

District 5690 News



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Message from District Governor

Martin Bauer



Dear District 5690 Rotarians

I am happy to announce that **Robert Mendoza** has been selected by the District 5690 Nominations Committee to serve as **District Governor in 2017-2018**. He is a member of the Rotary Club of Derby having served as their President. He currently serves as the District Foundation Chair. Those who attended the District Conference in October know that Robert is a dynamic speaker with lots of enthusiasm for Rotary. He is the head of the Public Utilities Division of the City of Derby. The official announcement was made to the Derby Club on February 13, 2015. Robert will be formally elected as the District Governor Nominee at the Rotary International Convention in Brazil this summer and will start his duties July 1, 2015. He will follow current District Governor-Elect David Yoder (Newton) and then Dean Kennedy (Winfield) who is the current District Governor Nominee. We are very fortunate to have such involved Rotarians to continue leading our District and bringing opportunities to our Clubs and members to be involved in Rotary projects in our communities and around the world.



This is **World Understanding Month** on the Rotary International calendar. Be sure in the next thirty days, you are finding ways to highlight the many projects Rotary is involved in around the world. District 5690 is heavily involved in water projects in many countries, creating toilet facilities

particularly for young girls so they can continue with their educations; many projects in Haiti and in Vietnam. These projects are excellent ways for you as a Rotarian to learn more about the world and hopefully prompt you to travel to work on one of these projects or host a Vocational Training Team in or from our District. VTTs, as they are being called, are an alternative to the Group Study Exchange program but with a focus on training or educating those in another country about ways to improve water, sanitation, education, agriculture, commerce and many other areas.

Hopefully your Club's President Elect and other Club leaders have registered or are planning to attend the Heartland **PETS (President-Elect Training Seminar) in Manhattan on March 5-7, 2015 in Manhattan, Kansas**. DGE David Yoder and the

MARK YOUR CALENDARS!

February 23, 2015
Rotary's 110th Birthday!

March 5-7, 2015
PETS (President-elect Training Seminar)
Manhattan, KS

May 27-31, 2015
RYLA
Winfield, KS

June 6-9, 2015
Rotary Intl. Conference—
Sao Paulo, Brazil



Message from District Governor Martin Bauer (cont'd)

leadership of all three districts that will be attending have planned excellent opportunities for you to learn about ways to gain more help from Rotary International and the District and to plan for your Club's coming year. You can register for the conference at www.HeartlandPETS.org but you need to register separately for a hotel room at the Four Points Sheraton in Manhattan. There will be a get-acquainted event Thursday night. Hope to see many of you there. It is a requirement for all Presidents-elect to attend a PETS training session, so if your President-elect cannot attend, we can provide you other dates and locations for PETS training in the region.

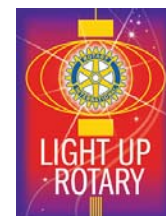
As we approach spring, please review your Club's efforts to **increase membership**. We have a slight increase in membership for the District but the net growth has been minimal. The enthusiasm of your Club by bringing in a

new member spreads to having more hands to complete projects and more ideas for engaging your members and advancing Rotary in your community. Challenge your members to invite a new member each month. My visits convinced me that each of the Clubs in our District have much to offer and are accomplishing many needed projects in their communities but to continue those long into the future, your Club needs to continue to grow in membership.

Keep up the good work of Lighting Up Rotary in District 5690.

Martin Bauer

*District Governor 2014-15
Rotary Club of Wichita*



Robert Mendoza Selected District Governor 2017-18



District Governor **Martin Bauer** is pleased to confirm that there were no objections or alternative nominations to the selection of **Robert Mendoza**, **Rotary Club of Derby**, to serve as District 5690 Governor for 2017-18. Robert has served in many capacities in the Derby club and in the district. He is currently our District Rotary Foundation Chair and will serve in that capacity one more year. Robert will be formally elected as District Governor-elect at the Rotary International Convention in Sao Paulo, thus becoming DGE on July 1, 2015.

DG Martin Bauer congratulated the Rotary Club of Derby for the first-ever DG from their club at their club meeting on February 13.

