

October 2015



DG John Donovan

District 5710

Eastern Kansas Rotary

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Be a gift to the world

DG John's Message

Greetings, Eastern Kansas!

Next month is Foundation Month, and the Foundation Banquet is on the 14th of November, in the Overland Park Sheraton (where it has been for the last couple of years). We'll recognize doers and givers, clubs and individuals, get an update on how the fight against polio is going, and generally just have a good time. Polio is, I admit, a passion of mine. *As Rotarians, our job is to see the unseen, make the invisible visible, and to let them know we see them and care about them, in concrete ways, not just in passing.* My mother-in-law had polio as a young girl, and as was not unusual in that era, she was ostracized in her family and the community – my wife feels those pains yet today. One of my best friend's sister had polio, and just recently lost her lower leg to the later-in-life complications of polio. It is still with us, and is only a plane ride away. But I am not going to allow, on my watch, a child in Pakistan or Afghanistan or anywhere, however nameless and faceless to me they may be – suffer the scourge so many have suffered down human history, when we have the ability to eradicate it. We will End Polio NOW!

Continued on page 2

INSIDE THIS ISSUE

DG Message	1, 2
Foundation Banquet	
District Grants	3
Club & District Events	4
New Members	5
Leavenworth Hosts Science Fair	6
Emporia Funds Zoo Project	7
Manhattan Assists Elementary School	8
RLI Grads	9
Gardner Social Event	
Oskaloosa's International Students' Night	10
Community Service in Lawrence	11
Youth Exchange	12

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



Rotary District 5710 Foundation Banquet

annual **10th**

Our evening at the Overland Park Sheraton will start with a **free, wine bar reception** at 6pm. We encourage all clubs to purchase a table for 10, or just come with individual reservations, to this powerful evening as we recognize the incredible work of Rotary in our local and worldwide community.

Who: All Rotarians & Guests are welcome

What: Fundraiser for The Rotary Foundation

When: Sat., Nov. 14, 2015, 6.00-9.30pm

Where: Overland Park Sheraton Hotel

Why: Advance world understanding, goodwill, and peace

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

Continued from page 1

As my official visits are winding down, I have an upbeat and optimistic view of Rotary in our District. Rotaract and Interact is growing. Clubs which had been suffering membership losses are showing gains, and in my talking with members around the District, people are optimistic, excited, and engaged. Good job, Presidents!

Leawood and Overland Park South have combined forces to start a community-based Interact club (*remember, Interact and Rotaract involvement are part of the Presidential Citation this year – and it's not as hard as you think*). I attended one of their meetings this week, and I was impressed with the young folks, such as Khusal, Mahmood, and Paige who are working to get this going. Like the Interact Club my club sponsors in Leavenworth, these young people have jumped in with both feet from the get-go and are talking fundraising, growing the club, and have already started on their first major project, a TEDXJr event in January – which will serve to provide a quality TED event aimed at a younger audience. If you are not familiar with TED (<https://www.ted.com/>) events, click that link. A TEDXJr is an independently organized event aimed at young people. In addition to the tutoring they are already involved with in their respective schools. I have great expectations from this group. Kudos to Leawood and Overland Park South for getting it going! Yes, you ***can*** team on these clubs, especially if you are choosing to start a community-based club. If you want to get one going where you are, drop me a line and we will get you pointed in the direction you need to go.

I get the sense that collectively we are getting the message that we need to put as much effort into engaging and keeping our members as we are in recruiting them. Part of that is making sure that when you ask members for their time, you make sure it's worth it. You have good programs, you have a back-up plan in case a program presenter cancels at the last minute, and that you have enough events throughout the year that everybody gets a chance to be involved and to have their Rotary moment. Reality is we're going to lose members, for many reasons, many good, some sad, and some unavoidable. Let's make sure we don't lose members simply because we didn't help them find their "Rotary Moment!" And no, folks, that isn't just a President and Board responsibility – we ***all*** are a part of that. Make sure you get out of your social bubble and meet and talk with new members. And new members, don't be shy about talking to people at the meetings!

December is Rotary Family month – please remember to include your extended Rotary family in your events, especially during the holidays. Reach out to the widows and widowers of "career complete" Rotarians, and keep them in the embrace of your club. Find your alumni, and bring them in. And reach out to members who left – perhaps all that is needed to bring them back is simply to show them you care.

