



Dr. Thomas Cardwell  
Rotary District 5650 Governor 2017-18



#### NEWS RELEASE:

Dr. Thomas Cardwell is the new Governor for 2017-18 for Rotary District 5650. The District covers an area of Eastern Nebraska and Southwestern Iowa with a total of 43 Rotary Clubs.

He joined Rotary in 2004. He and his spouse Jenny (also a Rotarian) live in Lincoln and are members of the Lincoln South Rotary Club.

Tom and Jenny have three children and seven grandchildren. Dr. Cardwell is the newly retired Dean of Student Engagement at Southeast Community College. He is also a licensed psychologist.

Rotary is a passion for both Tom and Jenny. They helped start a Rotary Youth Leadership camp for high school students in 2011. The camp completed its sixth year last April. International Service is also a passion for Tom. Cardwells have hosted numerous international guests in their home over the years including an exchange student.

Tom has written several grants with partners in the country of Georgia. The first was to support an orphanage in Saguramo Georgia. Two additional grants were written to develop, and then expand, a mentoring program for college students who had been displaced by war in the region. Most recently he wrote a grant to provide training in Georgia for mental health professionals, teachers, NGO leaders, and parents on how to work with children with behavioral problems.

Tom became more involved at the district level as a result of his desire to see Rotary grow. Currently our district is doing important work in Zambia and Afghanistan. His goals for 2017-18 echo those of the new president of Rotary International; Ian Riseley of Australia. Those include concern for the environment, notably asking each of the 1.2 million members to plant a tree this coming year. Nebraska has about 1200 Rotarians in District 5650. We will be hoping to help lead that effort since the Arbor Day Foundation began in Nebraska in 1872. President Riseley also hopes to increase membership among women and people under 40 as we seek to take on the challenges of a global society.

Tom believes Rotary has become an important mechanism in Nebraska and Iowa and the world for people to work together across geographical, religious, political and cultural divides. He is heartened by people working side by side to build stronger communities that help families of all sizes and shapes to thrive.

If you are interested in joining Rotary there are 43 clubs in our eastern Nebraska/western Iowa district. Please email Dr. Cardwell at [thomasrcardwell@yahoo.com](mailto:thomasrcardwell@yahoo.com) if you wish to get involved or desire more information

## BIO BULLET POINTS:

Thomas Cardwell

Married to Jenny Ross Cardwell.

Three Children. Seven grandchildren.

Joined Lincoln South Rotary in 2004.

Been to 4 International Rotary Conferences.

Life time member: Rotary Fellowships - Doctors Fellowship and Wine Tasting Fellowship

Past Lincoln South Rotary Club President 2010. While President, wrote an article nearly every week. I may have missed a couple.

Rotary District Cadwallader Award winner 2014

Author of matching global grants in 2011,12,13

Author VTT GG1525528 2016-17

Author of numerous district grants

Author of Rotary Open World Grant to host 7 Georgian visitors in 2016

Started RYLA in District 5650. Just completed 6th year.

Chaired District 5650 On to Atlanta Initiative and hosted successful District social attended by (est.) 53 people. I believe 78 people attended from our district.

## Education:

PhD in Counseling Psychology from UNL Ed. Psych. Dept.

Licensed clinical psychologist in Nebraska #610

Internship at Purdue University

MA in 1977, BA in 1975

## Work:

Dean of Student Engagement for Southeast Community College  
Lincoln, Beatrice, Milford Campuses.

## Hobbies:

Drink coffee.... often in Georgia and riding a bike.