. It's pretty cool—all these



bikes weaving in and out of the path of cars and other motorbikes, and meanwhile keeping some sort of order in what seems to be chaos. There's something darn exciting about experiencing the wind and smells and noises on the back of a bike, as opposed to being holed up in a car.

Dinner was, of course, amazing. We had little shrimp rice pancakes (bánh khọt)—crispy on the outside, but soft on the inside, with a big piece of shrimp on top. You wrap it in lettuce or mustard leaf, throw in some mango, mint, and who knows what other leaves, dip it in fish sauce, and munch. They were, quite possibly, one of the most delicious things I've ever eaten. I'm kicking myself because I didn't take a photo. Wait, I'm here for three months...I've got plenty of time and plenty of room in my stomach.

Summer will be in Vietnam from November 13 until February 14, 2012. She will be working with Roots of Peace in Vietnam, an international humanitarian organization dedicated to eradicating landmines worldwide and rehabilitating land and livelihoods through sustainable agriculture. www.rootsofpeace.org

Laura Kelly—Ambassadorial Scholar in Tanzania

District 5710 Ambassadorial Scholar in Tanzania sends this update via the Leawood Rotary Club, who is her sponsor.

Laura completed the Dar Rotary Marathon—by which they mean 1/2 marathon and 9k walk). The 6 Dar es Salaam clubs raised about USD 300,000 to rebuild the children’s cancer ward at the hospital where she is doing her research. The Leawood Club sent pedometers to Laura and she handed many out to the top speed walking finishers at the event. The other half of the pedometers will be used for a Youth Sports Day early next year. Here are some photos of the event.



Paul Harris Fellow presented to Youth Exchange Student, Laura Wehmeier

Three years ago, Russ Erickson from the Shawnee Mission Rotary Club wanted to recognize outstanding Youth Exchange students. He did this by awarding Bastian Hahn from Spain a Paul Harris Fellow using his points. Bastian was an inbound student from Spain during the 2008-09 year and was hosted by the Shawnee Mission club and the Ericson family.

Russ approached Youth Exchange Officers Robert Thompson (Inbound) and Steve Wheatley (Outbound) in hopes that they would continue this tradition for both inbound and outbound students. Russ and Robert use their Paul Harris Fellow points in order to provide the PHF awards to the students.

Steve Wheatley selects the outbound student based on their performance, attitude and all of the accomplishments made during their exchange year.

For the 2010-11 year, the outbound student selected for the District Youth Exchange Paul Harris Fellow is the Gardner Rotary Club’s own Laura Wehmeier. Laura’s exchange was to the French part of Switzerland.

Laura kept the District informed of her journey through an amazing blog on the District website. It was plain to see why Laura was selected. Her blog throughout the year was very detailed, fun to read, included great pictures and embraced everything that her exchange to Switzerland offered.

On October 27, Robert Thompson awarded Laura her Paul Harris Fellow in front of the Gardner Rotary Club (see picture above). Laura was unable to attend the District Foundation Banquet, but she recognized that evening also. Congratulations Laura—you deserve it!



L to R: Youth Exchange Student Laura Wehmeier and Youth Exchange Coordinator for Inbound Robert Thompson.

Manhattan and Manhattan Konza Rotary Clubs—Joint Dictionary Project

On Tuesday, November 3, 2011, a combined group of Rotarians from the Manhattan Konza Rotary Club and the Manhattan Rotary Club affixed Rotary stickers to 540 paperback dictionaries and thesauruses. Rotary volunteers delivered the books to eleven elementary schools in Manhattan for book distribution to their fifth grade students.

“We are happy to support our schools and students, providing each child with their own thesaurus or dictionary. From past letters from students, we know the thesauruses are a big hit and inspire students to develop creativity and learn new vocabulary,” explained Linda Knupp, Manhattan Konza Rotary project leader and Manhattan Public Library director.



Project Director Linda Knupp (Manhattan Konza) answers questions at the dictionary project work session at the Manhattan Public Library.



Curt Loupe (Manhattan Konza) and Don Boggs (Manhattan) pack a book box for delivery.

Fifth graders in USD 383 received 480 thesauruses and fourth graders at Sevel Dolors received 61 dictionaries. The reference books are intended to aid students in their school work. The total of 540 books distributed were valued at \$1,021.20.

