



# District 5690 News



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## Message from District Governor Sterling Hall

It's that time of year when we celebrate the Christmas and Hanukah season with parties, church services and special times with family and friends. For some, the holidays are changed from past years

because someone near to them is no longer here to share in the festivities.

I lost a special family member recently and during the year we have lost some wonderful Rotarian friends who were very much our family. A friend reminded me that I should celebrate the holidays in memory of the family and friends we've lost. Another friend who has experienced her own personal loss this year said that she is celebrating with gratitude the time spent with the wonderful person who was part of her life for many decades. So, if you are missing someone and even if you're not, celebrate the holidays in your own way, but always with love and gratitude and happy memories in your heart.

We are nearing the end of the first six months of our Rotary year. It's also that time of year when, as a club, we need to review our progress in at least three areas: PETS, Rotary Foundation giving, and having selected leaders for the upcoming year.

- Club officers for the 2019-20 Rotary year should be selected and reported to Rotary International by now. If you haven't done this yet, time is running short because the due date for this is December 31. *Please* sure you have reported next year's officers to RI through My Rotary by the end of the year.
- One of the reasons you need to have your officers selected is that ALL presidents-elect are required to attend PETS (President-elect Training Seminar). Our PETS is just two months away – February 28, March 1 and 2 should be on your calendar and plans made to attend PETS. (see page 2)
- Year-end contributions to The Rotary Foundation need to be submitted to RI by certain dates, too, if they are to be counted as deductible for 2018. Please encourage your club members to remember TRF in their end-of year giving plans. (see pg. 6)

Be the Inspiration!

Yours in Rotary,

**Sterling Hall**

2018-19 District Governor 5690  
 Rotary Club of Sublette

## MARK YOUR CALENDARS!

**Feb. 28-March 2, 2019**

**PETS**  
**Wichita Marriott**

**June 1-5, 2019**  
**Rotary Intl. Convention**  
**Hamburg, Germany**



## Message from 5670 District Governor Andrea Krauss

It's hard to believe the Rotary year is half over. How is your club coming on the Rotary Citation? Will your club be able to achieve the required goals before June 30?

Even if you haven't spent a lot of time working on the Citation, it's not too late. Chances are, your club has probably already achieved many of the goals. It is easier than ever to "apply" for the Rotary Citation. All you have to do is enter your goals and progress in Rotary Club Central. If you are not sure how to report your progress or need ideas on how to achieve the required number of goals, please contact me. But, don't wait too much longer to get going. Your club needs to start focusing NOW on meeting their goals in order to meet the June 30 deadline.



Clubs who meet the goals of the Citation become stronger clubs. I am confident that with just a little extra effort, every club should be able to achieve the Rotary Citation this year.

**Be the Inspiration!**

*Andrea Krug Krauss*, DG 5670  
Rotary Club of Russell



## Prepare for PETS—DGE Kurt Harper

**ATTENTION ALL CLUB PRESIDENTS,  
PRESIDENTS ELECT, and  
ASSISTANT GOVERNORS**

PETS 2019 will be conducted at the Wichita Marriott February 28-March 2, 2019. While PETS is always critical to the training of incoming presidents, this year is exceptionally important in light of the merger of Districts 5690 and 5670. The PETS planning committee for our Heartland PETS has been putting together an exciting program, with a few added features to add some fun and fellowship. Please make every effort that each club has elected its President Elect and other leadership before the end of 2018, so those incoming leaders can take part in this important event.



In addition to the training on Friday and Saturday, we are planning an opportunity for fun and fellowship on Thursday evening. We will have identified local restaurants as destinations for small groups of attendees for dinner. Sign up will be largely first come, first served for a variety of small group dining experiences, and will be assisted in this venture by leadership of our local clubs. Watch for more details on this next month, as we get closer to deadlines, but for now, please get those new officers elected and enrolled!

