

February 2016



DG John Donovan

District 5710

Eastern Kansas Rotary

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Be a gift to the world

DG John's Message

Greetings 5710! Even with the extra day this month, where did February go? First up – let's all congratulate District Governor Elect Designate Blanche Parks from the Downtown Topeka club! Many of you already know her from her stints as District Trainer, RLI Chair, and as an Assistant Governor – now she's stepping up to lead all of us in the 2018-19 year. When you see her, thank her for taking on the job! Fortunately, her title will simplify on 1 July from DGND to DGN, as DGN Adam becomes the DGE, DGE Chris becomes the DG, and I become a PDG!

I know that DGE Chris Ford has been busy, getting ready for PETS at the end of that month. I and my club up in Leavenworth have been busy, getting ready for District Assembly and Conference at the end of April – where we will celebrate a century of Rotary service in Eastern Kansas, while looking ahead to the next. Speaking of next – the Rotary theme for March is Water and Sanitation, a topic that is right up the alley of several of our clubs with their projects in Central America! Given that the theme for April is "Maternal and Child Health" – you should give consideration to supporting or better, *participating* in the International Service Projects that we conduct in Panama and Guatemala with Woodland Charities – the link to the service project dates, costs, and requirements is on the right panel of the District website. The week of 7-13 March is "World Rotaract Week" where we will celebrate our Rotaract Clubs. RYLA looms on the horizon June 5-9. Now is the time to start your information and selection process for the young people you want to sponsor for RYLA. Faron Barr has sent out the initial instructions to your club presidents. I told you some months ago that we had our first official audit of our Foundation activities, and we just got our final report from the Foundation. The short answer is, we are doing as we should – with some caveats, none of which affect our standing with the Foundation or our ability to utilize Foundation grants. The core of the report states:

"The responses and documents that you submitted for the audit have been reviewed and this letter is intended to give you feedback on the results. The Rotary Foundation (TRF) notes the following positive achievements:

- The district recognizes the importance of club members' attendance at the district's grant management seminars, which are held in multiple locations to accommodate Rotarians throughout the district.
- The financial management plan is thorough and was developed with a strong intent to comply with the requirements of the District MOU.
- The district is transparent in its use of district designated funds, and document retention is well organized. The implementation of the MOU is a work in process, and the audit also observed areas where operations should be improved. Please note that any suggestions for change will not affect your district's qualification status, but we do ask that you adjust your processes and procedures accordingly."

(cont. on page 2)

INSIDE THIS ISSUE

DG Message	1, 2
PETS Conference/Assembly	
Club & District Events	3
KC, KS Centennial	4
New Members International Conv.	5
RYLA Global Grant Scholar	6
Taste of Shawnee OP South wine tasting	7

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

We will post the full document on the website, along with our plan to correct the minor deficiencies noted, some of which will require that clubs do a better job of tracking and reporting things. Bottom line – we mostly good, and there were no red flags. As the auditor noted, we're transparent in our use of funds, and we're transparent in sharing with you the not-quite-perfect audit report! Given that we're about to run through the third year of the new way of doing business with Foundation grants, which means that clubs will need to be looking ahead to recertify their grants chairs, the timing of the audit is actually a good thing for us, as we can make the needed changes and then get you guys trained on them.

As ever, I am energized by contact with you all, and I have been something of a hermit these last two months, so I need some recharging! Be prepared to find the District Governor standing in line sometime at your meetings and events. Go forth, and Be A Gift To The World!

John Donovan

PETS - March 31—April 2

From DGE Chris Ford:

Presidents-Elect - don't forget to sign up at heartlandpets.org for the 2016 Heartland PETS training March 31- April 2 at the Four Points Sheraton in Manhattan, KS. PETS is a District training event created for incoming Presidents Elect to assist in their preparation, planning and goal setting for their upcoming year. We look forward to seeing you there!

District Conference—April 22-23 in Leavenworth

The District Assembly and District Conference are back together again, which means you have two full days of Rotary events coming your way April 22 and 23, 2016! Friday's Assembly is designed for incoming club leaders for 2016/17. Led by District Governor Elect Chris Ford, the sessions will focus on information about planning and preparing for the upcoming year. That evening will feature a special Remembrance Ceremony & Social, lit by luminaries (available for purchase).

