

November 2015



DG John Donovan

## District 5710

### Eastern Kansas Rotary

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www.rotary5710.org



Be a gift to the world

## DG John's Message

Greetings Eastern Kansas!

"It was the best of times, it was the worst of times." So too, this November has been.

"It was the best of times..." All the official club visits are done, no more fearing the Boring Person from District! Unless, of course, you invite me back... I have a much shorter presentation about "Your Rotary Moment" that has no charts or statistics, I promise! We underwent our first external audit of our Rotary Foundation operations, and while the final report isn't written, we acquitted ourselves well, and several of our policies and procedures are being reviewed by the Foundation – because they may choose to recommend them as a "Best Practice." As a District, we are being good stewards of Foundation monies. While I may be the Governor of the moment, in truth the success of the audit is due to PDGs Deb Rodenbaugh-Schaub, Gary Duggan, Kevin Tubbesing, and Foundation stalwarts PDG Vickie Randel, Stewardship Chair, Gregg Shondell, Grants chair, and all the Presidents and Club Grants folks who helped us design and implement the current system over the last several years. I'm just the guy who happens to be in the seat at the moment.

Speaking of the Foundation, while we are "this close" to the eradication of polio, we are not yet done. The Rotary Foundation has been after us from Day One of this year to allocate a large chunk of our District Designated Funds (the grant money) to Polio Plus. Foundation Chair PDG Kevin Tubbesing and I deliberately chose to not do that up front. We waited until after all the grants had been submitted and awarded, because, well, it's your money. Not District's, not the Foundation's, in a sense. You, collectively, raised and contributed it, and Kevin and I wanted you to be able to spend it as you wished. However, we did collectively leave a lot on the table...

Accordingly, we announced at the Foundation Banquet that we are allocating \$25,000 of our unspent DDF to Polio Plus, and I have challenged the clubs to all give \*something\* to Polio Plus, and to collectively match the District allocation. If you contribute another \$25,000, with the 2-to-1 Gates Foundation Match, we will effectively raise \$150,000 to continue our campaign to eliminate polio as a threat to the young people of the world. I know of one club that is already considering a \$7,500 donation to Polio Plus, located in the southern part of Topeka... Don't just ask your members to dig into their own wallets, develop a fun fundraiser and convince other people to contribute! Remember my primary guidance to you for the year – HAVE FUN! You do that while providing service and raising money – like Oskaloosa did this last weekend with their Texas Hold 'Em Tournament!

"It was the worst of times..." Manhattan Konza, Atchison and Shawnee lost valued members of their clubs this month. Mark Bettencourt of Manhattan Konza died in an accident in Grand Cayman. He was a pillar of Konza and a champion of extending Rotary. Atchison lost Bill Irons, a Marine veteran of WWII, long time stalwart of their club, and a champion of the Rotary Ambassadorial Scholarship program. And sadly, pillar of the Shawnee community and Charter Member of the Shawnee Club, Evelyn Van Kemseke, died Nov. 18. We will remember them at District Conference.

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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.

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One of my speaking points about Rotary is that we “see the unseen, make the invisible, visible, and we let them know we care, in very real and concrete ways.” December is Rotary Family Month. Don’t let the spouses, partners, and family of “career complete” Rotarians fade from our presence. Don’t let them become invisible. Especially in this holiday season, make a point of checking in on them and including them in your Rotary events. Send them a card, flowers, let them know we care. This is also true of our older members, many in honorary status now, who are perhaps in assisted living and nursing homes.

Make sure they are seen. Be visible to them. Let them know we still care.

However you mark the days of this season, do so with a happy step, and a smile. There is enough darkness afoot in the world right now – be a beacon of light, a ray of optimism, and a cheery word for the weary. Especially all of us who will spend some hours ringing bells in the cold for the next month!

John H Donovan

## Polio Match—Let’s End This!

until the money runs out...Rotary District  
5710 will match the next \$25,000 donated  
by individuals or clubs in our district

turn \$25,000 to \$150,000 by making your donation today.