*Kurt A. Harper*

District Governor, 2019-20—District 5680  
RI Russia-US Intercountry Committee, President U.S. Section, 2017-18

## December is Disease Prevention & Treatment Month

Rotary members have played a key role in bringing the world to the brink of polio eradication. Our members have not only helped end polio in 122 countries but also created a system for addressing many other health priorities, like Ebola. Rotary clubs lead efforts to fight diseases like malaria, HIV/AIDS, Alzheimer's disease, multiple sclerosis, and diabetes. Clubs also focus on disease prevention by providing health education and bringing routine hearing, vision, and dental care to those in need.

In December, Rotary's Disease Prevention and Treatment Month, take action to fight disease in your community. Here are six ways to do that:

1. Offer additional training to local health care professionals
2. Enhance local health infrastructure
3. Promote disease prevention programs that aim to limit the spread of communicable diseases and reduce cases of noncommunicable diseases
4. Educate communities and mobilize them to prevent the spread of major diseases
5. Support programs that prevent physical disability that results from disease and injury
6. Support the studies of health professionals

Join the [Disease Prevention and Treatment discussion group](#) on My Rotary to learn from experts and exchange project ideas with fellow Rotarians.

## Call for District 5680 Governor Nominations for 2021 - 2022

The month of November begins the process for selecting the District 5680 Governor for the 2021-2022 Rotary year. One of the most important things a club can do is to allow the district to benefit from your club's leaders by encouraging them to be a District 5680 leader.

Clubs are invited to submit their suggestions for nomination for Governor of District 5680 for the Rotary Year 2021-2022 (July 1, 2021—June 30, 2022) no later than January 15, 2019. To be eligible for Governor, a candidate must have the qualifications and agree to accept the duties of a Governor as set forth in the 2016 Manual of Procedure (MOP). DG (5690) Sterling Hall and DG Andrea Krauss (5670) have sent copies of the applicable pages of the MOP as well as other important documents related to the nomination of a district governor to all club presidents via email.

Pertinent dates for the District Governor Nomination process are as follows:

- November 20 District Governors Sterling Hall (5690) and Andrea Krauss (5670) have invited clubs to submit suggestions to the nominating committee in an official call to all club presidents via email. Candidates submitted will be considered by the nominating committee.
- Dec / Jan Additional announcements for District Governor will be published in the December and January issues of the monthly newsletter.
- January 15 Deadline for the receipt by either the governor or the nominating committee chair of club nominations of District Governor candidates.

February 15 Deadline for selection of nominee for governor by the nominating committee. The nominating committee chair will promptly notify all candidates of the decision.

This position is challenging but very rewarding and you are asked to review your member list and consider nominating a candidate. If you have questions, call any committee member.

Nomination committee members are

Small Clubs	June Trentham	RC Hugoton
Medium Clubs	Mike Mills	RC McPherson
Large Clubs	Kelle Thompson	RC Winfield
PDG	Gary Norris	RC Salina
PDG	Robert Mendoza	RC Derby
PDG	Randy Krug	RC Russell
PDG	Dean Kennedy	RC Winfield

**Send suggestions to any committee member above  
or to  
PDG Rod Kreie, Nomination Committee Secretary  
[rkreie@gpbiosciences.com](mailto:rkreie@gpbiosciences.com)  
**620-353-8415****

**Note:** Districts 5670 and 5690 are merging to District 5680 encompassing the western 2/3 of Kansas and the Oklahoma Panhandle, effective July 1, 2019.

At the time the merger talks began, both districts had selected a DG for 2019-2020. It was agreed that **Kurt Harper (RC Wichita)** would serve as DG for 2019-2020 and that **Dana Brewer (RC Concordia)** would serve as DG for the 2020-2021 Rotary year.



### Membership—New Year, New Goals

The new year is a time for new resolutions and fresh beginnings. As you set club goals for the second half of the Rotary year, start with small ones that you can achieve easily. Here are a few ideas:

- Update your member data in [My Rotary](#) (learn how to [add](#), [edit](#) or [remove](#) a member) by December 31

- Record the progress you've made toward the goals you set at the start of the Rotary year in [Rotary Club Central](#)
- Identify any club members who aren't engaged in Rotary and pair each of them with a mentor

Start thinking now about how your club can *Be the Inspiration* in your community in 2019.

