# District 5680 News

Latest News and Bulletin Updates

April 2026

Issue # 10


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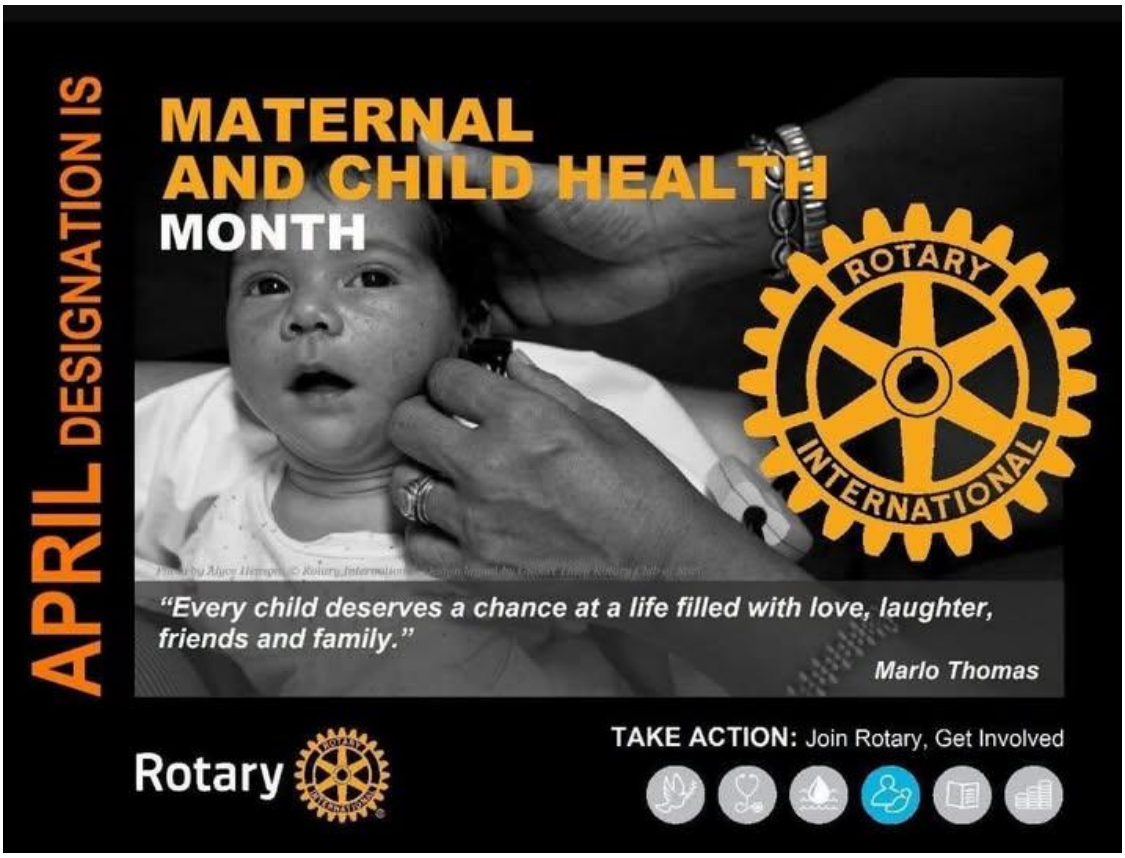
## ROTARY SADDLE SUMMARY OF THE MONTH

April is **Maternal and Child Health Month**, a time to reflect on the vital role we play in ensuring every child has the opportunity to thrive. As Marlo Thomas beautifully stated, "Every child deserves a chance at a life filled with love, laughter, friends, and family." This month, let's unite as Rotarians to advocate for maternal and child

health initiatives, raise awareness, and support programs that make a difference in the lives of families in our communities and beyond. Together, we can take meaningful action and create a healthier future for our children. Join Rotary today and discover how you can get involved in this essential cause!