Remember – in Rotary we change lives. One life at a time, one day at a time, and in our spare time. That's our superpower! And the most important life we change, is our own. So get out there and change lives!

John H Donovan

Help Us Promote the Foundation in November

Let's tell the world about The Rotary Foundation!

[Download the Proud Donor image](#) and use it as your Facebook, Twitter, or other social media profile photo.

Share your Rotary Story! Tell all your friends about the amazing work that Rotarians do all over the world! [Add a link to share a story](#) about how Rotary makes a difference or add a story that's particularly inspiring for you.

Follow Rotary International on [Facebook](#), [Twitter](#), and [Instagram](#) – share stories that inspire you with your networks!

Encourage others to give by this "give" link: www.rotary.org/give.

Use videos from Rotary's dedicated [video page](#) to share Rotary's story and engage other Rotarians in the work of the Foundation. You could even dedicate a few minutes during each club meeting to showing a video!

2015-2016 District 5710 Club Matching Grants Awarded

The generosity of individual Rotarians in District 5710 who contribute to The Rotary Foundation accomplish great things in our world. Individually, none of us could have eradicated polio world-wide, together we can do this and many other great things. One benefit of this giving also allows local clubs to choose exactly how to spend a portion of these monies. District Grants are funded from the Annual Programs Fund of The Rotary Foundation from a portion of the funds our members have donated. These grants fund short-term activities that address needs in both our local communities and communities worldwide.

District 5710 allocated 25% of our donations made to the Annual Programs Fund of the Rotary Foundation from 3 years ago (Rotary Year 2012-2013) to fund District Grants for the current year (Rotary Year 2015-2016). The District Grants Subcommittee reviewed all project grant applications from District clubs and awarded **\$56,241** in funding this year.

These grants only continue to be possible because of our District Rotarians' financial support and their dedication in identifying and submitting grants for projects that can benefit our communities. **Thank you!**

A listing of all grants awarded follows:

Club	2015-16 Grant Funded	Project
DeSoto	1,416.00	Drinking Fountain
Emporia	2,605.00	Salvation Army Renovations
Gardner	465.00	Dictionaries
Gardner	866.00	Healthy Literacy
Gardner	866.00	Horses/Learning
Kansas City	475.00	Scholarships
Lawrence	2,281.00	Sole Patrol
Lawrence Central	666.00	Shelter Box
Lawrence Jayhawk	2,159.00	Books/Backsnack
Leavenworth	3,050.00	Scholarships
Leavenworth	805.00	Science Fair
Leawood	3,796.00	REACH/Scholarships
Lenexa	1,652.00	Global Grant - Guatemala
Louisburg	271.00	Global Grant - Kenya
Manhattan Konza	437.00	McDonald House Meals
Marysville	153.00	Toys for Tots
Olathe	2,294.00	Care Kits
Olathe Santa Fe Trail	1,210.00	Field Trips
Ottawa	1,279.00	Literacy
Overbrook	1,396.00	Education Center
Overbrook	132.00	Dictionaries
Overland Park	3,017.00	Global Grant
Overland Park South	1,000.00	CAPS Scholarship
Overland Park South	1,234.00	Holiday Spirit
Paola	1,500.00	Museum Night
Shawnee	3,078.00	Global Grant- Uganda
Shawnee Mission	950.00	Mission Wellness Project
Shawnee Mission	816.00	Global Grant - Uganda
Topeka	3,133.00	Sole Mates
Topeka	1,623.00	Washburn Tech Career Days
Topeka North	471.00	Dictionaries
Topeka South	3,094.00	Sole Mates
Topeka West	1,080.00	Dictionaries
Village West	1,565.00	Scholarship
Western Johnson County	1,406.00	Safe Home
District 5710	4,000.00	VTT-Panama
Total	56,241.00	

District Events

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

FOUNDATION BANQUET

November 14, 2015
Overland Park Sheraton

DISTRICT EXECUTIVE BOARD & COMMITTEE LEADERSHIP PLANNING RETREAT

March 4, 2016 (11:00 - 5:00)
Location—TBD

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.

