

August 2015



DG John Donovan

District 5710

Eastern Kansas Rotary

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To submit articles and pictures for the District Newsletter, send to Mandy Sheldon at mandy@rotary5710.org by the 15th of each month.

DG John's Message

Greetings Fellow Rotarians!

I have been having a simply-excellent-month visiting the clubs. As part of my prep for those visits, I've been digging into what we collectively are doing in our communities, the world, and for fun, and I am simply amazed by how much we get done, big clubs and small, in our SPARE TIME! And we sure seem to have a good time doing it. I am especially impressed by some of our smaller clubs, who pound-for-pound are outpunching their bigger neighbors.

And I admit – my club, Leavenworth, is a singing club, and I've never much cared for it – until I visited a lot of clubs that don't sing. I've learned several things from that. First, Leavenworth doesn't sing nearly as badly as I thought, shoot, we're the Mormon Tabernacle Choir in the District. And secondly, our clubs who's singing is "Gong Show Quality" probably sing with the most gusto and have the most fun doing it!

And, oddly enough, I miss it when I visit clubs that don't sing. Go figure. As a new member of the Lawrence Noon club said at FML: "I like the singing. It's what attracted me to the club – because it's a great leveler and brings us all doing something together, to set the tone." Not an exact quote (in case he's reading this) but a fair approximation. Speaking of the Foundation Membership and Leadership Seminars at Washburn on 8 August ("Thank You!" to Faron Barr and Topeka South, the sponsors!) the feedback has been overwhelmingly positive, and I personally was gratified to see a lot of new faces, and new Rotarians, come to the event! We'll make some tweaks next year, based on the feedback – but for now, a Laurel, and Hardy Handshake for Emily Randel and Shawn Roberts, the Membership Co-Chairs who wired that whole event up.

Having visited several clubs who are not going to get in a grant application for this year because they frankly weren't prepared for it – I have a suggestion for all clubs who don't have the luxury of a grant-writing machine in their Foundation Committees: Put your President-Elects in charge of getting the grants prepped that will execute during their year – that way you will be more likely to be ready to drop the grant at the beginning of the new year, and not trying to get one designed and cranked under the looming deadline once the new year starts. Just make it a specific duty of the PE. The President can work the execution of the current grants. Which means the same person who builds it, executes it – but you get started ***now*** 10 months before you drop the application. Especially true for the more complicated projects. Don't leave your money on the table, because the grant-writing machine clubs are hovering right now to vacuum up the money you leave on the table.

(cont. on page 2)

(DG Message cont.)

It's not too early to talk about District Conference – it will be in Leavenworth, 22-23 April, 2016, and we're moving Accelerate Rotary, the district assembly, back to being in conjunction with the Conference. We have two brand-new hotels in Leavenworth, a Fairfield Inn and a Hampton Inn (now finishing construction), as well as a Holiday Inn Express, so there's plenty of room for those of you who will come in from farther out. The theme is "100 Years of Rotary in Kansas." Topeka Noon already had their 100th anniversary, Kansas City Kansas and Leavenworth will do so next year, KCK in January, and Leavenworth in April.

I've been asking clubs to look at their history and develop a storyboard-style display that highlights what your club has done over the years and is doing now, and to bring them to the DISCON for the House of Friendship display area. The purpose is two-fold. We're going to be inviting the public (and media) and I really want people to see just how much we have done for Eastern Kansas over the years – and how much we are doing now! And if you plan it and build it right – you have a ready-made display available to you that you can use of your own fundraisers and parties – wherever you are rubbing shoulders with non-Rotarians. Let's take credit for what we do!

The Rotary theme for September is Youth Services and coming up in October is Vocational Service – do please try to address those topics in some fashion for at least one program during that month.

November is Foundation month, and the Foundation Banquet is Saturday, the 14th of November, at the Overland Park Convention Center – Foundation Chair PDG Kevin Tubbesing will be putting out more in the weeks to come.

Thank you for all that you do, and for being Rotarians. Because you give of your time, treasure, and intellect, I get the privilege of being the Governor, and meeting you folks as you give Service Above Self!

FML Photos—courtesy of TJ Brown



Rotary Volunteers Assist with Aide to Guatemala

In June from 14th – 21st, Topeka South members Faron Barr, Jeanine Wells, and Cynthia Hornberger, DeSoto member Lori Murdock, and Lenexa member Jorge Coromac traveled to Patanatic in the Sololá region of Guatemala to provide a large amount of help in the area. These members were joined by several Rotary-related volunteers and nurses from the Washburn School of Nursing.

While they were there, these 18 volunteers installed 47 wood-burning cook stoves and 108 water filters in five different communities around the Lake Atitlán area. They also purchased and delivered 61 pairs of shoes to elementary school children in four schools. The medical team consisting of four nurses and a pharmacist conducted over 150 checkups on elementary school children in three different schools. There was also a team of experts on developmental disabilities that taught four classes in three different schools on ways to accept people who are different.