# 6x

## YOUR GIFT TO



# END POLIO NOW

contact: PDG Kevin Tubbesing, DRFC - Kevin@KevinTubbesing.com

## Next Rotary Leadership Institute Starting January 30, 2016 in Topeka



Looking for something to do after the excitement of the Holidays, and when we are in the middle of a cold and dreary Kansas winter?

Look no further because our District 5710 will be conducting the next class of the **Rotary Leadership Institute (RLI)** at the **Ramada Inn, off I-70 in downtown Topeka—420 SE 6th Ave, Topeka, KS 66607.**

The RLI is a grassroots leadership and development program whose goal is to strengthen Rotary clubs through quality leadership education. The RLI program is great training for “new” as well as “seasoned” Rotarians and can help with growing our clubs both with membership and meaningful service projects. And, attending the RLI will help members stay in Rotary.

RLI training involves three (3) six hour, all day courses. A variety of the topics include: the purpose and structure of Rotary, team building, attracting members, service projects, effective leadership strategies, how to improve your Rotary experience, international service and motivational techniques. Critical issues such as attracting and retaining new members by engaging them as well as how we can better provide “service above self” are explored.”

RLI is open to any Rotarian who is interested in learning more about our amazing organization. Besides the networking and exchanging ideas with other Rotarians, attending will enhance your knowledge of all facets of Rotary and how it works.

Here is our schedule. All sessions will be from 8:30 am to 3:00 pm

Session I - Saturday, **January 30, 2016** Focus is on you, the Rotarian

Session II - Saturday, **February 20, 2016** Focus is on your Club

Session III - Saturday, **March 12, 2016** Focus is on your Rotary Journey

The cost to attend is \$90.00 for all three sessions including lunch plus a RLI notebook. Money will be collected during the first session.

**To signup, please email your name, club, email address, and best phone number to reach you to Chuck Udell at [chuckudell@msn.com](mailto:chuckudell@msn.com)**

Questions, Can't make all three sessions? Missed a session? Them contact Chuck Udell at [chuckudell@msn.com](mailto:chuckudell@msn.com) or 913-908-3672 (cell).

## 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

## 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).

### BONNER SPRINGS

Annual Holiday Banquet  
to benefit Vaughn-Trent Community Services,  
December 3—6:00 PM  
Event Barn @ National Agricultural Center & Hall of Fame  
(630 N. 126th St., Bonner Springs)  
It will include a dinner, a performance by the Bonner Springs High School Choir, a live and silent auction. Tickets are \$20, payable at the door, but an advance R.S.V.P. is requested. To R.S.V.P. or donate an auction item, contact Marva at [913-441-2584](tel:913-441-2584) or email [bonnerrotary@gmail.com](mailto:bonnerrotary@gmail.com).

### LAWRENCE CENTRAL...

Is Selling Holiday Wreath's and Greenery,  
with 20% of all proceeds going to Rotary.  
Click [here](#) for more information.

## STAY UP TO DATE ON DISTRICT AND CLUB HAPPENINGS!

Follow District 5710 Eastern Kansas Rotary on Facebook.

## NEWS TO CELEBRATE!

### Rotary Peace Forums

Update from Peace Forum Keynote Speaker, Phil Silvers – “The entire country of Nigeria wants to adopt the D5710 model for a Rotary Peace Conference. They envision a two-day event. Now that they have conquered polio and are doing Rotary Family Health Days nationwide, they are ready to take on some of the conflict issues in the country. I will keep the D5710 people informed as things develop.”

### What great news!

District 5710 has held two Peace Forums, the first in Feb 2013, co-chaired by Ike Ehie of the Manhattan Noon Club and then-DGN Deb Rodenbaugh-Schaub. The second Peace Forum was held in conjunction with DG Deb's District Conference, co-chaired by Bill Richter and Ike Ehie, in May of 2015. Both Peace Forums were co-hosted by Manhattan Noon Club and Manhattan Konza Club.