## Focus on: Old Town Wichita Rotary Club

**Old Town Wichita Rotary Club:** The Old Town Rotary Club (Wichita) has been very busy the last eight months. After learning about *FIRST*® LEGO® League and the newly formed Kansas Central *FIRST* LEGO League region, the members decided to support the Kansas Youth Science & Technology (KYST) Foundation, the non-profit that is responsible for putting on *FIRST* LEGO League competitions in the Kansas Central region. Since this was the inaugural season for this new region, there were many needs. The Old Town Club supported the KYST Foundation with a club grant, wrote and were awarded a Rotary District grant, and provided over 100 hours of man, woman, and even kid power. They helped to build robot game tables, LEGO challenge sets, and nearly every club member volunteered at the *FIRST* LEGO League tournament at Haysville Middle School on December 8, 2018.



Sixteen teams of 4<sup>th</sup>-8<sup>th</sup> graders (2-10 kids per team), their parents, grandparents and siblings from Altamont, Andale, Independence, Manhattan, Pratt, Salina, Wichita, Winfield, and Yates Center competed in three judging sessions and the robot game. Since August, team members designed, built, and coded a LEGO Mindstorms robot to tackle challenges built with LEGO bricks and Technic pieces. The theme this season was INTO ORBIT™, so they also researched long-term space travel within the Solar System, chose a problem, came up with an innovative solution, and put together a brief presentation. Foundational to all the teams did are the *FIRST* Core Values of Discovery, Innovation, Impact, Inclusion, Teamwork, and Fun. Six teams took home LEGO trophies.

In addition to around 350 spectators with family connections to the teams, some members of the public came to the competition as well. For example, the head of 4-H for the State of Kansas, the 4-H agent for Sedgwick County that focuses on STEM, and the president of Ad Astra – Kansas Foundation were in attendance. TV station KSN covered the event with a spot on the 6:00 and 10:00 news. (see the link to the video below) Rotary plaques and signage, as well as the volunteers Old Town Rotary shirts clearly displayed Rotary's support and "Founding Sponsor" designation.

Two of the teams that competed have been invited to international invitationals, one in West Virginia, and another at LEGOLAND in California. They need to raise money for these trips as registration alone is \$1000 per team. (These competitions are a big, fun deal.) Teams could be sponsored, even partially, by clubs, provide some programming, and since part of the preparation for the season involves making connections with professionals in fields related to the theme of the year, Rotary can be a supply of various professionals. The emphasis on education and core values of discovery, innovation, inclusion, impact (on the community and the world), teamwork, fun and fits well with the values of Rotary.

If your club would like to be involved with this program, request a club presentation, etc., visit <https://www.kystfoundation.org/> and then contact Rotarian Amy Lash Esau at [amy.lash.esau@KYSTFoundation.org](mailto:amy.lash.esau@KYSTFoundation.org). You may also learn more on Facebook <https://www.facebook.com/KYSTFoundation/> and Twitter - <https://twitter.com/KYSTFoundation>

KSN Video link is: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Ki1gjuNjuM8&feature=youtu.be>



*Old Town Wichita Rotary club members and signage were very visible at the event*

### Rotary's Vision Statement

**“Together, we see a world where people unite and take action to create lasting change — across the globe, in our communities, and in ourselves.”**

## All I Want. . .

This is the season of holidays – Christmas, Hanukkah, Kwanza, New Years, etc. The season is filled with wishes - kids wishing for the latest and greatest toys, teens wishing for electronics, young adults wishing relationships, middle aged adults wishing a stress-free holiday and older adults wishing to be surrounded by family. These are the type of wishes most of us dream of and long for! However, I challenge you to wish for Rotary and fellow Rotarians to continue to help others.

Throughout this holiday season, we reflect on how fortunate we are to live a life of privilege and resource. We celebrate our good fortune with family gatherings and holiday parties. Many of our clubs support causes that help people in need receive their wish for food, warm clothing, toys for their kids, or a place to live that is safe. Rotarians reach deep into their pockets to give financial resources to help people in need. We truly are blessed, and we share our blessing this time of year.

