

ROTARY REPORT

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2017 Rotary Radio Auction

Hobart Rotary Club president Lynda Guthrie said that, "our 2016 auction was the club's most successful ever, raising just at \$10,000, and we have our fingers crossed that we can beat that number in this year's auction". When asked what might make another record year possible, Ms. Guthrie responded that, "we have added a number of great new items - like a brand new roof for a house - to our usual assortment of goods and services. We have something for everyone, so pick up a flyer and join us on Saturday for the auction".

In a quick review of the auction flyer, we found that this year's offering includes more than 175 items ranging in price from \$15 to \$5,000.00 and includes products and services ranging from cheeseburgers, massages, prescription glasses - even a Date Night! - to oil changes, hair care, day lilies and that new roof Ms. Guthrie spoke of. We particularly liked the Bundle Deals because they offered an evening of food and entertainment with a single purchase. Once again, the club is offering the Bacon Lovers Special - a whole processed grain fed hog courtesy of Mr. Jim Coakley of Kiowa Auction. As an added bonus, Mr. Coakley and his FFA students donated ten "meat chickens" to the auction. These Hobart raised broilers are double breasted, extra large chickens raised for meat and are being processed whole (not cut up) for the winning bidders at an FDA approved facility in Texas. The chickens will be offered for sale in three lots of 2 each and one lot of 4 each. Just in time to get that grill out for the season!

Hal Pennington Selected DGN-D

Hal Pennington, past president of Duncan Rotary, has been nominated by our Council of Governors to serve as District 5770 Governor in 2019-2020. Hal interviewed with the COG earlier in the month. He will follow Dr. Arlie Daniel (Ada Rotary, 2017-18) and Dennis Brigham (Norman Rotary, 2018-19.)

The Council of Governors was impressed with Hal's thoughtful responses to their questions and his level of preparation for the interview. COG members also commended his exceptional organizational skills and his level of understanding of the District Governor's job.



Hal will spend the next 2-1/2 years training for his year as District Governor. He will attend Lone Star PETS prior to administering the District 5770 portion of LSP in early 2019. He will also attend the next two Zones 21b-27 Institutes for Governor-Nominee and Governor-Elect training. His training experience capstone will be a meeting with all Governors-Elect from throughout the world in January, 2019 at the Rotary International Assembly.

Hal will be the second District 5770 Governor from Duncan, and the fourth Duncan Rotarian to serve as a District Governor. Dr. Bill Edwards served District 5770 in 2008-2009. William Wetzel served District 577 in 1977-78, and Frank Gouin served District 182 in 1956-57.

In accordance with Rotary International's Manual of Procedures, because multiple candidates interviewed, we waited until a two-week "challenge period" had expired before announcing Hal's selection. All clubs represented at the upcoming Rotary Roundup (may 19-20 in Ada) will have an opportunity to vote to affirm his selection.

Greater Lawton & Arbuckle Sunrise plan Interact Clubs

Both Greater Lawton and Arbuckle Sunrise Rotary Clubs are exploring the possibility of beginning Interact Clubs. Both are planning to vary from the traditional model, which locates the club in a single high school.



Arbuckle Sunrise President John Black hopes to launch an Interact Club at Ardmore Middle School. Last week Arbuckle Sunrise met at AMS and invited both AMS faculty and the AMS Student Council to attend. As the students ate a club-provided breakfast, they heard about Rotary, Polio Plus, and Arbuckle Sunrise Rotary from President John, Arbuckle Sunrise Secretary-Treasurer Harold Butler, and District Governor Bob Greenstreet.

Ardmore Middle School would be the second non-high school Interact in District 5770. Norman Rotary has sponsored an Interact Club at Whittier Middle School. Karena Crawford, who will serve as District 5770 Interact Chair next year, saw the project through. This new club averages 50-60 students in attendance at meetings!

Shawnee Turns 100!

Shawnee Rotary is the first club in District 5770 to celebrate a centennial. The big event will take place March 9, but the club has already marked its 100th year in style. The club recently contributed \$12,000 to our Rotary Foundation as members opened their hearts and their checkbooks to honor the anniversary. The club also received a District Grant to provide a major upgrade to a local park in a somewhat neglected area of the city as a way of giving back to the community. After 100 years, Shawnee Rotary remains a vital part of the community and Rotary International.

Rotary Roundup taking shape

We will not have a District Conference this year! Rather, we will gather in Ada May 19-20 for a Rotary Roundup. All Rotarians are invited. The Roundup Planning Committee is working hard to prepare an event offering something for everyone.

General Sessions will focus on areas of focus for our Rotary Foundation, touching on Basic Literacy, Water and Sanitation, Disease Prevention and Treatment, Economic and Community Development, and Peace and Conflict Resolution. Breakout sessions will provide options for Rotarians to follow up the general session or learn about other aspects of Rotary. Training for Presidents-Elect, club Secretaries and Treasurers, and Grant Certification will also be offered.

The Roundup also provides each club an opportunity to showcase one (just one) project or event. Only clubs represented at the Roundup may vote on next year's District Budget and our District Governor Nominee Designate.