The books were purchased by the Manhattan Rotary Club and the Manhattan Konza Rotary Club from the Dictionary Project in Kansas City. This is a nonprofit organization that promotes the distribution of reference books to school children nationwide. The books were also partially funded with a Rotary International grant from Rotary District 5710.

The two Manhattan Rotary clubs have collaborated on this project since 2005 to support literacy and education.



Tom Phillips (Manhattan Konza) and Stan Morgan (Manhattan) affix Rotary ID labels.



Bill Landsdown (Manhattan Club President), Sheila Hochhauser (Manhattan) and Travis Say (Manhattan Konza) process books for delivery.

From Lawrence Jayhawk Newsletter:

If “Plan A” doesn’t work, the alphabet has 25 more letters!

Bonner Springs Rotary Club Celebrates 75 Years

The Bonner Springs Rotary Club celebrated 75 years of service on October 1st. More than \$3,000 in proceeds benefited The HALO Foundation, which is a local organization that improves the lives of children in need. The event was held at the Lake of the Forest Club House in Bonner Springs, followed by cocktails, a live performance by the Allegro Community Children's Choir, dinner, program live art auction, music and dancing by The Kicks Band.

In addition to the 75th Anniversary Ball fundraiser and several community projects, the Bonner Springs Rotary Club participates in four other annual fundraisers including the Tiblow Trot and Walk to help fight polio, the Tiblow Days Ice Cream Social at the Bonner Springs Band Concert for high school scholarships, the Greater Kansas City Day paper sale providing funding to the Rotary Camp Facility for disabled youth and local youth camps, and the Vaughn Trent Auction.



Back Row L to R: Jim Bishop, Nick Perica, Dean Buhrle, Darrell Donahue, Charles Thomas

Row 2 L to R: Caroline Boyer, Judy Miksch, Joel Kivett, Judy Cox, Roger Miller, Lois Kastner, Warren Hanks

Front Row L to R: Bruce Coleman, Nicole Gerken, Mike Miller, Marva Sproules, Del Coleman



From HALO L to R: Rebecca Welsh (Chief Volunteer Officer), Nicole Gerken (Director of Operations), Chelsea Herzberg (Learning Center Director of Kansas City), Lacy Voight (Program Director)

HALO provides food, water, shelter, clothing, education and art therapy in Mexico, India, Uganda, Kenya, Nicaragua and residential homes in the United States. Children from these homes submit their artwork to



be sold at events and aid in raising funds for continued support. Through the Kansas City Learning Center, HALO provides art therapy and educational workshops for at-risk and foster children. The Center provides a variety of free workshops organized by HALO ambassadors to enhance self confidence and self expression, encourage development of skills and help HALO kids set achievable future goals.

To learn more about the HALO Foundation, visit www.haloworldwide.org, or watch a video about HALO ([CLICK HERE](#)) or call 816-472-4256.

Dates to Remember for 2010-11

2011

DECEMBER—FAMILY MONTH

CLUB OFFICER NAMES DUE TO RI AND DISTRICT

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)

31 Ambassadorial Scholar Interviews

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

Upcoming Club Events

[CLICK HERE FOR CLUB EVENT DETAILS](#)

LEAWOOD ROTARY HOLIDAY CELEBRATION

December 1, Overland Park Sheraton

Cost of admission: New toy, a new winter coat, hat and mittens, or a gift card to Target or Wal-Mart.

[CLICK HERE TO RSVP](#)

WESTERN JOHNSON COUNTY

“Around the World” Annual Fundraising Event

February 18, Cedar Creek Clubhouse, Olathe
6:30pm to 9:30pm

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

Club Projects

VILLAGE WEST

Rotary Jeopardy Game

Steve Beaumont developed a Rotary Jeopardy game for one of the Village West Club meetings. The game was a HUGE success! He has agreed to share the game and help customize it to your club. For information, contact Steve at:

steveb@chateauavalon.net

[CLICK HERE TO GO TO THE CLUB PROJECT PAGE FOR MORE CLUB IDEAS](#)