## New Club Members for August

|                     |  |
|---------------------|--|
| Atchison            | Dan Raplinger  |
| Baldwin City        | Tammy Michael  |
| Council Grove       | Samantha Sweley  |
| Holton              | Dennis Stones  |
| Lawrence            | Tamara Gwaltney, Amanda Schwegler,<br>Scott Solomon, Andrew Toth, William Tuttle |
| Manhattan           | Michael Dodson, Jerred McKee   |
| Manhattan Konza     | Bill Spiegel   |
| Ottawa              | Cory Blaine  |
| Overland Park South | Ryan Wilkerson   |
| Shawnee Mission     | James Barloon  |
| Topeka Downtown     | Jannett Wiens  |
| Topeka South        | Brenda Dietrich  |



## New Meeting Location for Western Jo. Co. Club



The Rotary Club of Western Johnson County is excited to announce that its meeting location has changed to **Grand Street Cafe**, (8815 Renner Blvd Lenexa, KS 66219). It's still every Tuesday, at 5:15—and they hope to see you at one of their meetings! This change went into effect November 1st, 2015.

## Overland Park Rotary Donates to Local Charities

Overland Park Rotary Club gave two **\$20,000** gifts as a result of their 4<sup>th</sup> of July “Star Spangled Spectacular” to **Make a Wish** and **Sheffield Place**. Click [here](#) to learn more about the event.



## 3rd Annual Pumpkin Run SUCCESS for Topeka South

The final race numbers are in—proving that Topeka South’s 2015 Pumpkin Run for Polio Plus was a GREAT SUCCESS!

More runners participated than ever before and the club contributed **\$7,655** to PolioPlus! Thank you to everyone who generously contributed to PolioPlus and the fight to eradicate polio through the world. See more photos on the Topeka South [Website](#) and [Facebook](#) Page.



## De Soto Rotary—Celebration Time



Here we are in the Holiday Season again and Thanksgiving and Christmas are upon us. A great time for family and friends to gather for Thanksgiving and to celebrate the Hope to come. This time of the year can also be very difficult for those without and less fortunate. The Rotary Club of De Soto joined our local Food Pantry, churches, and businesses to gather food for the Pantry’s annual “Thanksgiving Bag” food drive. Members brought in 10 cans or boxes of each item from a “menu list” of 14 items. The Club also supplied gift certificates from our own Steve’s Meat Market for each bag. The Food Pantry was one of three major benefactors from our annual Winesong Festival in June.

On December 5th, we will provide our annual home-made Soup/Chili/Desert Feed at the Mayors Christmas Tree Lighting. Donations are accepted but not required. We simply provide an opportunity for those in the community to enjoy fellowship and a warm meal.

We also are welcoming T.J. (Anton) Topf (kneeling left), of Topf Insurance Services, as a new member. In a Club of 26, the addition of a new, young member is indeed... a cause for Celebration!

## RINC—Rotary Inspiring Network and Community

In an effort to promote Rotary and introduce it to our area emerging leaders we started RINC which stands for Rotary Inspiring Network & Community. We have a website for additional details that we update for our networking events every other month; [www.rinckc.com](http://www.rinckc.com).

RINC was created to help connect emerging leaders in the community networking with each other, their community and local charities. We plan to host regular social events every other month. The group was founded by Rotarians with the hope that the community also recognizes the importance of Rotary membership in doing great things locally and internally. The founding Rotary Clubs include the Overland Park South Rotary Club, the Overland Park Rotary Club and the Shawnee Rotary Club. As a result of these events, we've seen more guests at our Club meetings.

Our fourth networking RINC event was at The Overland Park Ballroom and Social Club; <http://overlandparkballroom.com/>. Kit Lindsay owns The Overland Park Ballroom and is a newer member in the Overland Park South Rotary Club. Even though it was Game One of the World Series, we still had forty people show up to network and learn about Rotary. We typically choose a charity to host and have them provide a short program to the attendees. This past time, we updated everyone on Polio and raised money to support Rotary's effort in eradicating the disease.

We continue to plan events and will have details soon about the next RINC event in January. Please check back to [www.rinckc.com](http://www.rinckc.com) for regular updates. If you are interested in receiving information on RINC, please email Marc Shaffer ([marc@searcyfinancial.com](mailto:marc@searcyfinancial.com)) so that you can be added to the email invite list. We also encourage all Clubs to "like" our Facebook page for all of our updates and photos; <https://www.facebook.com/groups/RINCKC/>.

