



Rotary District 5710 Eastern Kansas Rotary

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[rotary5710.org](http://rotary5710.org)

July, 2017

Monthly Theme: Start of a New Rotary Year

## MESSAGE FROM DISTRICT GOVERNOR ADAM EHLERT

Dear District 5710 Rotarians:

Thank you for your service. I admire your commitment, on any level—any investment of your time, treasure and talent helps to make a difference. And that's why we are here.

I love this year's theme in its simplicity: Making a Difference. I will talk more about goals and mechanics of how the District can serve you in the coming months (and your club presidents have heard several times over already). But today, I am simply heartened by the opportunity to serve.

In the decade that I've been a Rotarian, my pride in saying that has grown exponentially. And the benefit to my own life, my own psyche, has outweighed all the projects we've worked on as a club and a district. Some might assert that my perception is backwards, but I maintain that the more we put in, the more we receive. The people we meet, the lives we touch through service, the reinforcement of friendships within a meaningful life. These are the real rewards, and I thank the rich resource that is Rotary International for sharing those opportunities with us.

Please cherish this opportunity you've got as a member of the world's original and greatest service organization (and network of great humanitarians and neat people). Keep doing what you're doing, keep Making a Difference... and now my one request—tell the world about how you are doing just that! Our district is energetic creative, and generous! And our neighbors need to know that. Share the message, smile and share it proudly. I am proud to be a Rotarian and to have the opportunity to serve with you. Thank you for that.

And finally, sincere and many thanks to District Governor Chris Ford. Your inspirational leadership has absolutely made a difference in our district. You've been able to counter the North American epidemic within Rotary, and you've actually grown our membership. Congratulations, and thank you, Chris.

Sincerely,

Adam



**ROTARY:  
MAKING A  
DIFFERENCE**

Get to know your Rotary District! Have you been to our website recently? Check us out at [www.rotary5710.org](http://www.rotary5710.org) and while you're there—watch [this video](#) from District Governor Adam Ehlert.



## District News & Events

### RYLEA GRADUATES 85 STUDENTS

By Faron Barr

On June 8th, we graduated our largest RYLEA camp ever! Rotary Youth Leadership Academy 2017 was attended by 85 brilliant students who learned about leadership, community service, and civic engagement. These students represented 27 clubs from all over the state of Kansas. This five-day experience featured several hands-on projects with many local leaders giving presentations that were educational, active, and enlightening. As usual, there was one main group project that required a presentation by each group involving each participant in the group. This year we had 9 groups of 9-10 participants in each group lead by a KU student facilitator.

The event finished with these groups presenting their presentations at a graduation ceremony attended by RYLEA staff, parents, and Rotarians. Many of the students expressed that they were enriched by the experience and some even said it was life-changing. If you have not already heard from these students, I encourage you to reach out to them and hear their experiences.

Thank you to all the clubs who sponsored students this year. Without your support, this program would not be successful. In January of 2018, I will announce next year's dates. I would like each club in the district to be thinking of who they may want to sponsor to RYLEA 2018. Let's work together to make every RYLEA year successful by promoting the values of Rotary to our youth.



### MARK YOUR CALENDARS FOR TEAM TRAINING

#### **TEAM Rotary Training** (formerly FML)

**T**ransform your club. **E**ngage your members. **A**dvance your mission. **M**ake a Difference!

**Saturday, August 19, 2017**

8:30 am - 1:30 pm

Cider Gallery

810 Pennsylvania St.

Lawrence, KS

## PLANNING ASSISTANCE AVAILABLE TO ALL DISTRICT CLUBS

Overland Park Rotarian David Stallings has been assisting three Johnson County clubs by facilitating discussions among members about the future of their clubs. Stallings has now offered his service free, to any Rotary Club in District 5710 that would benefit from his assistance.