District Membership Numbers

Month of October

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 October 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 | 10/31/2011 Membership | YTD Gain/Loss | October Attendance |
|---------------------------|------------------------|--------------------------|------------------|-----------------------|
| Atchison | 77 | 73 | -4 | 50.78% |
| Baldwin City | 16 | 17 | 1 | 63.00% |
| Blue Rapids | 21 | 0 | NA | 0.00% |
| Blue Valley | 12 | 0 | NA | 0.00% |
| Bonner Springs | 23 | 21 | -2 | 70.00% |
| Burlingame | 13 | 12 | -1 | 58.33% |
| Burlington | 31 | 30 | -1 | 65.15% |
| Council Grove | 52 | 0 | NA | 0.00% |
| De Soto | 41 | 42 | 1 | 50.00% |
| Emporia | 62 | 63 | 1 | 54.87% |
| Frankfort | 23 | 23 | 0 | 70.00% |
| Gardner | 56 | 55 | -1 | 69.68% |
| Garnett | 24 | 0 | NA | 0.00% |
| Holton | 27 | 29 | 2 | 43.00% |
| Howard | 17 | 17 | 0 | 57.40% |
| Johnson County | 35 | 36 | 1 | 77.14% |
| Johnson County Sunset | 23 | 29 | 6 | 63.22% |
| Junction City | 66 | 0 | NA | 0.00% |
| Junction City Flint Hills | 15 | 15 | 0 | 58.33% |
| Kansas City | 56 | 57 | 1 | 72.70% |
| Lawrence | 192 | 0 | NA | 0.00% |
| Lawrence Central | 27 | 0 | NA | 0.00% |
| Lawrence Jayhawk | 65 | 69 | 4 | 70.88% |
| Leavenworth | 87 | 0 | NA | 0.00% |
| Leawood | 56 | 55 | -1 | 89.51% |
| Lenexa | 46 | 45 | -1 | 76.00% |
| Louisburg | 45 | 41 | -4 | 45.73% |
| Manhattan | 193 | 199 | 6 | 63.74% |
| Manhattan Konza | 78 | 80 | 2 | 42.01% |
| Marysville | 48 | 47 | -1 | 71.00% |
| Olathe | 96 | 0 | NA | 0.00% |
| Olathe Santa Fe Trail | 27 | 28 | 1 | 42.00% |
| Osawatomie | 25 | 0 | NA | 0.00% |
| Oskaloosa | 28 | 30 | 2 | 65.00% |
| Ottawa | 27 | 28 | 1 | 69.64% |
| Overbrook | 30 | 28 | -2 | 84.30% |
| Overland Park | 137 | 136 | -1 | 70.52% |
| Overland Park South | 89 | 84 | -5 | 62.81% |
| Paola | 38 | 0 | NA | 0.00% |
| Shawnee | 56 | 57 | 1 | 73.60% |
| Shawnee Mission | 54 | 55 | 1 | 74.09% |
| Spring Hill | 17 | 17 | 0 | 89.00% |
| Topeka Downtown | 188 | 183 | -5 | 59.81% |
| Topeka North | 23 | 0 | NA | 0.00% |
| Topeka South | 114 | 119 | 5 | 63.42% |
| Topeka West | 22 | 0 | NA | 0.00% |
| Valley Falls | 16 | 16 | 0 | 68.00% |
| Village West | 40 | 42 | 2 | 79.79% |
| Western Johnson County | 30 | 32 | 2 | 71.09% |
| TOTALS/Average Attendance | 2584 | 1910 | 11 | 64.68% |

**Percentage for Clubs Reporting

Clubs With Over 70% Membership Attendance for October

Will your club be listed here next month?

| | |
|-----------------------------|--------|
| Leawood..... | 89.51% |
| Spring Hill..... | 89.00% |
| Overbrook..... | 84.30% |
| Johnson County..... | 77.14% |
| Lenexa..... | 76.00% |
| Shawnee Mission..... | 74.09% |
| Shawnee..... | 73.60% |
| Kansas City..... | 72.70% |
| Western Johnson County..... | 71.09% |
| Marysville..... | 71.00% |
| Lawrence Jayhawk..... | 70.88% |
| Overland Park..... | 70.52% |
| Bonner Springs..... | 70.00% |
| Frankfort..... | 70.00% |