Congratulations, Robert!



Congratulating DG2017-18 Robert Mendoza at his Rotary Club of Derby were (L-R) DGN Dean Kennedy (Winfield), DG Martin Bauer (Wichita) and PDG Geri Appel (Wichita)



The Four Way Test

of the things we think, say and do

1. Is it the **TRUTH**?
2. Is it **FAIR** to all concerned?
3. Will it build **GOODWILL** and **BETTER FRIENDSHIPS**?
4. Will it be **BENEFICIAL** to all concerned?

RYLA

RYLA 2015—
May 27-31 for soon to begin for RYLA.



Save the dates of RYLA. It is not too finding students The applications and all information are online at the District web site or www.sckans.edu/leadership and then click on Rotary Camp.

Make your PETS Room Reservations *NOW* Room rates good until 2/20/15

Mark your calendars NOW to attend PETS in Manhattan, Kansas! Presidents-elect will be receiving more information via email. It is required by Rotary International that ALL presidents-elect attend PETS before beginning their position on July 1, 2015.

WHEN: **Friday & Saturday, March 6-7, 2015**

WHERE: **Four Points by Sheraton Manhattan**
530 Richards Drive
Manhattan, KS 66502

In **Hotel Reservations** Phone: 785-539-5311

Cut-off date for reserved block of rooms at
Rotary rate – **2/20/15**

Rotary Room rate: \$84 (single or double)
\$20 more for King

Ask for the Heartland PETS Rotary room rate

addition to training to become a Rotary club president, attendees will hear inspirational speakers and meet their counterparts from the 3 Rotary Districts in Kansas and Oklahoma.

Rotary Theme for 2015-16 Unveiled



Using their talents, expertise, and leadership, Rotary members worldwide are asked to be gifts to the world this upcoming 2015-16 Rotary year.

Rotary International President-elect K.R. "Ravi"

Ravindran called Sunday's address to incoming district governors the "most significant moment of my life."

"All of you have been given so many gifts. And you have now been given this great gift: one year to take all your talents, all your gifts, everything that you are and can become -- and **Be a Gift to the World**," said Ravindran, revealing his presidential theme at the annual five-day training meeting in San Diego, California, USA. "You have one year to take that potential and turn it into reality. One year to lead the clubs in your district and transform the lives of others. The time is so short, yet there is so much to be done."

Highlighting Rotary's biggest challenge, the eradication of polio, Ravindran said, "A future without polio is a gift that we have promised to the children of the world. And indeed it is a gift that we will give."

Ravindran, a member of the **Rotary Club of Colombo, Sri Lanka**, used Rotary's successes in the fight to eradicate the disease as an illustration of the impact Rotary members can have in the world. When Rotary set a goal of eradicating polio 25 years ago, it was endemic in 125 countries, and more than 1,000 children were becoming paralyzed each day. Today, polio remains endemic in just three countries, Afghanistan, Nigeria, and Pakistan. And in all of 2014, only 333 cases were reported. "We will battle on. We will prevail," he said.

Ravindran discussed some of Rotary's other challenges, including membership.

"We have to find a way to bring back the fundamentals that built our organization: the emphasis on high ethical standards in all aspects of our lives, and the classification system that encourages a diversity of expertise in each club," he said. "Too often these ideas are viewed as little more than inconvenient obstacles to increasing our membership. But they have been essential to Rotary's success, and we ignore them at our own peril."

Ravindran told attendees that the focus on branding is essential to helping Rotary grow. "We need to reposition our image, which we recognize has faded in many parts of the world," he said.

Rotary also needs to continue to raise funds for The Rotary Foundation, attract new members, and encourage greater participation from current members, he added.

"There are no easy answers to any of these questions. And yet the answers must somehow be found. We are the ones who must find them," said Ravindran.

The president-elect closed his speech emphasizing that now is the time to make real change.

"You have one year to build monuments that will endure forever, not carved in granite or marble, but in the lives and hearts of generations. This is our time. It will not come again. Let us grasp it," he said.

