



September, 2017

Monthly Theme: Basic Education and Literacy Month

MESSAGE FROM DISTRICT GOVERNOR ADAM EHLERT

Dear District 5710 Rotarians:

Life is a series of ups and downs—we're all affected by each. But simply by the privilege of being members of Rotary International, we are inherently blessed by the opportunity to do good.

As Mother Nature exhibited her worst in late August, she allowed humanity to exhibit its best. While Rotary is not a disaster relief organization, our district is especially compassionate, quick-acting, and generous. And we're smart enough to partner with the right people; this time an agency (an agency headquartered in our district, and founded by Rotarians) that is perfectly poised to provide immediate relief in the exact areas of acute need.



I have been floored by the generous reaction by the members of our district. Floored, but not surprised. Thank you all for your unflinching generosity. In the coming weeks we will share an official fundraising tally and some highlights of the efforts from our clubs—but in the meantime, check out the update below with preliminary amounts.

Beyond our district's efforts, Rotary International has established a Donor Advised Fund through The Rotary Foundation. Our international leadership is on the ball, and you know that as a TRF vehicle, this fund will be an exceptional steward of the money raised. Details are enclosed later in this month's newsletter.

Thank you District 5710 Rotarians, for your service, day in and day out. We are Making a Difference.

Sincerely,

Adam



Hurricane Harvey Relief Update

Thank you to the following clubs who have contributed nearly \$5,000 total—so far! We need to keep the momentum in place to get to our goal of \$5.00 for every District 5710 Rotarian!

Burlington (\$200), Gardner (\$303), Jo Co (\$125), Lawrence Breakfast (\$515), Lawrence Central (\$145), Manhattan Konza (\$160+), OP South (\$370), Ottawa (\$190), Shawnee Mission (\$642), Topeka West (\$130), Topeka South (\$385), Valley Falls (\$150), Village West—with T-bones collections—(\$1,630).

Also, thanks to those who are collecting at upcoming meetings—Bonner Springs, Council Grove, Leawood, Overland Park, Marysville—and others! Please send your totals to [Mandy!](#)





District News & Events

SAVE THE DATE - DISTRICT CONFERENCE 2018

Rotary 5710 District Conference 2018
Fri/Sat April 27-28, 2018
Lenexa Conference Center @ Hyatt Place
8741 Ryckert Street
Lenexa, Kansas 66219

We are excited to announce that plans are already underway for an exciting District Conference! A few items of note: New this year... the banquet dinner will be on **Friday** instead of Saturday. Back by popular demand... we're planning to have service projects both Friday and Saturday!

*We're just getting started planning the event, so if you'd like to help out, please email Committee Chair **Jason Leib** at jasonl@jasonleib.com. Watch your email and newsletters for more information to come – registration will open in **January 2018**.*

Sponsorships Available Now at \$100 per person/company.

Benefits include the following:

- ⇒ Recognition on District website/social media sites
- ⇒ Recognition on Conference electronic/printed materials
- ⇒ Recognition at District Conference

To confirm sponsorship information, please email Jason Leib at jasonl@jasonleib.com and submit \$100 sponsorship payment via PayPal at <https://paypal.me/LenexaRotaryClub/100>.

Special thanks to our first sponsors:

J.C. Burcham	Mariposa Veterinary Wellness Center
Adam Ehlert	Kansas City T-Bones Baseball Club
Harold Frye	Music 4 Jeremy's Cherubs
Grant Glenn	Grant Glenn Law Office
Jim Mattes	Mattes Appraisal Services
Joe Morris	
Chuck Udell	Intouch Management
Joanie Underwood	
Roger Underwood	
Marla Williams	Nationwide



T.E.A.M. TRAINING GETS RAVE REVIEWS

By Pat O'Donnell, District Public Image Chair

Nearly 100 District 5710 Rotary Leaders gathered in Lawrence on August 19, 2017, to experience a revitalized training session. Formerly known as FML, the new approach focused on TEAM, an acronym for; T=Transform your Club, E=Engage your members, A- Advance your mission, M=Make a Difference.



District Membership Chair, Jason Camis coordinated the half-day event held at the Cider Gallery. The sessions were relaxed and yet energetic, as opposed to more traditional classroom lectures.