But you know, there is a continued need – year-round – for food, clothing and warmth. Donations drop off in the cold months of winter and the need does not lessen with the new year. Rotarians, through the work of our clubs do a great job of giving back – SERVICE ABOVE SELF. However, our challenge is can we do more and continue our help to others in need?



- We might consider how we can partner with others in a year-long effort to help the needy in our communities.
- We might want to have an “after holiday” service project to address hunger, lack of clothing or poor housing.
- We might want to create a social media campaign or public service campaign encouraging others to donate food, clothing, etc. after the holidays.
- Finally, we might invite a speaker to one of weekly meetings in January to talk about the post-holiday malaise that falls upon us and the negative impact that malaise has on our needy neighbors.

All I want ... is for my fellow Rotarians to not stop caring, stop giving, stop partnering, stop helping when this holiday season ends. Give back from blessing of this holiday season.



***Please have a happy holiday and a joyous New Year!***

*Column submitted by Fred Heismeyer,  
District 5690 Trainer*

## Another Program For Your Club

**Kansas Strong** is dedicated to educating the people of Kansas about the Oil and Natural Gas Industry. It is the second leading industry in our state, employees more than 118,000 Kansans and produces more than \$3 billion in family income. We would love to provide a program for your club about the oil and natural gas industry. Some of the topics we can present on include:

1. An overview of the oil and natural gas industry - this presentation looks at the history of the industry in Kansas, current impact of the industry and the future of the industry through 2050. This is a very informative and comprehensive overview of the industry.
2. The power of production - this presentation looks at how the industry has impacted Kansas people and other industries. It looks at how the first major oil boom transformed the state, the vital role the industry had in WWI, how the industry led to Wichita becoming the “Air Capital” and much more.
3. Energy and poverty - this presentation looks at how energy decisions impact the most vulnerable citizens of our country. It explores how the industry has improved life for people around the world, ended famine (except in cases of war) and improved quality of life. It also explores how energy decisions can have a devastating impact on those who live below the poverty line even here in the United States.
4. Oil & Natural Gas Processes - this presentation looks at the ins and outs of how a well is drilled, how production works, how petroleum is refined and utilized and other processes utilized in the industry. It includes a presentation on hydraulic fracturing and injection wells.

We would be happy to present one of these for your next program. To schedule a presentation, call Warren Martin (Kansas Strong Executive Director) at 316-771-7167 or email him at [warren@KansasStrong.com](mailto:warren@KansasStrong.com)

## Rotary Changes Lives Through Outbound Youth Exchange

By Rod Kreie, D5690 Youth Exchange Chair

### Yes – you can change the life of a young adult.

Yes - Minimal work required. You're just a phone call away from putting your club in a position that could make it possible to change the life of a young adult. (620-353-8415).

Here's one example ---- right here in your back yard.



**Nathaniel Fish** was living a simple life in Pawnee Rock, Kansas. A 16-year-old boy looking for an adventure in life – a chance to study abroad, a junior in high school running cross country and a nature lover looking for opportunities to go hiking or rock climbing. Most kids get excited at

the first thought of going to another country and studying for a year. The initial excitement is such a rush. The thought of doing this is super cool. But more times than not, the excitement gives way to reality – the thought of missing a baseball season, cheerleading for a year, Prom – or being away from your friends for a year is too much and the excitement turns to skepticism, the “unknown excitement” yields to the reality of what they might miss while they are gone. But - not for **Nathaniel Fish**.

A likeable young man, Nathaniel comes from an interesting family. His father, Randy, is a farm manager for Heartland Farms. Randy's job is very interesting – around the world sustainable farm practices. His mother is a librarian. He also has a brother attending college.

Nathan started looking for something fulfilling. His family had a history of moving every so often because of his father's interesting work. This fueled Nathaniel's interest in different cultures. He interned in an ecology center in California. Went to youth group camps and continued his quest to learn about other cultures. He spent a month in Costa Rica with his family working on a remote farm and lived on a houseboat.

Nathaniel is different. His drive is heartwarmingly awesome. His warmth and caring attitude and his desire to make the world a better place is mature beyond his years.

