

January 2016



DG John Donovan

District 5710

Eastern Kansas Rotary

P.O. Box 394 ~ Gardner, KS 66030

Phone: 913-244-7548

www.rotary5710.org



Be a gift to the world

## DG John's Message

### INSIDE THIS ISSUE

DG Message	1,
Polio Match, RI Convention	2
Peace Fellow Summer Lewis	3
District and Club Events	4
New Members 16/17 Theme	5
Leavenworth Club News	6
Topeka So. Sole Mates Overbrook Awards	7
Village West News	8
Lawrence Jayhawk Happenings	9
Topeka Downtown PolioPlus Match Manhattan Growth	10

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

Greetings Northeast Kansas, in this our rather schizophrenic weather month! District Governor Elect Chris just finished International Assembly, and I'm guessing you President Elects are going to start hearing from him on a regular basis as he prepares (and you do) for PETS and District Assembly. If you aren't thinking about your year at the helm yet, you should sit down with your current Presidents and board and start that discussion and planning! We have a new club entering the charter process in Johnson County, and we're exploring starting yet \*another!\* The good citizens of Tonganoxie, in Leavenworth County, have asked us to put together an informational package for them, as they look to rejuvenate a civic culture that kind of withered some years ago. That's the good news, the bad news is that except for the new clubs, not yet chartered, we're down 22 from 1 July, as Rotarians have passed away or just faded from our clubs. Remember – it's as important to keep them engaged as it is to recruit them – don't let that recruiting energy go to waste!

Presidents – the deadline looms for the Presidential Citation, you need to be online at Rotary Club Central and taking stock of where you stand and where you need to be if your club is in the hunt! Speaking of Club Central, don't forget that there are several awards available to you as Presidents (and Rotarians in general) – surf on over to the awards page and make a Rotarian's day! <https://www.rotary.org/myrotary/en/learning-reference/learn-topic/awards>

I am actively seeking nominations for the ROTARIAN SPOUSE/PARTNER SERVICE AWARD, which are due 1 March, therefore to me by **15 February**. This is a prestigious award, and there's no guarantee of selection – but no nominees means no selection, too!  
- Purpose The Rotarian Spouse/Partner Service Award recognizes spouses and partners of Rotarians who have demonstrated exemplary humanitarian service through Rotary. Up to 100 individuals may be selected to receive this award annually. Recipients will be selected by an officer appointed by the RI president. Criteria Candidates will be considered based solely on the humanitarian service they have rendered through Rotary, with an emphasis on personal volunteer efforts and active involvement in helping others. Personal financial contributions to Rotary, its Foundation, or any individual project are not relevant considerations for this award.

- Eligibility Any living non-Rotarian spouse or partner of an active Rotarian in good standing may be nominated, except for spouses or partners of current and immediate past district governors, current directors, current trustees, the RI president, and other RI officers. An individual may receive the award only once.

February is Peace and Conflict Resolution Month – our televisions and internet news feeds are full of all sorts of reasons we need to be looking at that topic, year 'round, not just for one month.

Remember – don't be selfish! Share your Rotary with others, and help them expand their horizons with Service Above Self!

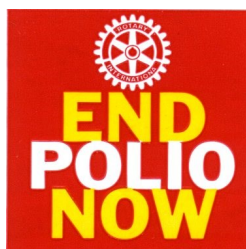
John Donovan

## YOU DID IT!



In November we put out the call—challenging the clubs in District 5710 to help us put an END to Polio, with a guarantee that the district would match up to \$25,000 dollars.

Well... you did it! We hit our goal of turning \$25,000 into \$150,000 for PolioPlus and it's all thanks to you!



## Meet Me in... South Korea

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](mailto:poppyod@gmail.com)) or **Trish Reedy** ([trish@houseloan.com](mailto: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



### MEMBERS ONLY

**The District Financial Statements have been added to the website.**

**Click [HERE](#) to access.**

## Rotary District 5710 Peace Fellow—Summer Lewis

### District 5710 Rotary Peace Fellow Shines at the 2016 Rotary Presidential Conference on Peace and Conflict Prevention/Resolution

By Chuck Udell – Leawood Rotary Club

A couple weeks ago, I left the cold Kansas winter for warm Southern California where I attended the *2016 Rotary Presidential Conference on Peace and Conflict Prevention/Resolution* held on January 15<sup>th</sup> and 16<sup>th</sup> in Ontario, California. About 1,000 other Rotarians gathered from across the USA and from many other countries.

The conference began with an address by Rotary International President K. R. Ravindran and Rotary Foundation Trustee Chair, Ray Klinginsmith. President Ravindran said one thing that I believe sums up many Rotary efforts to bring about peace and resolve/prevent conflict – “what we have to do at the grass roots level is the most important thing that can be done to make peace happen.”