Lenexa Rotarian Moe Cougher said, "Having attended many of the "FML" sessions in the past, I was ready for a change in format and venue, and Jason Camis and company certainly accommodated. Well Done!" Cougher added, "I liked the venue, the format, the presenters, the food and yes, the Bloody Mary's."

DGE Blanche Parks congratulated all involved stating, "the entire day was great fun."



Area 10 Assistant Governor Tom Gray presented a lively session on Generational Leadership. His session was most meaningful for mother-daughter Rotarians Vickie and Emily Randel.

Another key takeaway was JC Burcham's message about Reframing our Story. She says, when asked *what is Rotary*, we need to respond, no... it's WHO is Rotary. We are People of Action.

As the day wound down, participants offered 20 ideas in 20 minutes for ways to strengthen our clubs followed by door prize drawings for those who stayed. It will be hard to compete with this effort next year, but the bar has been raised. If you missed it - you can [click here](#) to see presentations and photos from the training.

NEW MEMBERS FOR AUGUST

Burlington	Darrin Daugherty
Council Grove	Max Byram, Marty Wright
Downtown Topeka	Alan Cobb
Gardner	Rob Kirk, Dennis Meyers
Kansas City, KS	Mark Dupree, Todd Jordan
Lawrence	Patrick Seelye, Rebecca Smith, Scott Teenor
Lawrence Central	Kevin Kressig, Chip LaClair
Manhattan	Mark Claussen, Christopher Culbertson, Donald Zimmerman
Olathe Rotary	Alex Richard
Olathe Park South	Adam Dinkel, Kevin Fisk
Shawnee	Jason Brunner

WELCOME

ROTARY FOUNDATION'S DONOR ADVISED FUND FOR HURRICANE RELIEF

Hurricane Harvey is predicted to be the costliest natural disaster in the history of the U.S., with a damage cost exceeding Hurricanes Sandy and Katrina. AccuWeather predicts that the damage cost will hit \$160 billion.

A Gulf Coast Disaster Relief Donor Advised Fund has been established under The Rotary Foundation to assist these communities. If you would like to help please go to the following link: <https://www.rotary.org/en/rotary-districts-collect-emergency-funds-hurricane-harvey-victims>.

If you would like to make a contribution by credit card please go to the following link: <https://www.yourfundaccount.com/rotary/HowToContribute.asp>

The Name of the DAF (Donor Advised Fund) is The Gulf Coast Disaster Relief Donor Advised Fund

The Account Number of the DAF (Donor Advised Fund) is 608

Frequently Asked Questions

What amount of my contribution will actually go to the relief effort? Nearly 100% of contributions to The Gulf Coast Disaster Relief Fund will be granted to IRS-approved charitable organizations helping to provide relief and recovery. There is a small fee of 1% which covers the administrative and investment costs. Additionally, on 1 July of each year, 1% of the fair market value of the The Gulf Coast Disaster Relief Fund is contributed to The Rotary Foundation's Annual Fund to support the programs of the Foundation.

Please note that The Gulf Coast Disaster Relief Fund will make grants to other charitable organizations that may have other costs; however, efforts will be made to provide grants to organizations that directly support the needs of individuals and communities through the Rotary volunteer structure and other aid organizations. Additional fees may apply depending on the method of your contributions.

Will I receive recognition for my contribution? Contributions to TRF DAF accounts are not eligible for Paul Harris or Major Donor recognition.

Where can I learn more about The Rotary Foundation Donor Advised Fund and how it works? Please visit www.rotary.org/daf for more information.

For assistance, please send a message to plannedgiving@rotary.org or call (847) 866-3100.





Club News & Events

VILLAGE WEST ROTARIANS LEAD FUNDRAISING EFFORT AT T-BONES GAMES FOR HURRICANE HARVEY RELIEF

The Village West Rotarians led the way, with volunteers from other area clubs lending a hand, at Community America Ballpark over Labor Day weekend, with a special Rotary booth for Hurricane Harvey Relief Donations. With the large presence of the Leavenworth Club's Rotary Wheel, the booth was hard to miss! Collections from the weekend totaled over \$1,000, which will be donated to Heart to Heart International. [Click here](#) for a video.