He recently retired as the Chief Administrative Officer (CAO) and Chief Financial Officer (CFO) of the law firm of Seigfreid Bingham, PC in Kansas City, Missouri. Stallings also brings a wealth of knowledge in the nonprofit sector having served as Chief Financial Officer (CFO) for the Girl Scouts of Northeast Kansas and Northwest Missouri.



From 2005 to 2010, David provided consulting services exclusively to nonprofit organizations. David has served as an adjunct professor teaching Public Finance, and Financial and Legal Frameworks of Nonprofits in the Masters of Public Administration program in the Bloch School of Business at the University of Missouri – Kansas City (UMKC) and graduate programs at Rockhurst University in Kansas City.

He currently serves as Membership Chair, for the Overland Park Rotary Club. Interested Clubs may contact him at: Email: [David@DavidAStallings.com](mailto:David@DavidAStallings.com) Phone: 913-406-1202

## NEW MEMBERS FOR JUNE

Downtown Topeka	Gregory Allen, Mildred Edwards, Claudia Larkin
Emporia	Mark Schreiber
Holton	Joseph Gilliland, Cale Worthington
Lawrence	Emily Farley
Lawrence Jayhawk	Steve Kelly
Leawood	Rob Hindman
Lenexa	Steve Adams, Tom Cox
Louisburg	James Real
Manhattan Konza	Chad Bunger, Chris Kutz, Eric Nielson, Larie Schoap
Olathe Noon	Dan Sheehan, James Terrones
Ottawa	Tiffany Evans, Lora O'Connor
Overland Park	John Bennett, Sheryl Cronenwett
Overland Park South	Brian Hoffart
Paola	Frankie Elder, Brian McCauley, Barbara Natale
Santa Fe Trail	Adam House
Topeka South	Robbie Smith

WELCOME



## Club News & Events

### TWO CLUBS CELEBRATE 100 YEARS OF ROTARY WITH RI PRESIDENT GERM

On May 31, RI President John Germ visited District 5710 to celebrate Centennial Celebrations with two clubs; Emporia and Lawrence. President Germ was in Lawrence for a lunch with approximately 150 Rotarians from Lawrence as well as the surrounding area. Then, that evening, he celebrated with the Emporia club.

During both events, Germ shared a message of growth and change in the Rotary of today.

“As we celebrate 100 years of Rotary, it tells me that we are a growing organization,” he said. “People around the world are seeing the needs within their communities; they are willing to see how they can solve those needs and go to work to solve them. We’ve had fantastic [anniversaries], and we’re feeling good all around the world. It really does my heart good to see something that started with \$26.50, that now has an endowment of over one billion U.S. dollars. We are distributing over \$150 million a year in grants around the world, so it’s a wonderful feeling.”

Germ said the need is still there for a new generation Rotary members.

“I think we need to get our existing Rotarians to ask the younger generation to become Rotarians,” he said. “The only way to become a Rotarian is if someone asks you. I think the younger generation does want to become involved in their communities. They want people’s lives to be better.”

Germ said Rotary members have seen the need to be more flexible in how they structure their meetings.

“Time is much more precious today. Technology is greater so we don’t have as much free time. Married couples both work now and they never used to do that. We need to become more flexible and adaptable and give them the opportunity. We need to make it a more family-friendly organization.”



Germ’s message rings loud and clear as we start a new Rotary year. And with the celebration of clubs reaching the milestone of 100 years in Rotary, it is even further encouragement to grow our clubs and make sure that we continue to *do good in the world* for another 100 years!

(LEFT) During the Emporia celebration, District Governor Chris Ford honored John G. “Jack” Atherton, who served as president from 1964 - 1965, as a 60-year member.



## KCK CLUB RECOGNIZES STUDENTS AND TEACHERS



The Kansas City, Kansas Rotary Club announced the winners of its annual Student Scholarship Contest and recognized outstanding educators from each of the Wyandotte County high schools at the Club's May 2nd luncheon meeting.