As the youth exchange chair, I get to meet and become lifelong friends with people like Nathaniel. He doesn't even know it yet, but the gift he gives me and the gift a club could receive by having their own Nathaniel is valuable beyond any monetary measure. His maturity, his worldly knowledge and ability to handle any challenge he faces will be second to none. His year in **Jamshedpur, India** will prepare him in a way that can't be described. It can only be experienced.

The power of Rotary, available to all Rotarians and its ability to change lives is significant. It's an open door for any Rotary Club and I invite you to read one of the emails I have received from Nathaniel that is also included in this newsletter and *Be Inspired!* (See page 9)

## 2018 Year-end Deadlines for TRF Contributions

### Credit Cards:

Via rotary.org – must be authorized by midnight on Wednesday, **31 December 2018**.

Via fax (847-328-5260), phone (866-976-8279) or mail - must be received prior to the close of business on Wednesday, **31 December 2018**.

Credit card contributions should not be sent to Rotary's Lockbox Addresses below; rather they should be done online at Rotary.org to ensure timely recording or fax them to 847-328-5260.

For security purposes, please do not send credit card contributions electronically, rather fax them to 847-328-5260. **You can also make contributions over the phone by calling 866-976-8279 during regular business hours.**

**Mail (least preferred):** Both the postmark on the envelope and the date written on the check must be no later than Wednesday, **31 December 2018** and received by Thursday, **7 January 2019**.

*Please note:* Contributions mailed at the end of **December 2018** intended as early gifts for **January 2019** will be treated as **December 2018** gifts. Do not mail **January 2019** gifts in the month of January.

The Rotary Foundation  
14280 Collections Center Dr.  
Chicago, IL 60693 USA

**Wire transfers:** Must be initiated prior to Wednesday, **31 December 2018** and received by Monday, **5 January 2019**.

# Club News from around the District

## Rotary Club Garden City:

We were ready to serve meals and bus tables for area residents who had been invited to the annual Fall Feast. People in the community who we are thankful for are invited to a traditional Thanksgiving Dinner. This is also our fund raiser for our Dictionary Project.



**Rotary Club W Wichita:** Our club will be purchasing and delivering groceries to 4 families plus delivering the gifts provided by our club members to another 4 families.



**Rotary Club Colby:** Abigail Wether was the November Student of the Month. Abigail is a member of National Honor Society, a Kansas Honor Scholar, Cosmic Crayon, CYO and 4-H. She is also in the marching, pep and concert bands. Abigail plans to attend CCC for general studies and then transfer to FHSU for Radiologic Technology.



**Rotary Club W Wichita:** David Weber Extra Effort Awards were presented to 4th grade students from Benton Elementary, shown here with their teachers. *(the third recipient was unable to attend)*



**Rotary Club Wichita:** Rotarians and their families and friends put labels in 2888 dictionaries the Friday after Thanksgiving. Metro Courier began delivering them to the schools today



and hope to have all deliveries completed by the end of the week. We are so fortunate that they are our partners as they donate the space for warehousing the dictionaries, provide us space to have our Sticker Party and then deliver the dictionaries to the school.



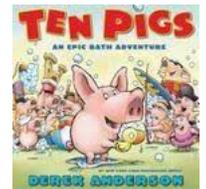
**Rotary Club Ulysses:** Rotarians spread cheer with three of our projects - clean water, dictionaries, and polio eradication in the annual holiday parade..



**Rotary Club El Dorado:** We delivered dictionaries to Grandview, Blackmore, Oil Hill and Skelly schools Wednesday, December 3.



**Rotary Club Colby:** Our club participates annually in the 'Kansas Reads to Pre-schoolers' program. This year's event featured the book "Ten Pigs: An Epic Bath Adventure" by Derek Anderson. Rotarians visited various day-cares and preschools and enjoyed reading to the youngsters.



We also annually purchase dictionaries for all 3rd grade students and new 4th grade students for the following schools: Brewster, Colby, Heartland Christian, Sacred Heart and TriPlains.