## Deb Minkler –

### District Governor 2025-2026
### Rotary District 5680
### Atwood, KS Club



# District 5680 Visioning

On **April 19th**, the leadership team of Rotary District 5680 gathered for an intensive, high-energy visioning session. Guided by expert facilitators from the **International Vision Facilitation Council (IVFC)**, our leaders spent the day looking beyond the horizon to define what the future of our district should look like over the next three years.

The session was more than just a meeting; it was a collaborative think-tank where we tackled the big questions: *How can we better support our clubs? What do our members need to thrive? How can we increase our impact, enhance our engagement, expand our reach, and increase our ability to adapt?*

**Key Takeaways from the Session:**

- **A Shared Vision:** We reached a consensus on a unified direction that prioritizes growth, engagement, and service.
- **Actionable Groundwork:** We walked away with the foundational elements of a comprehensive **Action Plan** that will guide our district's operations and initiatives.
- **Club-Centric Focus:** A major theme of the day was identifying concrete ways the District can provide better resources, communication, and support to individual clubs and their members.

This event has laid the groundwork for a more vibrant and connected district. We are excited to refine these ideas into a final action plan and share more details with all of you in the coming months.

The energy in the room was a testament to the dedication of our leaders. Together, we aren't just planning for the future—we are building it!

Yours in Rotary Service,

**Isaac McNary**
*The Kilt Guy - (316)-461-0512*

# Club News from District 5680

The Rotary Club of Liberal was honored to have our District 5680 Governor, Deb DePorter Minkler. Rotary Club 1591 and District 5680 collected a total of $6,128.00 for the area fire stations. Seward Co, Plains, Tyrone all asked that their portions be given to Beaver and Harper fire departments, the two hardest hit with losses and injuries.

A highlight of the meeting was the opportunity to host several area Fire Chiefs, who shared firsthand accounts of the heroic efforts their teams made during the "Pancake Day Fires" on Tuesday, February 17, 2026. Their stories were both moving and inspiring, offering a powerful reminder of the courage, dedication, and professionalism of our local first responders.

*Plains Fire Chief*

*Beaver Fire Chief*

*Harper Fire Chief*

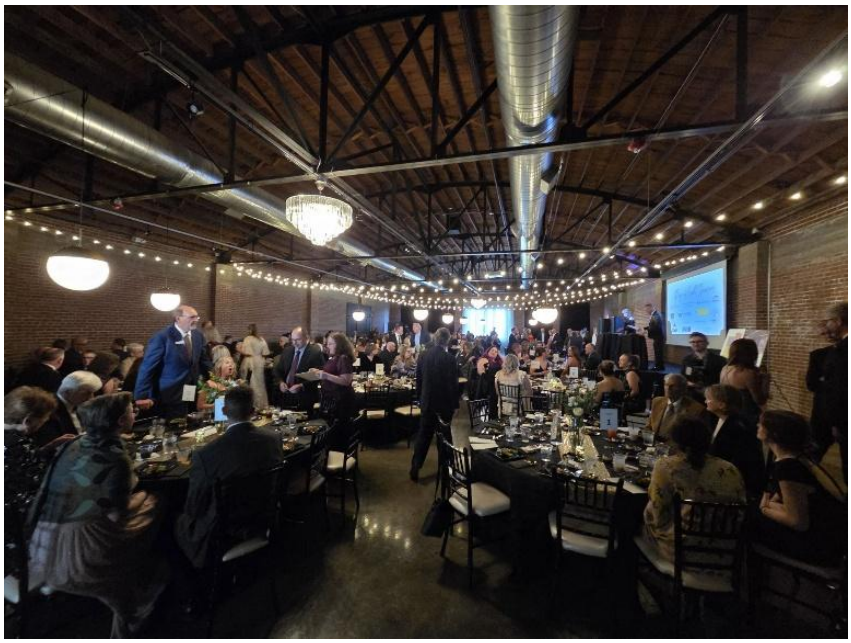
*Seward Co Fire Chief*

The Rotary Club of Great Bend Rotarians for March were Shannon David and Melissa Gutierrez, two outstanding young ladies who are seniors at Great Bend high school. Shannon and Melissa thank you for being Junior Rotarians in March and we wish you the best in your future endeavors.