A special surprise guest dropped by the booth as well, quietly slipping his donation in the jar. It was none other than Bill Murray!

Thank you Village West Rotary—and D.G. Adam Ehlert—you are truly Rotarians Making A Difference!



OP SOUTH CELEBRATES JAZZ IN THE WOODS SUCCESS

Overland Park South recently celebrated the results from its June 2017 Jazz in the Woods event at Corporate Woods. Held on two nights, this was the 27th annual iteration of the event that supports selected charities. In the photos below, event chair Pete Belk is pictured with Growing Futures director Terrie Travis-VanZandt (left) and Sunflower House president Michelle Herman and staffer Sara Lissauer (also an OP South club member—(right)) Each organization received \$14,000. Additionally, the OP South Foundation, Future of Hope, received \$6000 from the event.



OVERBROOK ROTARY SHOWS PRIDE WITH PARADE FLOAT

The Overbrook Rotary Club had an entry in this year's Osage County Fair Parade and it took first place. The prize was \$200 that the club says they are looking forward to "putting back into the community!"

The parade theme this year was "Country Pride, County Wide." The club float's theme/title was "Got Pride?" and had various folks positioned on the float who they are very proud of, including: a Highway Patrolman, 2 Policeman, a Navy Veteran, a Fireman, a Farmer, 2 Boys from the local baseball team, and their very own Rotary Club President (and Past District Governor) **Jon Wilhite**.



LEAVENWORTH ROTARY

Each year our club sponsors a girl from Lansing High School to attend Sunflower Girls State; this year seven girls from the High School attended and learned about the way our Government operates. Pictured with President Tamara, are Leah Wieggers and Phoebe Taylor; both girls are seniors at Lansing High and attended one of our recent meetings to give a report on their Sunflower Girls State experience.



Can you guess who this masked Rotarian is; he recently participated in the local CASA Super Hero Run (a hint, his initials are JP)!

We have had great programs this month, one on the Lansing Library (thanks Librarian Terri Wojtalewicz) and one from the third runner up in the Miss Kansas competition (thanks Miss Maci Johnson); Maci's platform in the Miss Kansas competition was "Poverty to Prosperity."



A small (but mighty) group of Rotarians met this month for our first-ever Karaoke Night at Luigi's Italian Restaurant; we enjoyed a fun evening of singing and delicious Italian cuisine; our next Karaoke Night will be during our second quarter.

We awarded several Paul Harris Fellow awards this month; pictured are Tony Kramer, Mike Roth, Randy Johnson (with Mike Lehnerr & DeEtte Lombard), and Susan Murphy and Jenifer Murphy Gibbs (with DeEtte Lombard, Don Murphy & Ashton Gibbs (granddaughter of Don & Susan, daughter of Jenifer)); thanks to each of you for your work with Rotary and in your local communities...you all ROCK!



Park clean up --- a group of Rotarians gathers monthly between April & November to keep our Rotary Park clean and pristine for all to enjoy; pictured is Tom Dials, getting ready to take on some tree trimming.

Sadly our club lost a long time member and past President, John "Jack" Wesley Divine, on Friday, 18 August; Jack had been at a Royals game that evening and collapsed on the way back to his car after the game. Rest in peace, good and faithful friend; you will be missed. Our prayers of comfort continue for his family.



ROTARIANS ENJOY SOLAR ECLIPSE

Marysville was a hub of activity Aug. 21 as the town rolled out the red carpet for hundreds of eclipse-viewing guests. Marysville Rotary meets Mondays from noon to 1, so timing was perfect for Rotarians, guests, and speaker (Kansas Insurance Commissioner Ken Selzer) to enjoy the eclipse immediately after our regular meeting.

Many people stopped en-route to the viewing sites to have their photos taken with giant black squirrel statues, which were also wearing eclipse glasses. The statues are posted around Marysville to honor the town's mascot, the rare black squirrel that occupies local trees. The town's crowds were fortunate to have clear skies at 1:03 p.m. when the moon slipped in front of the sun, the skies dimmed, the air cooled and a solar corona peeked around the moon as totality lasted for 1 minute 11 seconds amid cheers and cries of amazement.