**Rotary Club Wichita:** Last year Beech Elementary - USD 259 music teacher Anna Laura Honts received a grant from the Rotary Club of Wichita to buy ukuleles and drums for her fifth-grade students. Today the students had an opportunity to show the Rotarians how far they've come in their learning and Rotarian David Hawkins brought his own instruments and performed for the students. Also shown is Rotarian Arlen Honts with the students. *(From [Beech Elementary – USD 259 Facebook page](#))*



David Hawkins (top) & Arlen Honts (below)



# More Club News

**Rotary Club Derby:** There are only two people in modern history who have received the City of Derby's highest honor: The Key to the City. This year, Jack Pulley received the award. In 2014 Ken Mulanax received it. The award is only granted to those with the greatest achievements.



**Rotary Club Liberal:** Rotarians Ivanhoe Love, Ken Traska, and Royce Kitts were honored as Men of Distinction at the unveiling of the 2019 Liberal Chamber of Commerce Calendar last night. Congratulations and thank you for all you do for the citizens of Liberal



**Rotary Club Guymon:** Club members assisted Charity Hitch by wrapping gifts for the Christmas Cheer for Children Program. We distributed 220 dictionaries to Academy Public School 5th graders.

**Rotary Club Beloit:** Our Rotary Radio Days fundraiser took in \$4,000 this year. This is a project we have been doing this every October for years!

**Rotary Club West Wichita:** Club members rang bells for the Salvation Army.

We also delivered dictionaries to Lawrence Elementary.



**Rotary Club Washington:** Our annual Festival of Trees was so successful, our club was able to donate \$4,400 each to Washington County Hospital and the Power Zone After School Program. Snacks and Kansas wines, brews and spirits were served prior to the live and silent auctions.



**Rotary Club :Great Bend** We have a partnership with the Great Bend Library. Club president Lee Musil read to first graders at C. K. Christian Academy.



## Focus on RC West Sedgwick County Sunrise—Did You Know?

The Sunrise Boundless Playscape, a community service project of the **West Sedgwick County Sunrise Rotary Club**, is an over \$1.5 million interactive playground for children of all abilities and disabilities. The idea for this playground originated from a request from Rotary International in 2003 for each club to develop a community service project to celebrate Rotary's Centennial in 2005. Clubs were asked to consider the most pressing needs of the community and determine highly visible ways to meet those needs. The Sunrise Club did just that. The playscape, located in Sedgwick County Park, is designed to facilitate play for children with disabilities, enabling them to play side-by-side with their siblings and friends. Rubberized surfacing, ramps and other accessible play equipment make this innovative playground a destination for many families in the south-central Kansas region.



has been a club effort from its inception, the lead team members who invested countless hours on this original project were Pat Gallagher, Rita Linnens and Brent Dome. It stands as a testament to what determination, perseverance, hard work and a shared vision can accomplish.

After five plus years of planning and fundraising, the grand opening for the Playscape was held on Wednesday, July 8, 2009. Children, parents, elected officials and donors gathered for the official opening celebration. Although this

With the ongoing popularity of the playscape, park attendance has risen to nearly 1 million visitors annually. Enduring heavy traffic created the need to enter into a new phase of development to replace, update and expand the play areas. This charge began in early 2016, led by Rita Linnens, who established a "Friends of the Playscape" committee consisting of Sunrise Rotarians and community leaders. Their efforts have brought about the installation of a generation swing and a 40' x 80' wheelchair accessible maze, with plans in the near future for an airplane structure (to replace the sand area) and a new sound play area. Funding has been made possible through the generosity of various local charities, Sedgwick County and in-kind donations.

## Rotary & Mediators Beyond Borders



Rotary's new service partnership with [Mediators Beyond Borders International](#) (MBBI) can help all members of the Rotary family advance their peace and conflict prevention/resolution objectives by delivering services and enhancing skills for community assessments, trauma-informed peacebuilding, post-conflict reconciliation and recovery, cross-sector and network collaboration, project design, implementation, evaluation and peacebuilding leadership that prioritizes the elevation of women and youth as leaders.