The Club awarded \$1,000 college scholarships to each of three area high school seniors: Alayna Dooley of Bonner Springs High School, Monica Romero of Turner High School, and Royal Sullivan of Sumner Academy. The Club awards these scholarships to the top female and male students who participate in the Club's scholarship speech contest. Due to a tie for the female students, the club opted to award both top place females this year. These students competed with other outstanding high school students from Wyandotte County schools. All the students exemplify the highest academic, service and character standards in our community. We can all be proud of what Wyandotte County has helped produce in these students. The Kansas City, Kansas Rotary Club congratulates them and wishes them the best in their pursuit of higher education.



In addition that day, the Club recognized outstanding teachers from each of Wyandotte County's nine high schools. This annual program of the Kansas City, Kansas Rotary Club honors teachers in the county who represent the best of our community. The teachers were introduced by the respective school's administrator, and the Club learned of each teacher's unique contributions to the individual schools. Each educator was presented a plaque of appreciation. We are grateful to these teachers who give so much of themselves to educate and prepare our youth for the future.

## MANHATTAN CELEBRATES JUNETEENTH

The Manhattan Rotary Club again joined the Manhattan community in celebration of Juneteenth. Club members distributed free ice cream to youth of all ages. Members handed out several hundred ice cream and fruit bars over a six hour period.

Juneteenth is the oldest known celebration commemorating the ending of slavery in the United States.



## LEAVENWORTH ROTARY



Rotary scholarship winners were recognized at a recent luncheon. Pictured left to right are, Club President Mark Gerges, Eleanor Melero, IMAC HS (\$1000 Academic Scholarship in the name of Rotarian William L. "Buck" Jones), Bridget Howard, Pleasant Ridge HS (\$1000 Academic Scholarship), Kolton Hastert, Lansing HS (\$500 VOTECH Scholarship), Haylie Flener, Pleasant Ridge HS (\$500 VOTECH Scholarship), Emma Bresser, Lansing HS (\$1000 Academic Scholarship in the name of Rotarian Ted Sexton), Patrick Bircher, Lansing HS (\$1000 Academic Scholarship) and Tamara Jo Sevcik, Rotary Scholarship Chair. Also pictured (inset) is Rebecca Hollister, Leavenworth HS (\$1000 Academic Scholarship in the name of Rotarian Beau Kansteiner). Congratulations to these scholarship recipients and best of luck to all graduating seniors in the local area from the Rotary Club of Leavenworth!

Rotary Club of Leavenworth honored two special teachers at our last meeting. The first teacher recognized was Mr. Justin Bode (Secondary Teacher of the Year). Mr. Bode has been with the Leavenworth School District for 11 years, all at Leavenworth High School. Mr. Bode shared that one of his greatest accomplishments as an educator comes from the relationships he has built with his students both in the classroom and outside the classroom. The second teacher recognized was Mrs. Caitlan Johnston (Primary Teacher of the Year). Mrs. Johnston has been with the Leavenworth School District for seven years, working at David Brewer Elementary, and most recently at Henry Leavenworth Elementary. Mrs. Johnston maintains a focus on promoting kindness in her classroom and ensuring students respect themselves and one another. Each was awarded a Service Above Self award along with a \$250 gift card (provided by the Leavenworth Rotary Foundation). Mrs. Johnston and Mr. Bode will represent the Leavenworth Unified School District in the regional portion of the 2018 Kansas Teacher of the Year recognition program, sponsored by the Kansas State Department of Education. Pictured left to right are Mark Gerges, Rotary President, Mr. Bode, Mrs. Johnston and Tamara Jo Sevcik, Rotary Teacher of the Year Chairman.



Long-time pianist for our club, Velma Bass, was recognized for her Rotary service after 25-plus years; on her retirement, President Mark presented Thelma flowers, a beautifully engraved vase and a Leavenworth Rotary Club "Service Above Self" certificate. Our club wishes Miss Velma "Godspeed" as she starts the next chapter in her book.

Rotarian John Donovan was selected to receive the President's award for the year. His quiet, selfless service over the last year is greatly appreciated; congratulations to John; you ROCK!