Lawrence Rotary also took the opportunity to gather for what they called "eclipse-a-palooza."

This photo was taken as 86 Rotarians and guests gathered across the street from their regular meeting location. Looks like everyone had a great time despite the pesky clouds!

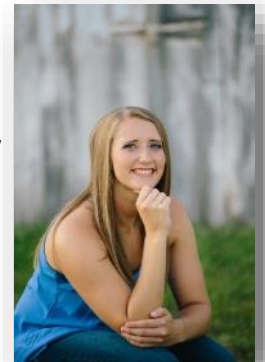


MARYSVILLE ROTARY PRESENTS SERVICE ABOVE SELF SCHOLARSHIPS



Marysville Rotary Club recently gave the first half of the \$1,000 Service Above Self Scholarships to Katie Scott and Kali Crome, two recent graduates of Marysville High School. The students will receive the second half of the scholarships in January as they begin their next semester. The students will visit the club while on holiday break and give an update on their studies and GPA.

Scott (left) plans to major in marketing at Emporia State University. Crome (right) will study nursing at Washburn University in Topeka.



TOPEKA WEST WRAPS UP BUSY AUGUST

It was another busy month for the Topeka West Rotary Club. Club members voted to fund a Shelter Box again this year, sending \$1,000 to Shelter Box USA. Bob Mackey reported the Shelter Box was displayed at the PETS meeting this year and it's easy to visualize how a Shelter Box gives great relief to those experiencing a disaster or humanitarian crisis throughout the world.

The TWR achieved Star Club status this past year and has already applied for a community project grant to provide dictionaries to third-grade classes in 11 elementary schools this fall. The Club has provided the dictionaries to schools for several years and we always receive thank you notes from both the students and teachers expressing their appreciation.

After 40 years of service to the TWR Club and the community, Bill Nace (at right) decided to retire as a long valued member. The Club held a special celebration for Bill during our meeting on August 23rd to thank him for his commitment and dedication to the Club. Bill was presented with a Certificate of Achievement and Service Award and was encouraged to join us at any of our meetings in the future.



The Club also held an Assembly meeting on the 23rd and received reports from committee chairs. A new event for a fundraiser is being researched and more information will be presented to the Club in the coming weeks. The Membership Committee is reviewing the Club's past efforts to obtain new members and will schedule a formal meeting soon to discuss additional efforts. Financial reports were also shared with Club members. TWR is also jointly sponsoring an All Topeka and Holton Club Social for District Governor, Adam Ehlert, at the Topeka Civic Theatre.



Among our guest speakers this month, were Erik Karre, Assistant District Governor - Area #5, who provided helpful comments about acquiring new members and retaining existing members, and U.S. Marshall, Ron Miller (at left), addressed the group and presented a history of the Marshall's office in Kansas beginning with Wyatt Earp to discussing the responsibilities of today's Marshall. On August 30th, District Governor Adam Ehlert was our guest speaker.

HOLTON ROTARY STAYS ACTIVE IN COMMUNITY

Holton Rotary held their semi-monthly meeting on August 31, 2017. Having 15 of the 18 members present.

Volunteerism preformed in August included: Watermelon feed for Holton High School Football, "Bucks of Bucks", and Helping with the 4-H parade lineup.



Volunteerism upcoming: "Fire Hydrant Project" (paint fire hydrants for the City of Holton), Ticket Taking at Home HHS football games.



SHAWNEE MISSION SUPPORTS LOCAL HIGH SCHOOL

Rotary International has [six areas of focus for global service](#), and the [Shawnee Mission Rotary Club](#) accomplishes several through their partnership with [Shawnee Mission North High School](#) (SMN), located near the Club's meeting space. A number of club members attended Shawnee Mission High School prior to the rapid growth of NE Johnson County evolving into a district with six high schools, renaming it to Shawnee Mission North High School. SME, SMW, SMS, SMNW and the Heritage school followed. Club members attended other SMSD high schools, but teenage rivalries mean nothing when it comes to serving the needs of students!