TOPEKA SOUTH

Oct. 31, 2015—3rd Annual Pumpkin Run
Click [here](#) for info.

GARNETT

Nov. 3, 2015—Annual Pancake Feed

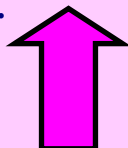
LEAVENWORTH

Nov. 11, 2015—Veterans' Day Pancake Breakfast

TWO REMINDERS FROM PDG DEB RODENBAUGH-SCHAUB

1) Be sure to check out the new **Crowdsourcing tool on the RI website** – helps Clubs connect with dollars/materials/volunteer hands – [Click HERE!](#)

2) **Club boards!!** – Please be sure to forward your nomination/resolution for DG 18/19 to District Nominating Committee Chair (PDG Deb) to: dar83wu@gmail.com by midnight of November 16, 2015.



From the District Fellowship Chair:

Rotary District 5710 *Films in Focus* Fellowship is meeting as a Friday "Breakfast Club" (reference to the film of same name intended) from 7am to 8am at the Pullman Place Family Restaurant at 230 Cherokee St., Leavenworth, KS.

Contact Mary Gregerson (mary.gregerson@aol.com) if you are interested in attending our early bird discussion about how current popular films relate with the Rotary six areas of focus. On October 30, 2015, film to be discussed is "The Martian."

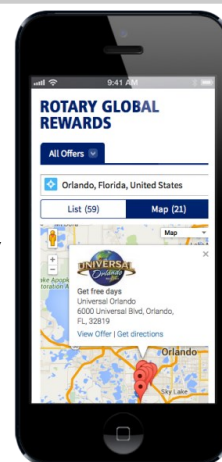
New Club Members for September

Atchison	Carl Carr, Elizabeth Collins, Taylor Merklein
Emporia	Andrew Koenigs, Shane Shivley
Jo. Co. Sunset	Kieran Burke, Matt Maciel, Nick Pappas Antonia Viens
Lawrence	Kate White
Leavenworth	Steve Largent, Jose Morales
Louisburg	Jonathan Kamprath
Manhattan	Karen Bryant, Michele Johnson, Allyn Weddle
Olathe Noon	Erin Davis
Overland Park	Barbara Kopack Hill, Kristin Wantland
Overland Park South	Blaine Hougland, Kit Lindsay, Patrick Wertzberger
Topeka Downton	Lee Morris, John Tompkins
Topeka North	Kerry Crotinger, Aarion Gray, D. Kerr, Bryan McDonald, Wendy Webber
Western Jo. Co.	Nickolas Wilson



Rotary Global Rewards—the good you do comes back to you

Rotary's new member benefits program gives Rotary members access to discounts on a variety of products and services selected with their interests in mind. Rotary Global Rewards offers discounts on car rentals, hotels, dining, and entertainment. More products and services from companies around the world will be added throughout the year. Anyone can view the offers and discounts on Rotary Global Rewards. But only Rotary club members who are signed in to their My Rotary accounts can redeem them. You can access and redeem rewards from your computer, smartphone, or tablet. **Click [here](#) to learn more.**



Leavenworth Rotary Focuses in on STEM

Vocation in action! The Leavenworth Rotary Club and the University of Saint Mary (USM) hosted the First City Science Fair on Tuesday, October 6, 2015 on the campus of the University of Saint Mary. The purpose of the science fair was to introduce middle school-age students to science, technology, engineering and math (STEM) demonstrations at an early enough age to influence them in their future career choices. Although science and technology was emphasized in the demonstrations; the underlying math and engineering was also addressed.

According to the U.S. Department of Education, STEM-related jobs in the US will increase by 14 percent from 2010 thru 2020. That could even be greater regionally with the growth of the animal-science corridor in northeast Kansas. Current estimates are that many of these jobs will go unfilled. This shortfall is particularly acute for females and minorities. In order to help address this shortfall, the Leavenworth Rotary Club and other sponsors pooled their efforts pooling for the annual science.

Other sponsors included the Leavenworth School District USD 453, Lansing School District USD 469, Fort Leavenworth School District USD 207 and the Leavenworth Public Library. The library director and Rotarian, Matt Nojonen assumed the chair for the project and prepared the final plans for the science fair. Other Rotarians assisting in the planning and execution were PDG Deb Rodenbaugh-Schaub, DG John Donovan, Brad Cox, and Dr. Joan M. Murnane-Rendall.