Average Attendance (for the reporting clubs) for the month Of October: 64.68%

Clubs with 65% to 70% Attendance:

| | |
|---------------|--------|
| Gardner— | 69.68% |
| Ottawa— | 69.64% |
| Valley Falls— | 68.00% |
| Burlington— | 65.15% |
| Oskaloosa— | 65.00% |

New Club Members for October

| | |
|----------------------------|--|
| Bonner Springs..... | Nick Perica |
| Johnson County Sunset..... | Randall Waldorf |
| Lawrence..... | Cathy Lewis |
| Lawrence Jayhawk..... | Ronald Guerin, Monte Soukup, Jon Wohler |
| Leavenworth..... | Delores Reynolds |
| Leawood..... | Brad Moore |
| Manhattan..... | Dawn Deeter, Michael Haddock |
| Manhattan Konza..... | Amy Gross |
| Oskaloosa..... | Taylor King |
| Ottawa..... | Traci Fruit |
| Overland Park..... | Kate Allen, Janee' Hanzlick, Lara Zitterkopf |
| Topeka South..... | Douglas Barrington |



CLUB NEWS

Gardner Rotary Club

- The club held promotions at Price Chopper to promote their Grocery Grab fundraiser and to raise awareness of Rotary. The Gardner-Edgerton Interact Club sold tickets at the two home high school games in October.
- To prep for their Dictionary distribution in November, club members gathered to sort and label the dictionaries with every child's name along with placing a Rotary sticker in the book.
- The club presented the RYCOE (Rotary Youth Character of Ethics) to four youths from Wheatridge and Pioneer Ridge middle schools. The students were selected, after being nominated by their teachers, because they are representing the Four Way Test in their lives.
- The Community Service committee sold Osage Nuts to fund their upcoming Emergency Preparedness Project.
- The club supplied more than 15 volunteers to the annual City of Gardner Parks and Recreation Halloween Boo Bash. Dressed as ghouls and goblins, members helped with games, rides, passing candy and a fun and festive safe trick and treating environment.
- The Youth Exchange students went and sorted clothing in Joplin, MO.
- The Gardner Rotary Club is now on Facebook!! [Click Here and LIKE](#) their page to connect!



Gardner Rotarians got in the Spirit of Halloween for the Gardner Parks and Rec's Annual Boo Bash! Madame Moon (President Cherlyn White-Conklin) read palms and the rest of the club just had a blast handing out candy and manning the carnival-style games.

Lawrence Jayhawk Rotary Club

- At the October 20 meeting, Maggie Mahoney (left) surprised Brilla Scott (right) with a Paul Harris +1 pin for Brilla's service to the Lawrence Jayhawk Breakfast Rotary Club. Brilla has published the Jayhawk Rotary Newsletter since January 2004, served as club president during 2007-08 and currently is the Public Relations Committee chair. Maggie is a Paul Harris Society member which entitles her to honor a Jayhawk Rotarian each year. Previous Maggie Mahoney-PHFs include John Conard, Peter Steimle and Dick Stuntz.
- Congratulations to Jayhawk Rotarian Bernie Kish! On November 12, he received the Honor for an Outstanding Progressive Educator (HOPE) Award. Bernie is a professor in health, sport and exercise science at Kansas University. The Kansas University senior class selects the winner of this prestigious teaching excellence award.



L to R: Maggie Mahoney, Brilla Scott

Holton Rotary Club

- Working on "Parade of Lights," most improved student award and planning a social event.
- GREAT MEETINGS—GREAT ATTENDANCE: Bill Griffin gave a presentation on Kanza Bowl; General Ed Gerhardt presented the history of the Kansas National Guard; Lama Al-Hezayen shared the middle east culture.

Valley Heights-Blue Rapids Rotary Club (NAME CHANGE)

- The club voted to change their name to The Rotary Club of Valley Heights-Blue Rapids, Kansas in order to more accurately reflect the membership of the club being approximately half from Blue Rapids and half from Waterville.