They are pictured here with their sponsor, Rotarian Dr. Patrick Stang and club president-elect Taylor Smith.

Rotary Club of Old Town Wichita

# Lighting the Way: A Night of Impact with ICT SOS



ICT SOS recently celebrated 15 years of impact at its anniversary event, *Light The Way*, and it was truly an unforgettable evening. Surrounded by community members, partners, and supporters, the night highlighted the powerful work being done to prevent human trafficking and support survivors here in our community. Throughout the evening, guests heard stories of impact, learned more about prevention education efforts reaching thousands of students, and saw firsthand how advocacy services and resources like Fresh Start Bags are helping individuals rebuild their lives. The energy in the room was inspiring—a reflection of what can happen when a community comes together with a shared purpose. Because of the continued support from partners like Rotary and others across Wichita, ICT SOS is able to expand its reach and deepen its impact. From classrooms to client services, this work is only possible through strong community collaboration. We're grateful for everyone who makes this mission possible and look forward to sharing more photos and highlights from the evening soon. Together, we are truly lighting the way toward a safer, more informed community.

The Gala Committee consisted of Rotary members from West Wichita Rotary, West Wichita Satellite Club, and Wichita Downtown. Throughout the history of the project, we have also had representation from Wichita Sunrise, Wichita Old Town, Wichita East, and Andover.

## Rotary Club of Clay Center:

Food is sent home with students over school breaks to support those in need. We also use donations from the food drive to stock snacks and supplies in each Comfort Corner.

## Rotary Club of Clay Center:

Rachael Greenlee, owner of The Mothership Consignment & Thrift in Clay Center, and Karli Hubka, President of the Clay Center Rotary Club, hosted a pop-up event at Clay Center Community High School.

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## WSU BASEBALL OUTING—Rotary Club of West Wichita

This year, for a little change-up *(pun totally intended ☺)*, we will have our club's annual baseball outing at **WSU baseball, Eck Stadium**

**Saturday, May 9 Game Time: 2:05 pm**

**Cost: WW Rotarians:** member + 1 guest, no charge; Extra guests: $10 each

**Satellite Members:** $10 each **Kids 2 and under:** Free

Our club will rent a pavilion for the game. There will not be a picnic, but we will provide some snacks and drinks for everyone to enjoy. Plan to bring your lawn chairs. Hope you can join us for a fun and relaxed time!

**Deadline to sign up:** Tuesday, May 5

The Rotary Club of Eldora took a quick little lunch break trash pick up! Thanks to everyone that was able to help out! 💙💛

Thank you, Wichita, for supporting Rotary Club of Old Town Wichita flower sales! The funds will allow us to continue our service mission this year.

On April 22nd, the Haskell County Rotary Club broke ground on their Splashpad project. The project is located at the Sublette Recreation Center. It is a 2360 sq ft pad featuring 7 features and 5 sprays spread between a toddler bay, family bay, and action bay. It will also feature a sitting wall around it for parents to enjoy.

The water that is used by the splash pad will be held in a lagoon and reused to water the soccer field at the rec center, so it will not result in additional water consumption for the community. The project budget is $400,000 and all of the funds have been raised through fundraising, grants, and donations. So, no local tax dollars were needed. We hope to have the project completed around the end of July to mid August. We were thrilled that Distric Governor Deb Minkler was able to join us for the day!