District 5690 Governor-elect **David Yoder** was in attendance when the theme was announced for his year of leadership. DGE David received intense training during the week-long week in preparation for his District Governor year.



Interact Club of West Wichita Updates

From Mike Suellentrop, RC West Wichita

As we begin 2015 we have approximately 25 members from the following schools - Andale, Goddard, Eisenhower, Maize, Maize South, and Bishop Carroll.

In 2014 we participated in the following service projects - Two holiday grocery delivery efforts, boundless playground cleanup day, bookshelf building, Arc of Sedgwick County Lights on St. Paul Christmas lights display. In 2015 we plan to assist at a local food pantry and we have a cleanup day planned to help a local resident in need of assistance due to health and financial reasons.

Coming up on Saturday, April 4 we have our annual Dodgeball tournament. Our goal is to raise \$3,000, and we can always use more event sponsorships and team prize sponsors so if there is any interest in that regard please

get in touch with Mike Suellentrop or Brent Dome.

We have a fundraiser planned in cooperation with Chipotle that will take place on February 10 from 5:00 to 9:00 at the Maple and Ridge location where 1/2 of sales proceeds will go to Interact if you mention Interact upon ordering.

Our next Panama trip is scheduled for March of 2016 and planning will begin for that trip later this spring.

Lastly, RYLA takes place May 27-31 and we hope to have several members attend.

To keep up with club activities you can visit our website at <https://westwichtainteract.shutterfly.com/> or on Facebook at <https://www.facebook.com/groups/2249873295/>



Rotary Youth Exchange

Valerie Goertz reports from **France**



Christmas in my host family's home

For Christmas I spent three days in the country with my first host family. I had such a great time, and I was surprised at how much it felt like Christmas at my home. The whole family spending time together, giving presents, and eating lots of

food (though we ate the traditional French Christmas meal of oysters and salmon).

Then, I went home, packed up my suitcase, and met my new family. They are all very nice and made me feel right at home. I have two host siblings; Arthur and Camille. Arthur lives in Paris, so I don't see him very often, and Camille is my age, and has become one of my best friends. Oh, and I almost forgot Jackson, their 4 month old



puppy who eats everything. They live a long ways away from the center of town, where my school is, but that is good too because there is a lake close to the house, and we can go walking in the woods. Plus I can see another way of life in France. My host dad, Francois, loves hunting, so I have gone with him one time already, though they didn't kill anything. That was an interesting experience. It was fun - I just walked around in the forest and tried to scare animals towards the hunters. Other than that it's just been life as usual here. I go to school and hang out with my friends at a café or at the mall. Now we have started going ice skating on Wednesday afternoons, so that's cool. I think that's all my news for January so far.



My host-sister Camille and Jackson

Mercedes Rodriguez reports from **Brazil**

January was an eventful month. It was the end of my family vacation to the south of Brazil. My new year was spent in São Paulo where I got to see so many new and cultural things. It is also summer here in Brazil (I know weird) so I have got to spend the month at beaches and concerts. I was able to attend David Guetta in Fortaleza which was by far the best thing to happen to me here I had so much fun with the other exchange students, ROTEX, and classmates. I also got to attend a Forró event (Forró: northeastern music). January was a huge month for me as I have grown in the language and the culture. My favorite things in Brazil include: tapioca, açaí, acaraje, War, Beira Mar, yozen, oh my dog, natural hair-dos, manicures, maids, Brazilian swimwear, beaches, and shopping malls.



RITE Teachers from Argentina & Panama in D5690

Our Inbound RITE (Rotary Inter-Country Exchange) teachers, a project organized by the two west-side Rotary Clubs arrived in Wichita on January 17 and will be here until February 14. During their 4 week stay, they experience our culture through home hosting and involvement at our area schools. Meet this year's teachers.

Paula Davico Buenos Aires, Argentina



Paula has been a primary teacher as well as an English teacher since 2008. This is her first trip to the US but she has also visited Chile and Uruguay. Paula believes her experiences in the US will enable her to learn more about different cultures, traditions and teaching techniques that she plans to share with colleagues and students.