Photos from the recent event:





## Rotary Club of Leawood to “Black Out Hunger” on Black Friday

Volunteers will package more than 20,000 meals through Stop Hunger Now.

The Rotary Club of Leawood and community leaders are doing something different on Black Friday: they are joining forces in the fight against hunger and packaging 20,000 meals with Stop Hunger Now to be distributed to those suffering from hunger.

The meals will be assembled by volunteers from the Rotary Club of Leawood and community leaders on Black Friday, November 27, 2015 at Stop Hunger Now Kansas City's warehouse. The meal packaging event, located at 11888 W 91st Street Overland Park, is open to the public. Volunteers will be working in two shifts from 9 am to 11 am and from noon to 2 pm. Volunteers are asked to donate \$40 each or \$140 per family to fund the cost of the ingredients. Click here to register and donate.

Stop Hunger Now meal packaging events are a volunteer-based program that coordinates the streamlined packaging of highly nutritious dehydrated meals comprised of rice, soy, vegetables and 23 essential vitamins and minerals. The Leawood Rotary Club is a long-time supporter of the program.

“The Leawood Rotary has been involved with financial support and hands-on preparation of meals for Stop Hunger Now for three years now,” said Scott Cooper, current president. “We recently partnered with Stop Hunger Now in an effort to support Panama with meals after a mudslide, which left many homeless. And I was fortunate enough to volunteer at a Stop Hunger Now event at the Rotary International Conference in Brazil last year. We are pleased to continue our support to this worthwhile event and charity.”

Around the world, nearly 795 million people lack adequate food. Stop Hunger Now operates meal packaging locations in 19 cities throughout the U.S. and six international locations in South Africa, Malaysia, Peru, the Philippines, Italy and India. Last year, more than 274,800 volunteers from corporations, churches, schools and civic organizations packaged Stop Hunger Now meals.



Founded in 1998, Stop Hunger Now has delivered aid and disaster relief supplies in the form of food, medical supplies, clothing, school supplies and more to thousands of disaster victims and other hungry and vulnerable people in 71 countries.

“What we want everyone to know is that hunger is solvable and is the common thread among the world's most challenging issues,” said Rod Brooks, President and CEO of Stop Hunger Now. “When hunger is targeted, you give leverage and hope to every other cause including poverty, disease, education and the welfare of women and children.”

**BLACK OUT HUNGER**  
**Black Friday Meal Packaging**  
**FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 27, 2015**  
 Sponsored by  
 the Rotary Club of Leawood

STOP HUNGER NOW



## Presidential Membership Summit

By Trish Reedy, Overland Park Rotary

I had the honor of speaking at the 2<sup>nd</sup> Annual Presidential Membership Summit in Dallas Nov 13-14. This zone training focused on membership retention, satellite clubs and attracting young professionals. There was also a Membership Development Cadre training.

After attending the Young Professionals Summit in Chicago in September 2014, I have been able to speak at these types of trainings, as well as to some of our district clubs, regarding the best ways to recruit and retain younger Rotarians.

One of my points is to make your clubs family friendly. Many young professionals also have young families. I took my illustration with me to the training, my 7 week old daughter June.

We also discussed the Menu for a Healthy Rotary Club. (Editor's Note: Trish is a great speaker—and would be a wonderful program for one of your meetings!)



## KC, KS Club's Community Beautification

The Kansas City, KS club purchased 1,000 daffodil bulbs, that were planted during September and October throughout the Wyandotte county area. Daffodils are inexpensive, self-propagating and perennial plants that offer Spring beauty, yet are resistant to pests. There are a wide variety of species, which can make for interesting diversity in floral displays.

The plantings were done by Rotarians, volunteers, and middle school and high school youth. The plantings were carried out in chosen locations, visible to the community, in designated public areas of school grounds, where the flowers will not be likely mowed during the year.