Following these addresses were many breakout sessions and general session to attend, covering many aspects of this important topic. One of the best I attended was a breakout session done by Summer Lewis from Manhattan, Kansas who, after graduating from Kansas State University in 2005, was selected to be a Rotary Peace Fellow. She completed her Masters as a Peace Fellow at the University of Queensland in Australia. Summer did an outstanding job speaking on *Developing Projects for Deep Impact: Insights and Tips on Project Planning, Management, and Monitoring & Evaluation*. She shared with us examples of a project that did not have the desired impact with examples of some that do. It was great seeing her “give-back” by sharing her experiences at this conference. Summer is now the International Development Consultant for True Roots ([www.trueroots.com.mx](http://www.trueroots.com.mx)) – a start up she co-founded in Oxaca, Mexico. (Pictured at right: Chuck Udell – Leawood Rotary Club; Summer Lewis – Rotary Peace Fellow; Rudy Westervelt – Conference Convener)



### *In case you missed it...*

Summer was featured in the most recent edition of The Rotarian Magazine. We are so proud to say that she is from District 5710! What a bright shining star! Click [here](#) to read the article.



## District Events

**For Details go to the District Events section at [rotary5710.org](http://rotary5710.org)**

### RLI—SESSION ONE

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

### RLI—SESSION TWO

February 20, 2016—8:30 AM to 3:00 PM  
Ramada Hotel—Topeka, KS

### 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

## 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](mailto:Mandy@rotary5710.org).

### JOHNSON COUNTY

**Rose Sale—Deadline for Orders is Feb. 5  
Delivered Feb. 12th**

(click [here](#) for more information)

### GARDNER

**February 5, 2016, 6:30 PM  
Poker Tournament benefitting  
the Rotary Foundation**

at TradeNet Publishing  
\$40 buy in, lots of prizes!  
(click [here](#) for more information)

### OVERBROOK

**February 13, 2016, 6:00 AM—Noon  
Overbrook Rotary Pancake Feed**  
at Overbrook United Methodist Church

**March 19, 2016, 10:00 am  
Consignment Auction**

at Overbrook Fairgrounds  
(click [here](#) for more information)

### VILLAGE WEST

**February 19, 2016, 6:00—9:00 PM  
Seafood Fest**

at Painted Hills Golf Club  
\$50/person

### LENEXA

**March 5, 2016, 7:00 PM  
Shrimp Fest & Bingo Fundraiser**

at Lenexa Community Center  
Tickets: \$25 for adults

## New Club Members for December

Emporia	Robin Clark
Gardner	Taylor Richardson
Lawrence	Edward Huneke
Lawrence Jayhawk	Reza Barati, Lindsey Slater
Manhattan	Sara Myers, Bradley Shaw
Manhattan Konza	Misty Vinduska
Marysville	Carla Grund
Olathe Santa Fe Trail	Kathy Musgrave
Overland Park	Lee Cross
Overland Park South	Kathy Hagen, Tempe Harty
Topeka Downtown	Zachary Ahrens, Tomari Quinn, Debra Ricks
Topeka South	Jennifer Cacchio, Jeff Hiestand, Patrick O'Kane
Valley Falls	John Shipley
Village West	Jeremy Greenamyre, Karalin McKain



## 2016/2017 Theme Revealed



RI President-elect John F. Germ chose *Rotary Serving Humanity* as his theme for 2016-17. Noting Rotary's unique ability to bring together committed professionals to achieve remarkable goals, Germ believes that "now is the time to capitalize on our success: as we complete the eradication of polio, and catapult Rotary forward to be an even greater force for good in the world."



# Leavenworth Rotary Stayed Busy in December

We stayed busy with bell ringing, holiday parades and preparing/hosting our Christmas Party during the month of December; enjoy this array of photos from our December events!



We also had a visit from Senator Jerry Moran this month (pictured at left with President Ellen).



**\*\*\*Please mark your calendars...the District Conference will be hosted by the Leavenworth Rotary Club 22-23 April 2016. Details follow...**

For your planning purposes, for Rotarians planning an overnight(s) stay in Leavenworth, blocks of rooms have been arranged for at two hotels in town; please contact them directly (and mention you are attending the conference) to make your reservation; hotels with phone numbers follow:

Fairfield Inn and Suites  
1101 N. 4th Street  
(913) 758-9303

Hampton Inn  
405 Choctaw Street  
(913) 680-1500

There is also going to be a golf tournament on the 22 April so get your foursome together; on-line registration will begin in February.

Additional details regarding the conference will be in the **February District Newsletter**; hope to see you at the conference!