Anabela Ester Arizmendi Buenos Aires Argentina



Anabela has been an English teacher and currently is the Headmistress/ Director of a private school. She began her teaching career in 2004. She is also a freelance Translator. She would like to learn more about the educational system in the US. She wants to share the culture, customs, language, music and information of her country. She has traveled to Brazil, the United States and Cape Town, South Africa to study English. Anabela is Rotary member as well.

Natalia Vazquez Buenos Aires, Argentina



Natalie has been a teacher of English teacher since 2005. She has traveled to England, Malaysia, Colombia and Spain. She is an animal enthusiast. Natalie believes her experiences in the US will enrich both her professional and her personal life through sharing her new knowl-

edge and experience with others; she also wants to help US students learn as well.

Amarilis Gómez San Carlitos, Chiriquí, Panamá



Amarilis has been a content teacher as well as a teacher of English. She has also worked with university students. Amarilis hopes to acquire new teaching techniques and methodology. She knows she will grow professionally and expects to improve the way she teaches English.

She believes the true winners will be her students. She plans to share new teaching strategies with colleagues in Panama. She is representing the Rotary club of David.

Yara Rivera Dolega, Chiriquí, Panamá



Yara has been a teacher of English to elementary students since 2009. Yara has traveled to Colombia, Venezuela, Curazao, Aruba and the US for a leadership seminar. She is glad to be a part of the RITE program due to its unique opportunity to experience the US educa-

tional system. She hopes to share her new knowledge colleagues and students. She is representing the Rotary Club of Boquete



The RITE Teachers attended a WSU Shockers game and got a photo with WU Shock!



See you at PETS in Manhattan March 5-7!

Rotary Peace Action Online Course

We all want lasting peace, but how do we make it happen? In the online discussion course [Seeing Systems: Peace, Justice & Sustainability](http://www.nwei.org/rotarian-peace-action/), you'll discover ways to move from talking about peace to putting it into action. This six-week course from the Northwest Earth Institute is facilitated by Mike Mercer, executive director of the institute and a 10-year member of the Portland Rotary Club in Oregon. For more information and to [Register for the course](http://www.nwei.org/rotarian-peace-action/). <http://www.nwei.org/rotarian-peace-action/>

8 April - 13 May (six sessions held every Wednesday 14:00-15:00 UTC-5)

TRF (The Rotary Foundation) Funding Model Explained

To hear about the changes in TRF's Funding Model, go to <https://www.rotary.org/myrotary/en/member-news/leaders-talk-about-rotary-foundations-funding-model> and listen to an interview with RI's Chief Financial Officer and Finance Committee Chair discussing the changes. It explains the reason cash contributions are subject to a small fee on Global Grants.

The Rotary Foundation News



Polio Facts & Figures*

<u>Area</u>	<u># of cases YTD 2015</u>	<u># of cases YTD 2014*</u>
Afghanistan	0	3
India	0	0
Nigeria	0	0
Pakistan	7	18
Non-endemic countries	0	22
Total Worldwide	7	21

*Data as of 18 Feb 2015 / World Health Organization

Go to www.polioeradication.org/Dataandmonitoring/Poliothisweek.aspx for more information

TRF — Did you know?

❑ As of 20 November, the Foundation approved:

- 298 district grants totaling \$17.9 million, compared with 288 grants during the same period in 2013
- 386 global grants totaling \$23.7 million (\$9.9 million of that from the World Fund), compared with 209 grants during

❑ At their October meeting, the Trustees made several decisions related to grants:

- The current agreement with UNESCO-IHE Institute for Water Education to provide water and sanitation scholarships is extended for one year, pending agreement from UNESCO-IHE.

- Clubs and districts may now carry out global grants in non-Rotary countries where the Rotary International Board is actively trying to establish Rotary clubs. Vietnam is currently the only country in this category.
- Up to 10 percent of a global grant budget may be used for project-specific overhead and administrative costs of cooperating organizations.
- Lineal descendants of honorary Rotarians are now eligible for Foundation awards.
- The current version of [grant terms and conditions](#) reflects these changes.