Those participating, include: Arrowhead Middle School, Coronado Middle School, Eisenhower Middle School, Northwest Middle School, Rosedale Middle School, Bridges, J.C. Harmon High School, Sumner Academy, Washington High School, and Wyandotte High School.



Plantings at Coronado Middle School, with the help of students from Ms. Mary Turner's 8<sup>th</sup> grade science class.

## Rotary Youth Leadership Academy—Leavenworth

Middle school students from the Leavenworth and Lansing, Kansas area came together on two Saturdays, 7 and 14 November, to learn about leadership. Focused on 5<sup>th</sup>, 6<sup>th</sup>, and 7<sup>th</sup> graders, each student was nominated by their principals with five schools sending 18 students, all selected based upon their academic performance and potential. Why middle school students? Students this age are beginning to see their individual identities and explore their roles in their classrooms and community, and RYLA-Leavenworth hopes to give them the skills to successfully navigate these new challenges.

This was the program's twentieth year, run by the Leavenworth Rotary Club with classes taught by Rotarians and community leaders. For the past five years, the course has been held at the Leavenworth School District conference room. Students began their first Saturday learning "what is leadership" with a hands on problem-solving task forcing them to work together to solve the problem. Lunch on the first Saturday was formal, four-course meal. Club members discussed the finer points of social and business etiquette with the students as they worked their way through the proper fork to use on their salad! The dining skills practiced here makes them comfortable in formal settings, and each year this class has been rated one of their favorites. Classes in the afternoon dealt with personal budgeting, building a portfolio to capture their accomplishments, and scenarios on implementing the 4 Way Test in school situations as well as what is Rotary. The capstone of day one was a discussion of how the students can be a leader in the community by volunteering, and offered them the chance to volunteer at the club's pancake breakfast held on Veteran's Day, which a few of them did.

The second week continued with building skills needed in the future, including planning and goal setting, avoiding cyber-bullying, and the use of social media. Students were the first in Leavenworth County to try the recently purchased voting machines for the 2016 presidential election in a class by the county clerk. Their lunch during week two was less formal, but just as interesting. They had a working lunch with the city manager of Leavenworth and city administrator of Lansing, allowing the students to explore the operation of local government and voice their concerns on the direction of the community. Finally, students dealt with conflict resolution in a realistic scenario that challenged them to decrease the tension and solve the root causes of the problem.

So what do students get out of the problem? The club provides a notebook, personalized as they go through the course with materials from each instructor. Called on often to speak in public and interact in unfamiliar settings, they gained confidence and an introduction to many of the skills that they will need in the future. The final benefit was meeting and making new friends from across the area.



Front row, left to right:  
Lillian Yengo, Bryce Sutton, Chris Casey, Mark Eastman, Genevieve Oakley, Oliva Van Der Werff, & Elke Dedeke

Back row, left to right:  
Cameron Simon, Justin Pettis, Erin Ruggles, Ryanna Berkebile, Jake Kotzman, Jacob Baltazar, Aedan Crary, Brooke Gilfert, Hannah Gilfert, Jacqueline Varney, & Maria Saltysiak

## Other Happenings Around the District

### Overland Park South:

The club collected canned goods, frozen turkeys and cash/checks for Catholic Charities at their past two meetings! They are also collecting Coats for Kids at locations around the metro in November and December.

### Leavenworth:

Rotary Club of Leavenworth partners with members of the Lansing Lions Club twice a year to collect donations for Saint Vincent's Clinic; during the last Over-the-Counter Medicine Drive, the two clubs collected four large bins of OTC medicines and almost \$765 cash donations from members the surrounding communities of Leavenworth and Lansing for the clinic. Pictured left to right are Rotarian Tim Anderson, President Ellen Bogdan and District Governor John Donovan; Lansing Lions pictured are Mary Ann Zohner, Kelly Stanfield and Jeff Shugart; the two clubs will partner again in May 2016 to collect OTC Meds for Saint Vincent Clinic.



## This Thanksgiving...

### Give me the strength

to cook for eight hours, clean for six  
and relax for one.

### Grant me the wisdom

to keep conversations to:  
weather, dessert and football.

### Fill me with grace, love

and an excessive amount of turkey.