MBBI works with clubs, districts, and Rotary alumni to improve communities' capacity to heal from conflict, reconcile differences, and prevent the escalation of future issues to build a more stable future. MBBI trains Rotarians and Rotaractors to be peace facilitators, engaging Rotary alumni to be synergists and project leaders, assisting clubs with community assessments and conflict prevention/resolution projects, and connecting the Rotary network with peacebuilding resources. [See the partnership guide](#) and [connect with MBBI directly](#) to get involved.

## Youth Exchange Student attends Global Agricultural Summit

Email from Youth Exchange student [Nathaniel Fish](#)

Good morning Rod!

I would just like to share about a fun trip I took this past two days. I attended the Global Food and Agriculture Conference up in Ranchi. It was rather disappointing as much of it was just politicians using the event to promote themselves. However, I met many interesting and important people.



I met a pair of 75-year-old 7-day Adventists who have lived in India for 25 years and have a tofu company. I had tea with a Tunisian tailor and the Mongolian Ambassador to India. I ran into an Israeli hemp activist who introduced me to the Deputy Chief of the Israeli embassy, Ms. Maya Kadosh. I had lunch with five members of the Chinese embassy.

I went to the event with Mr. Avinash Dugar, my host, so after the summit, we went and stayed the night with a Sikh friend of his who had gone to jail for a political cartoon. The next day we each had a whole pineapple for breakfast. Then, I bet Avinash a chocolate that I could sneak us into the VIP lounge. All I had to do was walk in very confidently with him walking behind me holding my backpack! We stuffed ourselves with the VIP snacks and had some amazing Kashmir tea from these dudes in full dress.

I went and introduced myself to the Moroccan Diplomat and talked for about 10 minutes about Rotary and getting children into agriculture in Morocco and India. I sat down with the Deputy Chief of the Philippine embassy in India and he was really chill. We talked for over an hour about the NGO I worked for in California, sustainable agriculture, Hindi, Indian food, and the difficulties of being a Deputy Chief. Then Avinash sat down and we talked about La Gravitea, Avinash's tea shop that only employs hearing impaired individuals, the lack of government aid for the

differently abled in both countries, and what we could do to change that. I then met the Minister of Ranchi and talked to him a little bit about Kansas and about the need to change the public perception of agricultural and physical labor in India. He has a sister who owns a ranch near Kansas City!

After that, I went and sat down with two different groups of around 20 Indian farmers. I am becoming very adept at talking in depth about many different topics but these talks pushed me to the limit as I talked about everything from wells to what time we plant to the types of tractors and equipment we use. It was a fabulous conversation and I got invited to tour a few different farms. We then left the event, hitchhiked, and were picked up by a retired Indian Army Major General. This man was in Mogadishu during the 1993 battle of Mogadishu, worked as a UN military observer stopping Cartels in South America, and has traveled the US extensively to tour civil war sites. We then picked up a huge Kashmir Samavar Teapot for about \$300 for Avinash's tea shop. Another one of Avinash's friends picked us up and we made a small video about the dangers of honking. We had some more tea and grabbed a bus for the three hour ride home.

This was a fabulous trip that combined a multitude of my interests. I am also learning sign language to communicate with all of the employees here. Pictured is me with the Minister of Ranchi and the American couple.

*Nathaniel Fish, Rotary Youth Exchange Student  
Sponsored by RC Russell; Host Club-Jamshedpur, India*



## Students Complete World Map at East High School



By Travis Mounts, Editor  
*East Wichita News* (November 2018 issue)

A new map of the world graces the grounds at East High School. The project was finished in mid-October, and involved the work of students and Rotarians in Wichita.

The 20-foot by 40-foot map was finished on October 18 by **Interact** students. The club is a youth branch of Rotary and is affiliated with the **Rotary Club of Wichita**, also known as the Downtown Rotary Club.

DeAnn Sullivan of the **Rotary Club of West Wichita** oversaw the project, and has been playing a role in the painting of U.S. maps at schools with Rotary clubs across District 5690, which covers south-central and southwest Kansas. The district stretches from the Wichita area west to the Colorado border and into the Oklahoma panhandle.



Most of the U.S. maps have gone in at elementary schools, said Sullivan. Dozens of maps have been painted at various schools. Some schools have had maps painted more than once, she said, as they fade over time or a stretch of concrete or asphalt gets torn up for one project or another.