Coach Andre` Carnegie created the "One Stop Shop" at SMN to be a safe place to provide what a student might need to have a good day. With no questions asked, a student can stop by to get a snack from the refrigerator, a bottle of water to drink or an encouraging word. If clothes or hygiene cause ridicule, or a student not prepared for the day can stop in and find something else to change into and keep on going through with higher self-esteem. [Coach Carnegie is the District's Student Success Liaison](#), touching base with all feeder schools for SMN, learning the needs behind the scenes of a usual school day.

SM Rotary Club has worked over the past two years to support the One Stop Shop that Coach Dre` created; first from a closet and now in a room dedicated to its purpose. Groceries were provided as a donation from ticket sales for the "Grocery Store Grab" fundraiser in cooperation with Hy-Vee on Martway. Every other week Wayne London takes supplies to fill the stock Coach Dre` maintains and Wayne provides a viable witness to serving the at-risk students attending SMN.



The weekend before school opened, club members met to paint, lay carpet, and provide furniture arranged to make it a friendly, safe place for anyone to drop by during the day for a bit of motivation. Corky Nason made a generous donation toward the project's expenses and club members donated 4-6 hours each.



Shawnee Mission North was the elite public school of NE Johnson County 50+ years ago, and is now one of six SMSD high schools serving a very different set of demographic realities. More than 45% of the students at SMN receive free or reduced lunch. The school embraces the creativity and diversity of its student population while maintaining an excellent educational experience.

SHAWNEE ROTARY BIKE SAFETY EVENT

Shawnee Rotary, and the City of Shawnee held its 10th Annual Bike Safety Event/Bike Rodeo on August 26. The event provided safety training for children who plan to ride their bikes to school. After completing a seven station skills course, participants earned a bicycle safety certificate presented to them by Shawnee Police Officers. They also received a free T-shirt and a free bike helmet donated by local businesses and not-for-profit groups.



MANHATTAN ROTARY—ACTIVE IN ITS COMMUNITY

The Manhattan Rotary Club has continued its great history of presentations beginning with the Anniversary recap of Desert Storm by past president, Vernon Turner, followed by Professor Jennifer Vellenga's preview of the 2017-18 K-State Theatre program, J Schafer & Kendra Kuhlman's update on Kansas Public Radio, District Governor Adam Ehlert's visit and District update, and Senator Jerry Moran's Washington update.

We continued our 100th Anniversary series with presentations by past club leaders; George Ham-Rotarian of the Year 2013-14, Dick Wertzberger-2013-14 President, 2011-12 Rotarian of the Year-Rebecca Gould, Ike Ehie-2012-13 President and Mark Queen-2011-12 President.

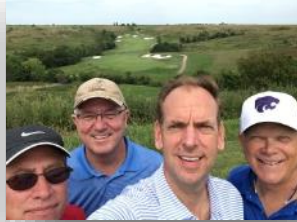
The first week of August, thirteen members volunteered to support our local Brew2Shoe race by staffing the first water station for all the runners and the following week (pictured at right), the club sponsored the water bottles for the youth "Just Tri It" triathlon.



The club is moving forward to answer the call of R.I. President's goal of One Rotarian One Tree program. The Manhattan Rotary Club and Manhattan Konza Rotary Club are partnering with the City of Manhattan to ensure that nearly 300 trees will be planted by next Spring.

The Club raised more than \$500 for the local Relay for Life campaign in weekly cup money prior to individual contributions being identified.

While making his official club visit, DG Adam presented President Vern Henricks with Manhattan Rotary Club's 100th Anniversary Certificate (picture 1). DG Adam was hosted on the golf course by Vernon Turner, Paul Oehm and Vernon Henricks (picture 2) as well as Manhattan Konza golfers (picture 3), and was also the guest of honor at dinner with both Manhattan Rotary Club and Konza Rotary Club leaders (picture 4).



TOPEKA AREA CLUBS GATHER FOR SOCIAL EVENT

The Rotary Clubs of Area 5 came together for an Area-wide social on August 31. Nearly 150 Rotarians, spouses, guests, and potential Rotarians gathered at the Topeka Civic Theatre. Clubs represented were Holton, Topeka Downtown, Topeka North, Topeka South, and Topeka West. DG Adam Ehlert, was the guest of honor.

The event even made it on TV. [Watch here!](#)