Saturday's Conference will be a celebration of 2015/16! We will hear from our Zone Director Greg Podd, as well as presentations by the Interact and Rotaract students, Youth Exchange and others. Club awards will be presented and you won't want to miss the Centennial Celebration and Banquet!

Click [here](#) for more information and registration.



A Century of Service in Kansas

District Events

DISTRICT 5710 EXECUTIVE BOARD & COMMITTEE LEADERSHIP PLANNING RETREAT

March 4, 2016—11:00 AM to 5:00 PM
Location TBD

RLI—SESSION THREE

March 12, 2016—8:30 AM to 3:00 PM
Ramada Hotel—Topeka, KS

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

RYLA

June 5—9th, 2016
University of Kansas—Lawrence

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.

LENEXA

March 5, 2016, 7:00 PM
Shrimp Fest & Bingo Fundraiser
at Lenexa Community Center
Tickets: \$25 for adults

OVERBROOK

March 19, 2016, 10:00 am
Consignment Auction
at Overbrook Fairgrounds
(click [here](#) for more information)

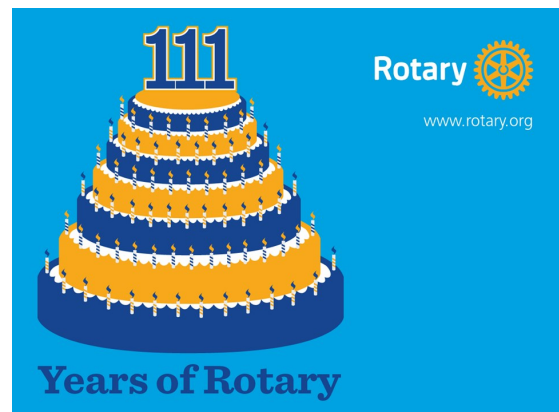
SHAWNEE

April 16, 2016, 3:00-6:00 PM
Taste of Shawnee
\$5.00 admission
Click [here](#) for info.

LEAWOOD

June 11, 2016, 8:00 AM
Leawood Rotary Run
Click [here](#) for info.

Did you celebrate?



Rotary Club of Kansas City, KS Celebrates Centennial



The Kansas City, Kansas Rotary Club was organized on November 2, 1915 and received its charter as Club No. 195 in January 1916. Its members take pride in more than 90 years of Rotary service to the community and to international fellowship. From this Club have come five District Governors and two Directors of Rotary International. The Club's history is as rich as that of the community it represents. (From the club's Newsletter "The War-Whoop")

You are cordially invited to the
Centennial Celebration
of the
Rotary Club of Kansas City, Kansas

Tuesday, April 5, 2016
Lake Quivira Country Club
100 Crescent Boulevard, Lake Quivira, Kansas 66217

5:30 p.m. Cocktail Reception
live jazz by KCKCC ensemble
6:30 p.m. Dinner
Program to follow

Cocktail Attire, please

\$50 per person
RSVP by March 22, 2016
to James Knight, 7938 Greeley,
Kansas City, KS 66109
or kckrotary@gmail.com

For sponsorship opportunities, please contact Hank Chamberlain, hank@alliedglassexperts.com

New Club Members for January

DeSoto	Steve Bowlin
Johnson County	Pam Stockman
Junction City	Linda Couch
Kansas City, KS	Bill Heatherman
Lawrence	Kelvin Heck
Lawrence Central	Megan Richardson, Jason Walker
Leawood	Lisa Harrison
Manhattan	Blaine Cash
Manhattan Konza	Kent Wohlgemuth
Ottawa	Joy Beatty
Shawnee Mission	Scott Smith
Topeka Downtown	Leanna Chaffee, Kate Huddelson, Shelley Robertson, Angel Zimmerman
Topeka South	Bill Persinger



International Convention... will you be there?

The Rotary International Convention will be held May 28 – June 1 in Seoul, Korea. How many Kansans are planning to be there?