CLUB NEWS

Leawood Rotary Club

- The club's Project Reach students participated in campus visits. Juniors visited Avila University; seniors visited Rockhurst University. The purpose of the visits is not only to introduce the students to these local institutions, but to also teach them what to look for in a college visit and how it factors into a college search process. Mentors accompanied students and engaged in the process with them.
- The club sponsored Laura Kelly, District 5710 Ambassadorial Scholar. Laura is in Tanzania and sent an update. (See page 9)
- The Leawood Rotary Club has been accepted as a member of the Leawood Chamber. A Membership Committee member will help tie the new membership to the Corporate Pilot program.
- The club has welcomed new member Brad Moore!
- Pictured to the right: President Mike Searcy (L) has presented Past President Gary Bussing (R) the District \$300+ Star Award for 2010-11 for reaching the average member giving to The Rotary Foundation.



Lenexa Rotary Club

- Club President Milton Jeffrey had the pleasure of presenting Paul Harris Fellow awards to Past President Pat Olney and to Jacquelyn Leib, wife of Past Club President Jason Leib.
- Assistant District Governor and Lenexa Club Secretary, Moe Cougher, on behalf of all Lenexa Rotary Club Members, had the pleasure of awarding Pat Thomas the Club Appreciation Award in recognition of SERVICE ABOVE SELF.



L to R: Pat Olney, Milton Jeffrey



L to R: Milton Jeffrey, Jacquelyn and Jason Leib



L to R: Moe Cougher, Pat Thomas

Manhattan Rotary Club

- Congratulations to Anne Hodges and Felix Amanor-Boadu, Manhattan High School Students of the Month for September.
- The club is pleased to welcome Dawn Deeter and Mike Haddock as new members.
- The club presented a Paul Harris Fellow to K-State Women's Basketball Coach Deb Patterson in recognition of her outstanding service in the community through boards and committees and assisting organizations such as the United Way in promoting their worthy causes.

L to R: New Manhattan Rotary Club members Dawn Deeter and Mike Haddock



CLUB NEWS

Leavenworth Rotary Club

- The club continues with community support through mowing of the service club entrance sign in Lansing headed up by Rotarian Derald Linn and with the weekly Meals-on-Wheels delivery every Monday.
- The club conducted the annual Leavenworth Area Youth Leadership conference (LAYLC). Headed up by Rotarian and Membership Chair Mark Gerges, this conference was directed to middle school youth recommended by their school administration to participate in this venue to learn about leadership and help prepare them for their upcoming high school years. Topics included: Basic Leadership, Etiquette, Leadership by Volunteering, Planning and Goal Setting, Voting and Civic Duty, Finances, Conflict Resolution and Diversity through the 4-Way Test. Twenty students from four local middle schools were in attendance.
- In cooperation with the Village West Club, Leavenworth sent representatives to participate in and help stage the "Parade of Heroes" in honor of soldiers, police, fire fighters, and veterans. This included the entry of the Leavenworth Club's Rotary Wheel and Rotarians as participants.
- The club supported the community effort for safe Halloween Trick or Treating through participation in the "Haunted Havens." Rotarian Maria Minchew and her husband Mo decorated the club "wheel" and passed out more than \$175 of candy in a Leavenworth Parks and Recreation sponsored event.
- Club members welcomed Chiropractor Dee Dee Reynolds to the Club. She is sponsored by President Elect Nominee Rick Hansen. Dee Dee and her husband return to the community and she has opened her new chiropractic clinic in town. During the induction ceremony Dee Dee took her pledge as a Rotarian, and Club Members accepted their responsibility to help her in any and all ways possible to be the Rotarian she can possibly become.
- John Donovan receives his Paul Harris Fellow +6 pin from outgoing Foundation Chair and President Elect DeEtte Lombard.
- The club observed Vocational Service Month through a "Speed Dating" event. Rotarians were separated into two groups, formed concentric circles, and then had two minutes to discuss their profession to include what they most liked about their work and the least preferred. After two minutes the inner circle rotated one position and then started the whole process again with a new member. End result was a better understanding of fellow Rotarians and what they do in their professional lives.



The club's Rotary Wheel!



L to R: New Members Dee Dee Reynolds and Rick Hansen.