All of this was accomplished in one week. All of the volunteers and the people that were helped thank the Rotary clubs who contributed to this effort, Rotary District 5710 for being a part of the grant that helped provide most of the cook stoves, water filters, and shoes, and Woodland Public Charity for guiding the way for us serve this area. It was a long, hard, and highly rewarding week that will have long-lasting effects for the people that were helped and long-lasting memories for the volunteers involved.



District Events

For Details go to the District Events section at rotary5710.org

ROTARY INSTITUTE
September 15-20, 2015
San Antonio, TX

[CLICK HERE FOR FLYER](#)

FOUNDATION BANQUET
November 11, 2015
Overland Park Sheraton

2016 HEARTLAND PETS
(President-Elect Training Session)
March 31—April 2, 2016
Four Points by Sheraton—Manhattan, Kansas

2016 DISTRICT ASSEMBLY & CONFERENCE
April 22 & 23, 2016
Riverfront Community Center—Leavenworth, Kansas

STAY UP TO DATE ON DISTRICT AND CLUB HAPPENINGS!

Follow District 5710 Eastern Kansas Rotary on Facebook.



Club Events

If your club is on ClubRunner, add the event to your website and click to share with the District.

Not on ClubRunner? Send the event details to Mandy at Mandy@rotary5710.org. or exec5710@swbell.net

BONNER SPRINGS
August 29—37th Annual Tiblow Trot
2 Mile Fun Walk & 5 Mile Run
7:00—9:00 AM

SHAWNEE
August 29—Bike Safety Rodeo
9:00—Noon

LEAWOOD
September 18 —Blues, Brews & Barbecue
7:00– 10:00 PM

OLATHE
September 26 — 17th Annual Omelet Fest
7:30—10:00 AM

JOHNSON COUNTY
Oct. 15, 2015—Oktoberfest
(to benefit Higher M-Pact)
Click [here](#) for more info.

JAYHAWK BREAKFAST CLUB
Oct. 23, 2015—6th Annual Trivia Night Fundraiser

CONGRATULATIONS!

In the August 2015 edition of 435 Magazine, Jazz in the Woods was named as the [#1 Summer Festival in Kansas City](#). Jazz in the Woods has been hosted and managed by the Overland Park South Rotary for the past 25 years.

Way to go!

New Club Members for July

Holton	John King
Howard	Marsha Floyd
Lawrence Central	Janis Bunker, Stephen Mason
Lawrence Jayhawk	Stanley Rasmussen
Leawood	Don Thomson
Manhattan	Peter Dorhout
Ottawa	John McGrath
Overland Park	Placher Sieben
Shawnee Mission	Lisa Battani, Laura Smith
Topeka Downtown	Michael Kuner, Terry Manies, Nicholas Nyp
Topeka West	Brian Hinck



Rotary Proud!

Are you a proud Rotarian? Then show it on social media! Use this Proud Member Graphic as your profile picture.



Rotary is also collecting stories from members about why they joined Rotary, and why they stay. Tell them your story on their [Facebook page](#) or send an email to membership.minute@rotary.org. You may see your story featured in a future issue of Membership Minute!

Rotary Club of Shawnee Bike Safety Rodeo

On **Saturday, August 29th, from 9:00 am to 12:00 pm**, the Rotary Club of Shawnee will host its annual Bike Safety Rodeo on the grounds of Mill Valley High School in Shawnee, KS. Each year, our club provides nearly 400 free bicycle helmets to area youth and the opportunity to complete a course of skills stations, receiving a certificate of completion, as well as optional bike inspections. In addition to promoting bike safety, the morning is packed full of fun with music, light food, T-shirts, and a bike giveaway, all at a cost-free event for attendees.



The event has come to be known as our club's largest community service project, and continues to remain vibrant and well attended even while entering its second decade!

Olathe Omelet Fest Coming Your Way!

The Olathe Santa Fe Trail Rotary Club will hold its 17th Annual Omelet Fest on Saturday, **September 26th, from 7:30 to 10:00 AM** at the Heritage Center of Mahaffie, 1200 Kansas City Road, Olathe. The morning breakfast event is the kick-off to Wild West Weekend at the Mahaffie Farmstead. The omelet breakfast features a made to order omelet, with the selection of ingredients for the omelet to be made by each individual. Rotary members and friends serve as cooks, wait staff, and cleanup crew! Each year approximately 250 omelets are prepared, accompanied by fruit, muffin, juice and coffee. Tickets are \$8.00, and are available from SFT Rotary members, or at the door. The omelet ticket includes admission to Saturday Wild West events. Parking is available at Olathe North High School, with shuttle service to the Heritage Center. Proceeds from the Omelet Fest benefit the Mahaffie historic site.