# Passing of the Pin Ceremony

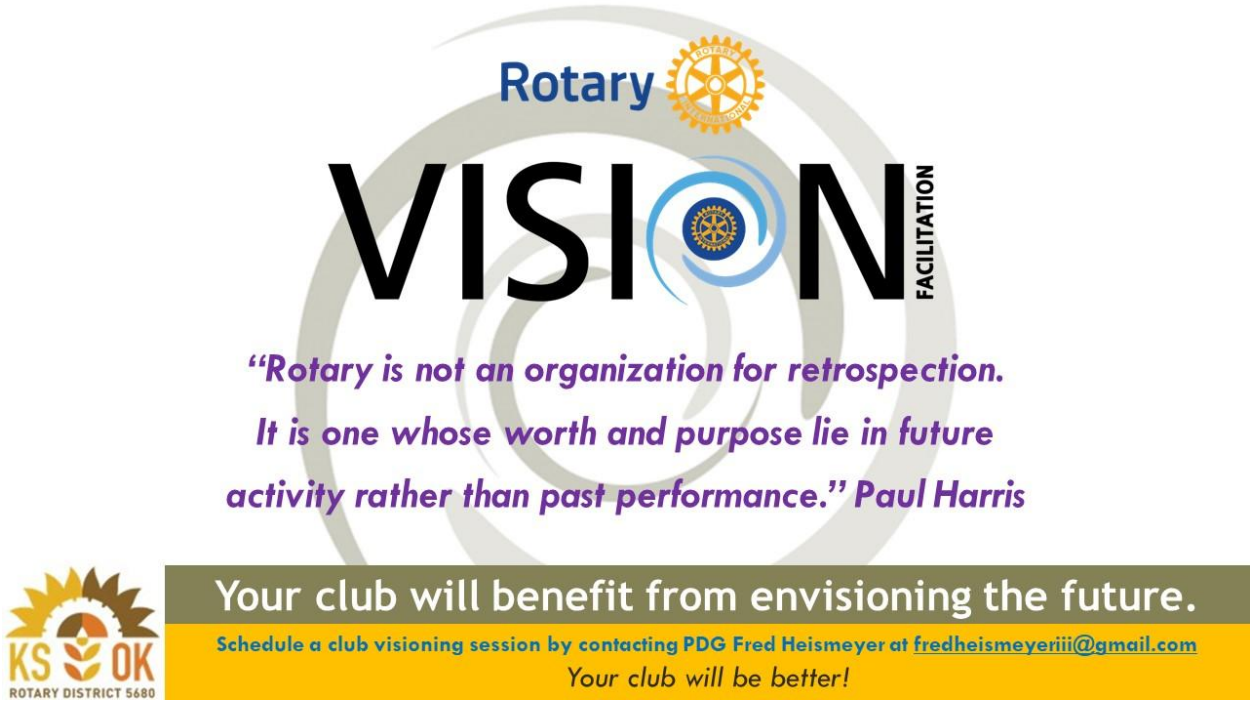
I would like to cordially invite each and every member of Rotary District 5680 to my inauguration as District Governor (DG) on July 1st, 2026! For those that are unfamiliar with the Passing of the Pin ceremony, it is the annual transfer of the Governors lapel pin from the current DG to the incoming DG. I am beyond excited for my year as Governor of our amazing district and cannot wait to get out to all our clubs and to make 2000+ new friends across Kansas and Oklahoma. Taking on this role is an honor and a responsibility that I do not take lightly, and I want to celebrate this event with all of you! If you plan to attend please RSVP at the link below by June 24, 2026.
https://www.zeffy.com/en-US/ticketing/passing-of-the-pin

**Event Details:**
Wednesday, July 1, 2026.
12 PM - 1 PM
El Dorado High School
401 McCollum Rd.
El Dorado, KS 67042

Yours in Rotary Service,

**Isaac McNary**
*The Kilt Guy - (316)-461-0512*

**District 5680 - KS/OK**
District Governor '26-27
**Profession**
VP of International Development
The Outreach Program
Offering WASH Projects and Food Service Projects for clubs, districts, churches, and corporations.




As we plan for the upcoming Rotary new year, many clubs are setting goals and direction. One very important way to do this is to have a Visioning session for your club. Club Visioning offers you a way to not only plan for the upcoming year, but to set direction for at least three years. Clubs in our district that have participated in the Club Visioning process over the past few years have become stronger, provided more service to their communities, infused energy into Rotarians, and grown in membership.

You can explore more details about Club Visioning on our district's website – www.rotary5688.org/page/club-visioning. Contact PDG Fred Heismeyer fredheismeyeriii@gmail.com for more information and to answer any questions you may have.