L to R: DeEtte Lombard, John Donovan

Overbrook Rotary Club

- Dr. Steve Pegrem reviewed the schools financial challenges.
- The club planted a tree in the park in recognition of 38-year member, Dr. Ruble.
- A plant was sent for the funeral of long time member Melvin Simpson.
- Gary Coffman and Cliff O'Bryhm assisted in obtaining a handicapped van for the Hoy family who have a handicapped family member.
- Jon Wilhite is making arrangements to host the exchange team from Finland in April.
- Yolanda Dickinson agreed to chair the Christmas party this year. Jim Gates offered his home.

CLUB NEWS

Ottawa Rotary Club

- The club participated in “Make a Difference Day” on October 22nd. Members helped assemble playground equipment in Kanza Park. This handicapped accessible playground equipment was the first of its kind in the City of Ottawa. Not only did members help assemble, but the club provided the dessert course for all volunteers.
- New members Wade Hepner, Larabe Alexander and Traci Fruit were inducted.



MAKE A DIFFERENCE DAY
NATIONAL DAY OF DOING GOOD



President Ed Coulter helping to assemble one of the picnic tables.



President Ed Coulter and President-Elect Sara Caylor sitting on one of the assembled park benches



L to R: New members Wade Hepner, Larabe Alexander and Traci Fruit

Shawnee Rotary Club

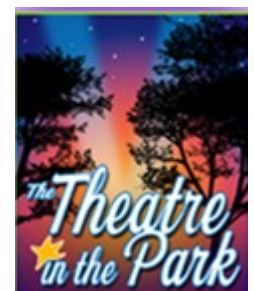
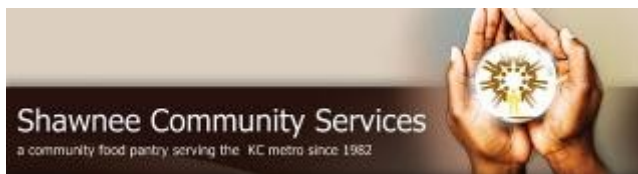
- The club collected 12 cell phones for SafeHouse for Domestic Awareness Month.
- Donated old shoes to contribute to our Interact Club that collected over 400 pairs of shoes in the month of October.
- Had 12 members plus 3 spouses and 1 child work at the Reading, KS clean up project. See page 4.
- Dr. Rick Randolph and DGE Kevin Tubbesing traveled to Haiti to distribute cooking stoves.
- Distributed proceeds from the club’s annual fundraiser, Sun-in the Park, to recipients. \$13,605 contributed to Shawnee Community Service, Children’s Nutrition Program of Haiti, The Theatre in the Park and The Rotary Club of Shawnee Foundation.
- A Paul Harris +1 was presented to Dr. Larry Dougherty.



Total check of \$13,605 distributed. L to R: Jean Nelson, Rick Randolph (club member and Children’s Nutrition Program of Haiti), representative from Shawnee Community Services, and President Patrick Hammond.



L to R: Representative with The Theatre in the Park, Jean Nelson, and President Patrick Hammond.



CLUB NEWS

Shawnee Mission Rotary Club



- The Shawnee Mission Club poured a sidewalk for the Head Start Project. See Pictures.
- Collected books for the Books For Kids Project.
- Distributed Dictionaries at two grade schools.



Topeka Downtown Rotary Club

- A new tradition was initiated in the club when Joanie Underwood was surprised by her husband, Roger Underwood, a member of the Topeka South Club, at the November 3rd meeting. Roger combined his Paul Harris points with Joanie's to present her with her first Paul Harris Fellow in celebration of their 4th wedding anniversary. President Anita Wolgast helped keep the secret.
- For Vocational Month in October, a highly successful "Take a Young Person to Work" initiative was lead by Joyce Martin. The club goal was for 20 members to take a youth to work anytime during October. The goal was easily achieved with 26 individuals participating!
- The club awarded three scholarships to students attending Washburn Technology Institute (WTI). Scott Stormann (Graphics Technology) received the scholarship sponsored by member Al Williams in honor of Rotarian Fred Gatlin. Olivia Reddick (Culinary Arts) and Dylan Branscom (Auto Collision) received scholarships from the club.
- The Marketing Team initiated scrolling Rotary information on the big screen while members assemble for the luncheon meeting.



L to R: Roger and Joanie Underwood, President Anita Wolgast. To the right: Roger and Joanie.



L to R: WTI Scholarship recipients: Scott Stormann, Dylan Branscom, and Olivia Reddick