Up Next for Johnson County Rotary—Oktoberfest

The Rotary Club of Johnson County will hold its 7th Annual Oktoberfest at the Boulevard Brewery Penthouse on Thursday, October 15, 6:00—9:00 PM. The fundraiser will benefit Higher M-Pact, an organization that serves Kansas City's "high risk" urban youth.

Oktoberfest promises to be an evening of music, food, drink and fellowship—as well as an outstanding silent auction. The event is held in the Muehlebach Suite on the top floor of the Boulevard Brew Col.—one of Kansas City's premier event venues.



Emporia Rotary Renovates SOS Shelter

The children and adults seeking refuge at the SOS, Inc. shelter have a nicer place to call home thanks to the help of the Emporia Rotary Club. The club received a Rotary district matching grant to complete a community service project in the area.

President Theresa Maley says that it wasn't difficult to pick the SOS shelter to assist. The house was in desperate need of repairs after sustaining water damage and years of use.

"It was a total community effort," Maley said. "When we visited for the first time it was one of those things that tugs at your heart. It needed to be done."

Executive Director of SOS Connie Cahoone says that the work done by the Rotary Club and other community members is much appreciated. The volunteers replaced tile, installed new carpet and flooring, replaced light fixtures and installed a new air conditioner. Ceilings and walls were repaired and updated and dead trees were removed from the property. The house now feels homier for families seeking a safe place she says.

The house can provide refuge for 21 people at a time — Seven adults and 14 children. Cahoone says the shelter is regularly full.

"We have been full numerous times this summer," Cahoone said. "Numerous times we get someone moved out and someone else moves right in. We have actually had to turn people away and find other means for them. It has just been really full a lot this summer."

A number of local businesses worked with the Rotary Club to help complete the projects timely and affordably. Rotarian Marshall Miller says that it took the help of community partners like Midland Fence, Wellnitz Tree Care, Modern Air, Lore and Hageman and Dan Foster Landscaping to make the project happen.

"Major renovation was in the playroom in the basement," Miller said. "It was a result of good community partnerships."

Cahoone says that the playroom renovations give the children in the home a place to be kids.

"The basement playroom looks like a whole new room," Cahoone said. "Now, this playroom, we feel comfortable sending children in there to play. Now it is clean and safe and comfortable and there moms can be right there within earshot of their kiddos playing. Their kiddos can relax and not have to worry about what is happening in their lives. They are able to play and be kids."

With the success of this project, the Emporia Rotary Club is now applying for another grant to complete additional projects in Emporia. Tina Khan, Rotary member says that they hope to help the Salvation Army next.

"The good news is that now that we did this project and got the ball rolling the district grant we are applying for this year is targeting a similar renovation at Salvation Army," Khan said. "We are starting this theme."



2015 Missouri River 340 Race

On July 27th and 28th, Kansas City, Kansas Rotarians assisted with registration and logistics for the Missouri River 340 race. Our own District Governor, John Donovan, helped out with his cannon to start the race.



The Missouri River 340 is an endurance race across the state of Missouri. This 340 mile race is the longest in the United States. This year, the race ran from July 28-31, 2015. Competitors started in Kansas City, Kansas at Kaw Point Park and finished, some of them anyway, in St. Charles, Missouri. With numerous towns and hamlets, the course offers plenty of opportunity for resupply while in route. Participants are allowed exactly 88 hours to complete the course. There are nine checkpoints along the route where paddlers are required to sign in and sign out. To finish this race in 88 hours is a huge accomplishment. Only 2/3 of the teams were able to do that last year. There are no dams, locks or portages on this stretch of the Missouri River.



- Rotarian and Unified Government Mayor, Mark Holland assists in the formal start of the race.



- KCK Rotary Club President, Hank Chamberlain and his granddaughters helped with traffic control.

Leavenworth Rotary Keeps Busy



The 2015 Rotary Scholarship Winners, each received a scholarship in the amount of \$1000; many thanks to the District Grant Program for their contribution to our \$5000 worth of scholarships awarded this year.



Leavenworth Rotary partnered with the Lansing Lions Club to collect Over-the-Counter Medicines for the Saint Vincent Clinic in Leavenworth (collected over \$800 in cash and over \$2500 worth of OTC medicines); next OTC medicine drive will be on Saturday, 17 October.



Members of Leavenworth Rotary enjoyed Rotary Day at the T-Bones Ballpark; our own John Donovan, in the photo at left, newly inaugurated DG John prepares to throw out the first pitch.



(from left to right)

Salvation Army Bell Ringing, Christmas in July

Rotarians at work supporting Relay for Life

Rotarians at work supporting the Water Point for the City of Leavenworth Buffalo Bell Half Marathon



For more information and exciting news from the Leavenworth Rotary Club, check out our Facebook page @Rotary Club of Leavenworth, Kansas

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