Approximately 750 7th and 8th graders from the three local school districts rotated through a selection of presentations. The demonstration sponsors included local industry, schools, and agencies:

St Luke's Cushing Hospital – Telemedicine
 Fort Leavenworth School District – Robotics
 Space-based technology – Rotarian Tom Gray
 Immersive Ed (immersiveducation.org) – Gaming Coding
 Leavenworth Public Library- 3-D printing
 Leavenworth County Sheriff's Office- Forensics
 USM-Aquaponics
 Leavenworth County Emergency Management Office –
 Weather Effects
 Leavenworth Fire Dept. – Firefighting Technology
 Cereal Ingredients, Inc. – Food Technology
 Kansas State Research and Extension – Food Storage Safety



Immersive Ed conducts a gaming software class.



The science fair was a resounding hit with teachers and students and we plan on doing it again next year. With the support of Rotary District 5710, we would like to explore the possibility of expanding the 2016 science fair to a regional event. Thanks to all agencies and volunteers who came out to support this program.

To find out more, contact the Leavenworth Rotary club service director Larry Martin at larry.martin@usa.net

Special thanks to the following Rotarians for their support of the first (hopefully of many) Science Fairs, pictured left to right, Joan Murnane-Rendall, Matt Nojonen, Brad Cox, ADG Tom Gray and Larry Martin; not pictured, PDG Deb Rodenbaugh-Schaub and DG John Donovan.

Emporia Rotary Presents \$25,000 check to David Traylor Zoo

The Emporia Rotary Club presented a \$25,000 check to the David Traylor Zoo to help fund the Mission Madagascar Lemur Project. Rotary Club president Teresa Maley presented the check to Zoo Director Lisa Keith in a ceremony at the zoo. The lemur project is already under construction.



“Mission Madagascar is a project that focuses on the little island of Madagascar, which is off the southeast coast of Africa,” Keith said. “It’s the only place in the world that you find lemurs in the wild.” The project has been planned for a number of years, with fundraisers and community support sought throughout to help fund the \$400,000 project.

“(The \$25,000) is money the Rotary Club has been saving for the past few years,” Maley said. “It’s donations. It’s fundraising. It’s a wide variety of things that we do through the Emporia Rotary Club.”

“When we decided we needed to upgrade our lemur exhibit and do something different, they were the ones who stepped forward and agreed to the first \$25,000 towards this exhibit,” Keith said about the zoo’s relationship with the Emporia Rotary Club. “We did a yearly event called Lemurfest. The Rotary Club put on a fun little evening event here in the zoo. That’s kind of how they came up with the \$25,000 through those fundraisers. They did those for five years.”

A committee was then formed for further fundraising efforts. “Then it became a team effort with a committee we put together from the community,” Keith said. “It’s always a challenge to try to make something seem realistic from the area that they are native to,” Keith said. “We try our best. We are not always 100 percent successful, but we do our best to mimic it the best way we can. Obviously, with the indoor and outdoor viewing windows you’ll be able to see them year-round.”

The lemurs will come from another area in the David Traylor Zoo. “We currently have two species of lemur already housed at the zoo,” Keith said. “So they will just move to the new exhibit. We recently just received ringtail lemurs from another zoo ... We are able to shift animals through our species survival plan.”

Depending on the weather, Mission Madagascar could be completed by Jan. 1. “It may be early spring, depending on how cold the weather is and if the construction workers are able to keep working,” Keith said.

The Rotary Club was happy to be able to help expand the zoo. “We are so lucky in Emporia to have such a lovely zoo,” Maley said. “Our Rotarians see that and want to be a part of it; we want to support it and we want to help with that.”

This story originally ran in the Emporia Gazette on October 14, 2015

Manhattan Club Helps Local School

The Manhattan Rotary Club recently helped clean up and landscape the Ogden Elementary School. Limited school funding was available to create a maintenance-friendly environment, so the Rotary club stepped in to help. On October 3, 2015, more than twenty Rotarians, KSU Rotaractors and members of the Manhattan Konza club, gathered to clean and landscape the grounds. Great job!