Club News from around the District

Rotary Club W. Sedgwick

Co: Rita Linnens presented January Extra Effort Awards to the 5th graders at Kensler Elementary.



Rotary Club West Wichita:

Our club will be hosting a Russian Open World team September 25 through October 13, 2015.

Rotary Club of Hutchinson:

Our club provided dictionaries to each 3rd grader in ten Reno County schools. The Four Way Test and club information was inside each book and club Rotarians hand-delivered the books. A letter to the parent or guardian of the students was also included with the book.



Rotary Club of W Sedgwick County Sunrise: Sunrise Rotary has been recognized by the Kansas Honor Flight for donating \$700 to support at least one Veteran to visit the memorials in Washington DC and the \$1000 for supporting the YMCA Strong Kids in 2014. In 2015-2017 the board has committed a gift \$5000 to support the work of the YMCA and be recognized on their "Hall of Fame". We

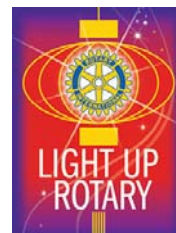
received thank you notes from both organizations for our support. (See below)

Rotary Club of West Wichita:

We delivered bookshelves and books to the 1st graders at Lawrence & Benton schools. It's always fun to see the excitement of the kids.



Rotary Club of Andover: June 20th is the date for our next summer concert in Andover Central Park. It will be a country concert with Diamond Rio AND Restless Heart. They both have many, many hits. The BBQ event will also be going again, plus fireworks. Tickets will be available soon. Cost is 4 tickets for \$10.



Thank you notes received

Dear **Sunrise Rotary** Board, Thank you from the bottom of my heart for becoming a Triangle Society member for the NW YMCA!! Your support & commitment at this new level will directly change the lives of more families in our corner of town. I am truly proud to be a member of such a wonderful community minded organization!

Marci Barragan

Dear **Friends** (Sunrise Rotary), Kansas Honor Flight, Inc. would like to express our thanks for your very generous donation of \$700.00. It is through people and organizations like yours that allow our project of taking War Veterans to Washington D.C. to visit the memorials built in their honor, to continue. Your donation will help send more of these deserving heroes on this special trip, at no cost to them. Your support means a great deal to the War Veterans and to all of us who volunteer to accomplish this mission. Many thanks!

Daniel Drake

Your Club News and Photos could be here!

*Send your club news to newsletter editor
Geri Appel at appelg@kenlerman.com*

*Note that your editor does not have time to visit each club's website or Facebook page for news. Please send news via email or newsletter.
Thanks!*

District 5690 MEMBERSHIP REPORT as of January 31, 2015					
	7/1/2014	1/31/2015	NET GAIN	Goal	YTD
	MEMBERSHIP	MEMBERSHIP	2014-15		to Goal
Andover	23	22	-1	23	-1
Arkansas City	57	57	0	100	-43
Beaver	18	21	3	18	3
Boise City	14	15	1	15	0
Cimarron	26	27	1	26	1
Derby	68	67	-1	70	-3
Dodge City	38	36	-2	38	-2
East Wichita	125	130	5	150	-20
El Dorado	49	53	4	52	1
Garden City	41	44	3	41	3
Greensburg	12	15	3	20	-5
Guymon	27	27	0	27	0
Hugoton	25	21	-4	26	-5
Hutchinson	123	122	-1	123	-1
Johnson	17	17	0	17	0
Kingman	32	32	0	32	0
Kinsley	14	14	0	14	0
Larned	22	22	0	22	0
Liberal	46	46	0	46	0
Newton	51	53	2	57	-4
Pratt	64	65	1	64	1
Sublette	16	17	1	16	1
Syracuse	21	16	-5	21	-5
Texhoma	16	19	3	16	3
Ulysses	38	37	-1	42	-5
Wellington	19	19	0	19	0
W. Sedgwick Co	45	43	-2	45	-2
West Wichita	63	62	-1	70	-8
Wichita-DT	390	387	-3	425	-38
Wichita-Old Town	17	15	-2	17	-2
Winfield	84	86	2	87	-1
TOTALS	1601	1607	6	1739	-132

Thank you for submitting your membership goal! Others not reported (yet).