Oklahoma Rotary Supports Colombia Water Purification System Project

Clubs from all five Rotary Districts in Oklahoma have formed a coalition to furnish funds and help build a water treatment plant in the town of San Antonio de Tequendama, Colombia. About 12,000 citizens of this town drink water from a polluted creek that flows through the town. The usual water borne illnesses and diseases are in the water and affect the town's inhabitants. For this Global Grant, our Rotary partners in Colombia are asking our Oklahoma Coalition to fund \$43,750 from any combination of club + DDF + The Rotary Foundation matching grant.

District 5770 has committed \$5,000 of District Designated Funds (DDF) to the project. The Elk City Rotary Club has made the first club contribution of \$1,000 and issued a challenge to all other Rotary Clubs in our District to contribute as generously as they can toward this worthwhile project. The Sayre Rotary Club met the challenge with a contribution of \$200.00. Several Rotarians to our north in District 5750 have worked with Colombian Rotarians on various other water projects and feel that this project is both worthwhile and will expand our efforts with other Rotary Clubs in Colombia.

If either you or your club would like to contribute to this worthwhile cause, send your check payable to "District 5770 - Colombia Water Project" to Mike Blevins, 129 East Main St., Sayre, OK 73662. PDG Mike serves as our District 5770 Rotary Foundation Chair and is coordinating this project for our District. More information about this project can be obtained by viewing a You Tube video that the Colombians have made: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=B8RAFCvncQE>

PDG Jim Loftis

Past District Governor Jim Loftis (Frederick Rotary) passed away late last week. For the past few years, Jim lived in Bartlesville to be closer to his son, Neil. Jim served District 5770 in 1992-93. He put in a lot of miles visiting clubs from his home base in the southwestern corner of our district.

Past Rotary International President and Past District Governor Ron Burton (Norman Rotary) reflects "Jim was as big an advocate of Polio Plus as we had in the District.

Part of this stemmed from his and Nieta Faye's association with Jenny Horton. Jenny was a youth exchange student from Australia to Frederick in the early 70's.

"Jetta and I are personally going to contribute funds to Polio. I would hope our District might also make a contribution to polio in Jim's name." District 5770 is proud to honor Jim in that way, Ron—and we encourage Rotarians who remember Jim to do likewise. With only one reported case so far in 2017, we are tantalizingly close to eradicating Polio.

Condolences may be sent to his son: Neil Loftis, 2200 Mountain Drive, Bartlesville OK 74003. Neil says "just as in Frederick, everyone knew and liked my father. I like the idea of contributions to Polio Plus in my dad's memory."

District 5770 will contribute to Polio Plus in Jim's name. Rotarians who wish to honor Jim in this way may contribute directly or send contributions to our District 5770 Foundation Chair Mike Blevins, who has offered to do all the paperwork for memorial contributions.



Dictionaries, Dictionaries, Dictionaries

One of the six areas of focus for our Rotary Foundation is basic literacy, and many clubs in our corner of the world honor that commitment by providing dictionaries to third graders. Durant Rotary provides dictionaries to every third grade student in Bryan County. Every third grader in Caddo County receives a dictionary from Anadarko, Binger, Carnegie, and Cyril Rotary. Cross Timbers covers every third grader in Cleveland County. Ada Sunrise not only provides dictionaries to every third grader in Pontotoc County, but also adds schools in Coal, Garvin, and Seminole Counties.

Many other District 5770 clubs provide dictionaries to students in their service areas. We would like to recognize them not only here but also at our Rotary Roundup May 19-20. If your club provides dictionaries, please contact Jennifer Greenstreet (jkgreenstreet@cableone.net) and let her know the area you serve (local/county-wide) and the (approximate) number of dictionaries your club distributed during the 2016-17 Rotary year.

If your club does another project in the area of literacy, you might also send her that information. For example, at least two clubs in District 5770 do a project involving Andy & Elmer's Apple Dumpling Adventure, which teaches the 4-Way Test to second graders. Other clubs contribute to adult literacy programs. Whatever your club does in this area, please let Jennifer know.



Dinner to Honor Generous Rotarians

All Rotarians in our District are invited to our Foundation Recognition Dinner Saturday March 25 at the new Apache Casino Hotel in Lawton. Register online at Rotary5770.com. This event provides an opportunity to celebrate what one agency refers to as "the unbelievable generosity of Rotarians."

Returning after a one-year hiatus, this event provides an opportunity for our District Leadership to recognize clubs and individuals who have contributed to The Rotary Foundation of Rotary International since the previous District Conference in Norman.

Our speaker this year is Rotary Global Scholar Anja Nikolova. Anja is completing her graduate degree in Environmental Management at Yale University. District 5770 is one of several Rotary Districts supporting her studies. You will find an interview with Anja in the current Rotarian Magazine.

We will recognize 2015-16 top three clubs in total giving as well as per capita giving as well as all-Paul Harris Fellow clubs and clubs where every member has contributed to our Foundation. We will also recognize new and advancing Paul Harris Fellows, new and advancing Major Donors, Benefactors, and Arch Klumpf Society members.

Check-in begins at 6:00 p.m. in the new ACH Event Center. A cash bar opens at that time as well. Dinner is served at 7:00, and we'll try to have you back to the slots and tables before 10:00 p.m. Dress is business attire/black tie optional. Rotarians who have contributed at least \$100 since July 1 and their guests pay \$40 per seat. Rotarians who have not contributed pay \$140 per seat (with \$100 going to our Rotary Foundation); their guests are also \$40. Register through the District 5770 website, rotary5770.com.