Photos by Dede Brokesh and Alejandra Rivarola

Rotary Leadership Institute Graduates Eight

District 5710 graduated its third The Rotary Leadership Institute (RLI) on September 29, 2015. RLI is a grassroots multi-district leadership and Rotary development program that engages Rotarians and in turn strengthen their clubs and increases membership retention. This three session program emphasizes both leadership skills and knowledge of Rotary. All Rotarians from brand new members to veterans including prior club presidents have participated enjoyed their experience and increased their skills be attending.

A special congratulations goes to the following Rotarians for successfully completing all three sessions of the third RLI program our district has conducted. They are:

Bob Carlson	Holton
Heather Goodman	Overland Park South
Vern Henricks	Manhattan Noon
Hernan Nieto	Lawrence Noon
JR Riley	Olathe Noon
Patrick Schaub	Manhattan Konza
Dakota Welch	Holton
James Wright	Overland Park

On behalf of our District leadership and RLI facilitators, thank you to all of our recent graduates for their time and very active participant.. They now join 18 other Rotarians who graduated form our first two District 5710 classes

A big thank you goes to Tom Gray, Ellen Bogdan, DeEtte Lombard, Sharon Sweeney for being amazing facilitators. Your giving up not only the Saturday you facilitated, but also the time spent preparing for your session is appreciated.

And, last but certainly not least, another big thank you - this is to DGN and RLI certified facilitator, Adam Ehlert for providing for us a great place to meet and to his team for providing food, drink, and for all the other facility needs.

The next Rotary Leadership Institute Class will be in January and February, 2016. The exact dates will be determined shortly.

Gardner Club's Social at KC Wine Co.

On October 15th, The Gardner Rotary Club held a evening social / wine tasting event hosted by the KC Wine Company. With lots of visitors on hand, everyone was able to relax and enjoy some good company while getting together to do a little socializing.



Oskaloosa's International Students' Night

In 1968, Oskaloosa Rotarian and Kansas University Professor Paul Gump had an idea: Let's introduce K.U. students from around the world to Rotary.

On Wednesday, October 21st, the Oskaloosa Rotary Club upheld the tradition by hosting the club's 47th annual International Students' Night. We don't know much about those early years of the event; but in recent years, more than 100 students sign up to attend – with just 12 selected by the club's liaison at K.U. This year's countries represented were China, India, Vietnam, So. Korea, Japan, Malaysia, Nepal and Indonesia.

Club members provided transportation from the campus to Oskaloosa, where the students visited Old Jefferson Town to learn about the town and area's history, stopped by City Hall where Rotarian and Judge Dennis Reiling spoke about our country's judicial system, and then proceeded to a local restaurant for dinner and a program.

After dinner, each student (ranging from freshman to master's program) stood and spoke about country, family and area of study at K.U. Club President Quentin Davis then talked about the history of Rotary, telling about the number of clubs in the U.S. and in countries around the world and emphasizing the scope and success of Rotary's international programs, especially Polio Plus.

Entertainment followed, provided by Oskaloosa Rotarian Dottie Hissong and three family members, who offered a program of lively songs, accompanying the music with guitars and keyboard. And topping that was an impromptu "jam" session, when student Saket Gowravaram from India stepped forward, requested a guitar, and belted out a Beatles tune, with the other singers quickly jumping in as backup. The applause was instant, heartfelt and sustained!



Lawrence Clubs Focus on Community Projects



(At left) Some of the Rotarians from the **Lawrence, Lawrence Jayhawk, and Lawrence Central Rotary** clubs who came to the Lawrence Rotary Centennial Arboretum for a work day, September 26, 2015. The clubs have several work days each year helping the City maintain the arboretum, which gets more and more beautiful each year.

On October 14, 2015, some of the **Lawrence Rotary Club** members helped out with spreading mulch below the piece of playground equipment purchased for Cordley Elementary School. The purchase was funded through a District Grant.



October 24 was the **Jayhawk Breakfast Rotary Habitat for Humanity** work day. They had 8 volunteers as-

sist with finishing the framing and setting the rafters.



Youth Exchange

The Exchange Students had some fun last month with a trip to World's Of Fun!



Don't forget... Daylight Savings Time Ends at 2:00 AM on Sunday, November 1, 2015—so get ready to Fall Back!