Did you know?

- **Ideas to Boost your Membership** (from RC W. Wichita)
 - Do you have a greeter at each club meeting welcoming members and guests?
 - Do you have a "guest book" to obtain contact information on your guests for follow-up?
- Rotary's Learning Center puts professional development right at your fingertips. You'll find a variety of interactive courses that will help you navigate Rotary's online tools or develop leadership skills to prepare for a new Rotary role. It is just one of the resources Rotary has developed to make your membership more rewarding.

Find a Club Anywhere in the world!

Get Rotary's free Club Locator app and find a meeting wherever you go! www.rotary.org/clublocator



District 5690

www.rotary5690.org

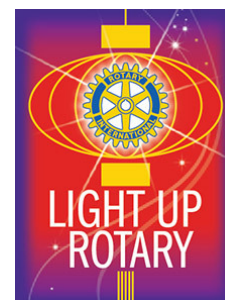
This is your newsletter!
Send your articles and club information to:

PDG Geri Appel, Editor

Phone: 316-733-5800

Fax: 316-733-5077

appelg@kenlerman.com



2014-2015 RI Theme

Gary Huang, Taiwan

RI President



Rotary International
Convention

June 6-9, 2014

Sao Paulo Brazil

Don't miss the latest edition of our Ambassadorial Scholar, Andrew Hawkins, news from Ipsala University on the following pages.



A QUICK TRIP TO PRAGUE

Rotary District 5690 Ambassadorial Scholarship News

JANUARY 2015

Peering out of my passenger window, I watched the runway slowly appear as my Airbus 320 flight began to make its descent. I felt like a true jetsetter, as this was already my third flight of the New Year. After having spent the holidays in Finland, I journeyed back to Sweden to complete my exams for my second quarter courses. I would later find out that both went well, but before getting too settled in for the new semester, and before my new courses started, I decided to take a quick trip back to my home university in Prague to touch base with my thesis supervisor and get some personal feedback before really digging in and starting to write. I was sure glad I did. I received some great guidance for my dissertation, had a chance to meet with old classmates, and of course made time to take in the beauty of the city with a stroll through Prague's winding, cobblestone streets.

As my flight began to descend towards Stockholm Airport, I sat back in my seat with a feeling of contentment. The intoxicating beauty of Prague lingered with me, and the trip was a welcome respite from the marathon study sessions leading up to my second quarter exams. It was a New Year, with new courses, and new challenges. I felt ready and energized to buckle down and start writing my thesis.

Since coming back I have been doing just that. In addition to conducting research and writing, I have started a new Farsi course and have enrolled in a course at Uppsala's Department of Peace and Conflict Studies which is titled *International Peace and Security*.



Top: Prague Castle from Charles Bridge. Above: Medieval burial grounds in Gamla Uppsala (photo by wikimedia).

While the demands of thesis work and my new courses have occupied the majority of my time this month, a brief respite of snow allowed for a Sunday afternoon cultural break with some fascinating Viking lore. Just a 20 minute bus ride from Uppsala, in the adjacent village of Gamla Uppsala (Old Uppsala), there lies three great grassy barrows. Shrouded in mystery, these mounds were once thought to be the burial grounds of the mighty Viking gods Thor, Odin and Freyr. Subsequent excavations at the behest of the Swedish King Karl XV, in an attempt to quash growing speculations that the mounds were just barrows of dirt, did not conclusively identify the remains which were found in the mounds, but resulted in the more plausible speculation that they were likely the final resting places of descendants from Sweden's oldest known dynasty- the Ynglings, dating from the 5th and 6th centuries. And while the true identities of those resting there may never be conclusively revealed, the fresh air, beautiful scenery and Norse mythology was more than enough to captivate me.

More updates and current happenings coming in next month's newsletter. Until then, hej då!

More from Uppsala (and Prague)...



Jan Hus and his Hussite followers stand covered in snow, overlooking tourists in Prague's Old Town Square.



Church of Our Lady before Týn in Prague's iconic Old Town Square



Royal Burial mounds in Gamla Uppsala