"I wanted for years to do a world map," she said. She finally found a paper stencil about two years ago, but it didn't have lines for the roughly 190 individual countries. Wichita State University students in the cultural and ambassador program drew in those lines, and a plastic stencil was created.

The Sullivan learned that East High Interact students were looking for a project. Sue Tirukonda of the Rotary Club of Wichita said Sullivan approached her about the world map project. "We got to talking about East High because it's a very diverse school," Tirukonda said. She said that the students come up with their own projects, and she also helps plug students into the Rotary club's efforts.

The decision was made to put the map in an interior courtyard. A couple of days were set aside for the work, but it took much less time than was budgeted.

"The students at East High did that in 4 ½ hours. I'm a project manager, and I figured a minimum of eight and maybe closer to 12 hours," Sullivan said.

Most of the work was finished on September 29, ahead of schedule. Final touches took place on October 18.

Tirukonda said the Interact club has been active a "long time" – more than a decade. "My kids went to East High and both of them were president at different times," she said. "It's a great way to work on such projects together. These kids are very service oriented. Some of the projects are driven by them and their passions," she continued.

In the coming year, students will focus on raising awareness of child abuse. This is one of the projects that students came up with. Previously, they helped put music playlists on iPods for the Alzheimer's Association. Tirukonda said patients benefit from listening to music from their youth.

The number of Interact students fluctuates from year to year, but this year, there are about 18 - 20 students. There is a west Wichita Interact club, too, but it is not affiliated with a school.

"The sooner you can instill values of giving back . . . the more likely it is to stay with them. And they're really enthusiastic about it," Tirukonda said.

Sullivan said she's helped many of the area Rotary clubs with maps at numerous schools. She gets a great discount from a Lower's store in west Wichita, and that helps make the maps more affordable. That assistance means the mail goal for each club is to round up about a dozen volunteers. She said the location of the world map at East High is a great fit because of the school's diverse population.

District 5690 Membership Report As Of November 30, 2018

Club	7/1/2018	11/30/2018	NET GAIN
	MEMBERSHIP	MEMBERSHIP	2018-2019
Andover	31	33	2
Arkansas City	65	65	0
Beaver	19	19	0
Boise City	18	18	0
Cimarron	22	23	1
Derby	66	68	2
Dodge City	38	41	3
East Wichita	96	100	4
El Dorado	41	41	0
Garden City	51	46	-5
Guymon	24	24	0
Howard	16	15	-1
Hugoton	16	16	0
Hutchinson	100	93	-7
Johnson	16	16	0
Kingman	33	33	0
Kinsley	12	12	0
Larned	18	18	0
Liberal	46	49	3
Newton	62	62	0
Pratt	55	57	2
Sublette	18	18	0
Syracuse	18	18	0
Texhoma	15	15	0
Ulysses	34	30	-4
Wellington	19	15	-4
W. Sedgwick Co	39	42	3
West Wichita	62	60	-2
Wichita-DT	404	411	7
Wichita-Old Town	8	8	0
Winfield	86	83	-3
<b>TOTALS</b>	<b>1548</b>	<b>1549</b>	<b>1</b>



District 5690



[www.rotary5690.org](http://www.rotary5690.org)

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

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[appelg@kenlerman.com](mailto:appelg@kenlerman.com)



2018-19 RI President  
Barry Rassin  
Bahamas



Your Fellow Rotarians will be in Hamburg, June 1-5, 2019 for the 2019 Rotary Convention!

**Polio Update @ 12/11/18**

*This year:* Total wild polio cases for 2018: **29**.

*Last year:* Total wild polio cases in 2017: **29**

**AFGHANISTAN:** The total number of officially reported WPV1 cases in Afghanistan in 2018 is 21.

**PAKISTAN:** The total number of officially reported WPV1 cases in Pakistan in 2018 is 8.

**NIGERIA and THE LAKE CHAD BASIN:**  
No new cases of wild poliovirus type 1 (WPV1) since 21 August 2016.

More details at <http://www.polioeradication.org>