If your club is in Kansas and you are planning to attend, please let us know. We would like to plan a service or social opportunity for those traveling to the “Land of the Morning Calm”.

Please contact **Pat O'Donnell** (poppyod@gmail.com) or **Trish Reedy** (trish@houseloan.com) and let us know if you are attending and what ideas you have for a project or social. We will keep you informed of any plans.



Rotary Youth Leadership Academy—RYLA

By Faron Barr, RYLA Chair

RYLA 2016 is a five-day camp for incoming high school sophomores, juniors and seniors interested in developing leadership potential. The students will learn from business and community leaders about strengthening their leadership skills and abilities, promoting ethical behavior, and facilitating personal growth and self-awareness.



There are several past participants of this program that stated their experience was life-changing and made them more aware of their capabilities. It is common to see a student become emotional when talking about their experience with RYLA. For many students, this is their first exposure to Rotary and what we, as Rotarians, can accomplish. The projects and exercises in this five-day camp are designed to get the students to think differently about certain situations and develop their own solutions with fellow students they may have not met before attending the camp. Many students worldwide, who have attended RYLA, have continued on to become members of an Interact, Rotaract, and eventually a Rotary club.

The University of Kansas in Lawrence will once again host District 5710's Rotary Youth Leadership Academy (RYLA) from June 5th - June 9th. The cost per student is \$325 (\$300 registration fee paid by the sponsoring club and \$25 application fee paid by the student). Over 70 students attended last year's RYLA, engaging in a wide range of leadership development, team-building, civic engagement, and community service activities.

You can find the applications and brochure for the 2016 RYLA on the District 5710 website under the tab marked "RYLA" on the left hand side - click [here](#) for a link. The applications along with the fee can be submitted to the District office address listed on the application.

If you have questions, please feel free to contact Faron Barr (fbarr@t-mfinancial.com).

Global Grant Scholar Jessica Munoz in Colombia

"This is real... this is happening." That is how Jessica Munoz starts her first blog post, then continues with: "There is something slightly terrifying and extremely fulfilling about working for so long on something that I was not sure would ever happen. I was filled with so many mixed emotions and nerves that I completely forgot why I ever started this process. Which, when you're moving to a foreign country, a decent distance away from friends, family... my husband, it's hard to think of anything other than whether or not one is truly capable of surviving and communicating. Fortunately, the fears of being incapable, unprepared, lonely, and disliking my new home were all quickly erased as I was welcomed by my new family."



Jessica is a Global Grant Scholar from Manhattan, KS. Please take a moment to read more about Jessica's progress in Colombia on her blog: <https://latierrallama.wordpress.com/>

2nd Annual *Taste of Shawnee*



The Rotary Club of Shawnee's second annual "Taste of Shawnee" will take place on April 16, 2016 from 3 until 6 PM at Shawnee Town 1929. Participants can sample dishes from neighborhood eateries and at the same time, give a boost to charity.

Last year's event attracted over 1500 guests who sampled fare from 20 vendors and ultimately raised \$56,389 for charity. The funds benefited Polio Plus, Circle of Hope NICU Foundation and Rotary Club of Shawnee Foundation supported charities.

This year, proceeds from the fundraiser will be divided between Polio Plus, Sunflower House, Circle of Hope and local and international charities supported by the Rotary Club of Shawnee Foundation.

The \$5 admission pass will include five "taste" tickets to be used to sample the dishes offered by participating restaurants and other vendors. Admission passes can be purchased at the gate or from any Rotary Club of Shawnee member. Additional "taste" tickets can be purchased at the event for \$1 apiece.

In addition to the vendors, several local businesses and individuals will sponsor the event. We are proud to have Overland Park Regional Medical Center ER of Shawnee as our presenting sponsor again this year.

Questions: tasteofshawnee@gmail.com

More information: <http://tasteofshawnee.wix.com/2016>

Overland Park South Wine Tasting Event

Overland Park South Rotary Club held its annual wine tasting social event on Wednesday, January 20th. They had over 80 people attend and it was a great time.