# From the District Membership Chair:

# Growing Rotary-Together

***From the District Membership Chair: Growing Rotary—Together***

Hello Rotarians,

Attracting new members is important—but **engaging them early** is what turns interest into long-term commitment. Rotary International consistently emphasizes first-year engagement as a key driver of retention, leadership development, and future service impact.

**This Month's Membership Focus: Engaging New Members Early**

A new member's first year shapes how they see Rotary—and their place in it. When new members are quickly connected to people, service, and purpose, they're far more likely to stay engaged and grow within the organization. When they're left to figure things out on their own, even the most enthusiastic members can quietly disengage.

This month, consider how your club supports members in their first 6-12 months. Do they have a mentor or go-to person? Are they invited into service projects or committees early on? Do they understand how Rotary connects locally and globally? Engagement doesn't require over-programming—it requires intention.

Rotary's future depends on developing leaders early, and that development begins the moment someone joins. When clubs invest in early engagement, they build stronger pipelines for service and leadership.

If your club would like ideas for onboarding, mentoring, or first-year engagement, I welcome the opportunity to partner with you. Please reach out to me at **alana.mcnary@pec1.com**.

Thank you for investing in new members and for strengthening Rotary for the future.

**Try This This Month:**

Pair each new member with a mentor and invite them into a committee or service activity within their first 60 days.

In Rotary Service,

**Alana McNary**

**District Membership Chair**

# DISCOVER PURPOSE THROUGH SERVICE

Join us on a Rotary Service Trip to Pantanatic, Guatemala. This is a meaningful opportunity to make a real inpact while experiencing the culture and community of this beautiful country. Participants will work alongside local Rotary partners and community members on community driven service projects, which include school improvements, clean water initiatives, women and baby preventative health initiatives, and home visits of elderly.

15 JULY 2026
THROUGH
22 JULY 2026

## TRIP DETAILS

1. **Location**
   Patanatic, Guatemala (Lake Atitlan region)
2. **Dates**
   July 15-22, 2026
3. **Cost**
   $1,559 per person plus Airfare Cost (includes lodging, group meals, in-country transportation, and transportation to/from airport, airfare not included)
4. **Project Support**
   Recommend each participating club donate $500-$2000 for project support

FOR MORE DETAILS CONTACT GLORIA HOMEIER AT 785-483-1139
OR HOMEIER.ROTARY5680@GMAIL.COM

# District 5680 Membership Report As of April 30, 2026

| Club | 7/1/2025 MEMBERSHIP | 4/30/2026 MEMBERSHIP | NET GAIN 2025-2026 |
|---|---|---|---|
| Abilene | 53 | 47 | (6) |
| Andover | 18 | 20 | 2 |
| Arkansas City | 68 | 61 | (7) |
| Atwood | 24 | 24 | 0 |
| Beaver | 16 | 16 | 0 |
| Beloit | 30 | 30 | 0 |
| Boise City | 22 | 23 | 1 |
| Cimarron | 17 | 17 | 0 |
| Clay Center | 64 | 61 | (3) |
| Colby | 35 | 35 | 0 |
| Concordia | 26 | 19 | (7) |
| Derby | 55 | 55 | 0 |
| Dodge City | 30 | 34 | 4 |
| East Wichita | 67 | 62 | (5) |
| E-Club | 16 | 17 | 1 |
| El Dorado | 31 | 28 | (3) |
| Ellinwood | 13 | 13 | 0 |
| Ellis | 10 | 9 | (1) |
| Garden City | 22 | 19 | (3) |
| Goodland | 13 | 14 | 1 |
| Great Bend | 28 | 26 | (2) |
| Guymon | 23 | 27 | 4 |
| Haskell County (Sublette) | 16 | 16 | 0 |
| Hays | 52 | 49 | (3) |
| Hays Sunrise | 12 | 8 | (4) |
| Hill City | 7 | 9 | 2 |
| Howard | 10 | 10 | 0 |