## Topeka South Rotary's *Sole Mates* Expands

By Jamie Stafford, Topeka South Rotary

In December, we announced that Topeka South Rotary's Sole Mates purchased new shoes and socks for 1,000 kids since the program's inception in 2012. **The club has now served 1,062 kids – and recently expanded to include high school students!**

Each experience interacting with the kids one-on-one is unique and heartwarming. One high schooler was having a tough time and felt like his new shoes didn't fit right even though his feet were measured three times by the Payless ShoeSource staff.

After changing to a bigger size, the student's partner Rotarian approached him. She noticed that the student's old shoes were stretched in every direction and that the canvas was barely holding on. She pointed out that it might be possible that the new shoes weren't necessarily tight but that they just felt different because they were new.

The student replied, *"You know, they actually feel kind of good. I think you're right, and that they feel weird because they actually fit! I haven't gotten a new pair of shoes in three years. This is great! They fit great!"*

Sole Mates addresses five of Rotary's six areas of focus:

- Peace & Conflict Resolution
- Economic Development
- Disease Prevention
- Child Health
- Basic Education & Literacy



Through distribution of new shoes to children who would not otherwise have access to them, students are alleviated from some of the issues that result from not having "the right things," avoid illness and disease from shoes that have been passed down, and enjoy more pride and confidence – which allows them to be better students.

Thank you to all of the Topeka South Rotarians who financially support Sole Mates and who generously give of their time to help kids pick out new shoes and socks!

## Overbrook Rotary's Chili Supper



On January 9, 2016 the Overbrook Rotary sponsored a community chili supper while listening to the great music of our local Santa Fe Trail (SFT) High School Jazz Band. A Valentine weekend giveaway and dessert auction raised money for Rotary grant projects. Honored that evening was Rotarian Reverend Bill Tudor, who received a Paul Harris Fellow + I pin. His donation was in memory of his wife, Phyllis, who passed away August 14, 2015. Band director, Lance Quilling, received a Distinguished Service Award from the club for his achievements during his 9 years at SFT high school.



(Above) Reverend Bill Tudor receiving his Paul Harris Fellow + I pin and (right) Santa Fe Trail High School Band Director, Lance Quilling receiving an award from Marian Massoth, Overbrook Rotary President.

## Village West Chunky Baby Shower

The Village West Rotary has a relationship with Woodland Charities and participates in their water filter program in Panama. Woodland Charities Executive Director Jorge Coromac was the speaker at a Village West Rotary meeting in September. He spoke of how the help they were receiving from our club and others were creating “chunky” (we think he meant healthy) babies that they needed clothing for. As we began thinking of how to celebrate the holiday season, the idea of a “Chunky Baby” Shower came up to help provide clothing and other items for the babies in Panama.

At our last meeting before the holidays, we actually did hold a baby shower with table favors, little red booties with little sparkly green clothespins, games, prizes and of course lots of gifts for our Chunky Babies. A favorite game was Chunky Baby Shower Jeopardy! Game host club member Steve Beaumont chose two teams – the Angels and the Wisemen. The Wisemen won!

The accompanying picture shows how elated Jorge Coromac was when the gifts including \$185 to purchase more supplies were delivered. We looked at it as a special way to celebrate the holidays and the hope for chunky/healthy babies everywhere!



## Village West First Ever Scholarship Awards

The week of January 11<sup>th</sup>, the Village West Rotary in Wyandotte County/Kansas City, Kansas awarded four \$1,000 scholarships to college students who had graduated from Wyandotte County High Schools. For the past several years, the Village West Rotary has held a basket auction at its inaugural event in June called “Service with Taste”. Every year it was proclaimed the money raised from the auction would go to scholarships. The scholarship fund has finally been tapped with the first ever Village West Rotary Scholarship process.

In late November, Club Scholarship Chair Marilyn Alstrom put out a call to all Village West Rotarians to spread the word the club would award three \$1,000 scholarships to three current college students. Ms. Alstrom had convinced the club the need for scholarships once young people were in college and were trying to stay in college. Applicants were required to write an essay sharing their challenges and their career dreams along with the high school they had graduated from, current grade point, if they were working and where along with the number of children in their family and a letter of recommendation.

The club received fourteen applications by the late December deadline. A small committee of three club members reviewed the applications and essays. After the review process, the committee went back to the club board and requested an additional scholarship due to the number of deserving applications.

All of the applicants were invited to the January 14<sup>th</sup> meeting and had the opportunity to introduce themselves and meet club members. They have all been invited to come back to Rotary meetings whenever they are in town. We want our young folks to consider careers in their own hometown and some of our members are anxious to get to know them as potential future employees. The scholarship program will continue as an annual effort to help college students stay in school and pursue their career.





## Jayhawk Breakfast Club's Annual MLK Day Breakfast



The Dr. Martin Luther King Day Ninth Annual Community Breakfast was held on January 18 at Maceli's. The event was co-sponsored by the Jayhawk Breakfast Rotary Club and Lawrence Ecumenical Fellowship. Pictured are Rev. Bill Dulin (left), who gave the closing prayer; Rev. Leo Barbee, opening prayer; Dr. Neeli Bendapudi, keynote speaker; Jayhawk Rotarian Dr. Bernie Kish, master of ceremonies; and Rev. Paul Winn, coordinating committee.

Dr. Bendapudi is the Dean of the University of Kansas School of Business. She spoke on "Realizing the Dream--Building Social Capital."

## PolioPlus Challenge? Jayhawk Rotary Accepts!!

The District 5710 newsletter this past November reported that District Designated Funds in the amount of \$25,000 had been allocated to Polio Plus. DG John Donovan challenged the clubs to all give something to Polio Plus, and to collectively match the District's allocation. In addition, clubs were reminded that the 2-to-1 Gates Foundation Match would also apply.

The Jayhawk Breakfast Rotary Club accepted DG John Donovan's challenge, and the members of the club's International Service Committee went to work in December to support the eradication of polio. The first step taken by the club was to set its own matching goal of \$2,500, and then ask the members of the club to donate to Polio Plus. Each dollar donated by a member would be matched by the club, up to \$2,500. These funds would then be matched by the District Designated Funds, and finally the Gates Foundation Match would apply.

In the spirit of having fun, the club's International Committee presented the club with its Top Ten List of reasons to give to Polio Plus:

- 10) Christmas time is the season for giving.
- 9) You are supporting the world-wide eradication of Polio.
- 8) Giving all of your money away saves legal fees on estate planning.
- 7) Your donation is tax deductible.
- 6) Your heirs will love you because you are reducing those nasty estate taxes.
- 5) Giving all of your money away means one less thing to worry about.
- 4) The club will match your donation (1 dollar becomes 2).
- 3) District 5710 will match the combined donation (2 dollars becomes 4).
- 2) The Gates Foundation will match 2-to-1 (4 dollars becomes 12).
- 1) If our Club reaches its goal of \$2,500 in member pledges, we will generate \$30,000 towards Polio Plus.

The Jayhawk Breakfast Rotary Club is pleased to report that it exceeded its goal and, through the generosity of its members, has made a donation of **\$6,230** to Polio Plus. Thank you to everyone who generously contributed to Polio Plus and the fight to eradicate polio!

## Downtown Topeka Member Designs Brooch for PolioPlus Fundraiser

The Downtown Topeka Rotary Club stepped-up to the District's 6X PolioPlus Matching Challenge in a particularly festive way. Club Member, Karen Wagaman, read about the challenge and volunteered her skills in designing and constructing exquisite holiday brooches to be given as tokens of appreciation to any member who contributed \$50 or more to the challenge. Karen's fellow members were modeling the pins within minutes of shipment and her first supply was eagerly gobbled-up by Rotarians happy to look great while doing good.

"What a fun way to motivate our members to participate in this important challenge," said Club President Curtis Sneden. "I seldom wear brooches myself, but the pin looks great hanging from our Christmas tree!"

As of December 18, the Downtown Topeka club had raised **\$1,375.00**, which means \$8,250.00 will be going to Polio Plus thanks to Karen and her fellow Rotarians in Downtown Topeka.

### Donate to the Rotary Polio Plus Campaign & Rotary International Foundation!



Downtown Topeka Rotary Club  
members and friends!

For a limited time, make a donation  
of \$50 or more and receive this  
hand crafted hammered metal scarf  
clip. Donations of any amount earn  
a 6x match from  
Rotary District 5710\*!

Call:  
**785.232.7216**

Email:  
**topekarotary@gmail.com**



\*\$25,000 grant matching funds available

## Manhattan Rotary Keeps Growing and Growing and Growing...

Manhattan Rotary is having a stellar year in Membership Recruitment—with 12 new members this year and a goal of 20! So, we asked them to share the "Secrets of their Success."

According to their membership chair, Vern Henricks, this is their strategy:

### Recruitment, Mentoring, Retention

- Established individual committee member and club goal for calendar year-end and club year-end
- Identify and establish a prospect list of individuals that truly meet the Rotarian model—refer to often for additions & subtractions
- Make sure individuals really understand what Rotary is about and want to be a part of the club so they are not retention issues
- Streamline the membership process so it makes sense and represents the club well
- Engage new members immediately in a club project or committee so they feel welcomed and a part of something special

In summary, we want to reach out to individuals that have a heart for being a Rotarians and embody the "Service Above Self" model so they become active members and enhancements to our club.

**Way to Go Manhattan Rotary—Keep up the Good Work!**

(Do you have a membership recruitment strategy that's working? We want to hear it!)