Rotary

District 5680

KS OK ROTARY DISTRICT 5680

www.rotary5680.org

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

**Larry D. Stoppel, O.D.**
**District Newsletter Editor**

ldstoppel@gmail.com

**Cell phone**

**785-747-8526**

**Send me your news and newsletters!**

| | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| Hugoton | 13 | 11 | (2) |
| Hutchinson | 86 | 82 | (4) |
| Kingman | 21 | 19 | (2) |
| Kinsley | 5 | 4 | (1) |
| Liberal | 32 | 32 | 0 |
| Lyons | 21 | 17 | (4) |
| McPherson | 27 | 26 | (1) |
| Ness City | 21 | 22 | 1 |
| Newton | 55 | 57 | 2 |
| Norton | 11 | 8 | (3) |
| Oberlin | 29 | 28 | (1) |
| Osborne | 9 | 8 | (1) |
| Phillipsburg | 44 | 37 | (7) |
| Pratt | 72 | 61 | (11) |
| Russell | 39 | 35 | (4) |
| Salina | 96 | 90 | (6) |
| Sterling | 13 | 12 | (1) |
| Syracuse | 18 | 15 | (3) |
| Texhoma | 8 | 9 | 1 |
| Ulysses | 16 | 19 | 3 |
| Washington | 31 | 29 | (2) |
| West Sedgwick Co Sunrise | 36 | 38 | 2 |
| West Wichita | 70 | 76 | 6 |
| Wichita-Downtown | 347 | 365 | 18 |
| Wichita-Old Town | 8 | 8 | 0 |
| Winfield | 60 | 59 | (1) |
| **TOTALS** | **1966** | **1916** | **(50)** |

Rotary

District 5680

KS OK ROTARY DISTRICT 5680

www.rotary5680.org

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**Larry D. Stoppel, O.D.**
**District Newsletter Editor**

ldstoppel@gmail.com

**Cell phone**

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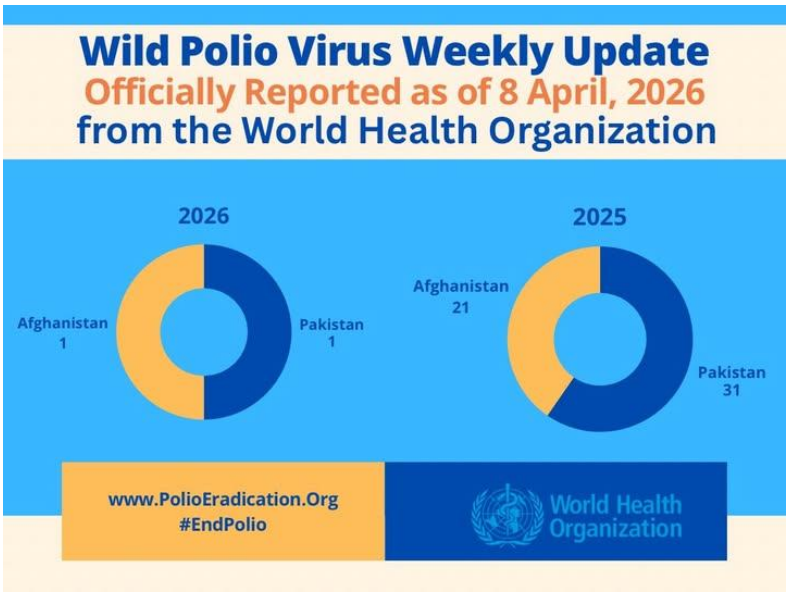
# End Polio 2026 News

In spite of everything going on in the world today, Rotary's commitment to ending Polio has not waivered. If anything, it has grown stronger. As Rotarians, we are part of something so astounding, so audacious that it is almost unbelievable. We are getting closer, but we cannot falter this close to the finish line. Rotary and the Global Polio Eradication Initiative (GPEI) are holding nothing back as we push towards the last case of Polio ever.

So far this year, only 2 cases of wild Polio have been reported. We are so close to the worldwide celebration unlike anything the world has ever seen. As funding partners step back, it is time for us to step up. Donate now through my.rotary.org and be a part of history!




Yours in Rotary Service,

**Isaac McNary**

*The Kilt Guy - (316)-461-0512*