



District 5680 News



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Register today!



Like us on Facebook

Message from

District Governor Fred Heismeyer

NEW YEAR—NEW ADVENTURE

I don't do "new year resolutions." However, I'm always optimistic this time of year for the chance to



have new adventures. Personally, I look forward to adventures of travel, adventures of meeting new friends, adventures to experience new food and cultures, and of course, new adventures in finding new ways to impact others. Part of my optimistic outlook for the new year is to increase the ways I serve to change lives.

Throughout our district, Rotarians have found ways to serve to change lives over the past couple of years, perhaps forced upon us by the pandemic, but none the less impacting our communities. We have delivered food in communities across our district, we have been champions of vaccinations to help save lives, we have delivered dictionaries and read to school kids – sometimes virtually, we have found new ways to prepare our future club and district leadership, we have found creative ways to network and connect, and most important, we have continued to function in our Rotary clubs - focusing on Service Above Self through the use of technology, changing resource allocations, and creativity.

Rotarians are not stopped by circumstances; Rotarians are buoyed by the challenges those circumstances present.

So, it is true as we enter 2022! Rotarians must continue to have an optimistic outlook for new adventures, looking forward and not dwelling in the past.

We need to be creative in meeting the needs of our varied communities across the district – looking at what is needed and finding ways in which Rotary can be address those needs. We need to be willing to act outside the box, in fact removing the box, as we strive to change lives. We need to be positive, projecting that attitude, as Rotary continues to be a force for making the world a better place. We need to identify others within our community whom we believe are worthy to join us on our adventures – inviting them to be a Rotarian. We need to encourage and develop leadership in our clubs and celebrate that service of our fellow Rotarians. Finally, we Rotarians need to have a new commitment to what it means to be a Rotarian; individuals who are absolutely committed, totally dedicated, and fully engaged.

As we look forward to the new calendar year, we are reminded that the Rotary year is only half done. There is time for Rotarians and clubs to find new adventures. Each of us has time to give a few more hours to service and each club is able to add a project or two. Each of us has the financial resources to donate

... Continued on page 2



Rotary



SERVE TO CHANGE LIVES

DG Message (cont'd)

extra dollars to help others and each club can champion EREY and other Foundation programs. Each of us has the energy to further engage in Rotary and each club must cultivate leadership. Finally, each of us should communicate our priorities for what we want out of being a Rotarian and each club needs to find ways to meet those priorities and expand its public image in the community.

I love new challenges and change. I love the outcomes derived from those challenges and change. I know new adventures can be daunting but also can be invigorating. Our communities look forward to what can be done through reenergized Rotarians and clubs as we continue to SERVE TO CHANGE LIVES.

Happy New Year and Happy New Adventures.



Fred Heismeyer

District Governor 2021-22

District 5680



RYLA 2022 Pop-up . . February 19

REMINDER: We have a 1-day RYLA experience happening on Saturday, February 19 in Hutchinson, KS.

This session will be held at the Kansas Cosmosphere and include admission to the museum. Please recruit one or more high school students who you feel would benefit from this experience. [Registration deadline:](#)

[Friday January 28.](#)

To register and for further information go to www.sckans.edu/leadership (click on service outreach and then click on rotary camp) or visit our district website (www.rotary5680.org). If you have questions, please contact Dean Kennedy at 620-212-4107 or dean.kennedy@communitynational.net

The camp is open to current high school Freshman, Sophomore, or Junior students that your club selects.



Empowering Girls—Ideas

(Ideas for clubs from District 6670)

As I am touring our District and visiting your clubs, one topic I am talking about a lot is RI President Shekhar Mehta's Empowering Girls Initiative. He spends a lot of time talking about literacy, and how two-thirds of the world's 795 million illiterate population is female, setting them up for a life lacking in education, and keeping them in a life of poverty. Shekhar challenges us all to look at ways to improve the lives of girls and young women in our communities. As I have visited your clubs and also had conversations with other District Governors in the mid-west, I have heard about some really good projects that clubs are undertaking. Here is a sample of some of them:

1. Recognize Female Business Owners in your community
2. Offer a program for girls whose parent(s) are in jail
3. Develop a Girl Scout Badge
4. Hold a health screening day for teenage girls and young women
5. Prepare hygiene packs for your local homeless shelter or abuse shelter
6. Hold a menstrual poverty drive
7. Reach out to your school district to see what the greatest need is for girls
8. Sponsor self-defense classes for girls in your community
9. Reach out to your local Girls Scout groups to find out how you can support them
10. Reach out to your local shelters to find out what young women need as they leave the shelter to become independent.
11. Reach out to your local YWCA to see how you can support their work

Tuesday January 11, 2022 was National Human Trafficking Day, known as "Wear Blue Day". What could your club do in January to demonstrate solidarity with survivors of human trafficking while building awareness of modern-day enslavement? There are all kinds of things a club could do to support this day and month.

PETS—March 31-April 2



2022-23 Rotary
Theme
RI President
Jennifer Jones

last page of this newsletter for details.

[Read more about RIPE Jennifer here.](#)

Don't miss PETS - Presidents-Elect Training Seminar. It's open to ALL Rotarians!

The purpose of PETS is to prepare incoming District #5680 and #5710 club presidents for their year as president and give district governors-elect and incoming assistant governors the opportunity to network and attend facilitated training sessions.

This year is special because we will have our 2022-23 RI President, Jennifer Jones in attendance! See the

Clubs should have selected their 2022-23 presidents by now. Be sure that DGE Ivanhoe Love knows who that person is so that more detailed info regarding PETS can be sent to them.

[Register for PETS here.](#)

DGE Ivanhoe Love says, "Attendees will hear from some great internally-known speakers and gain a better understanding of how the district functions. They will also have the opportunity to interact with district leadership throughout the session and will network with other President-elects from around our two districts."

Don't miss this!



Rotary District 5680 Refugee Project

Nine Wichita Area Rotary Clubs (including Newton, Andover, El Dorado & Derby) are partnering to welcome several hundred families fleeing war-torn Afghanistan and other countries to their new homes in south-central Kansas. The Wichita IRC office (International Rescue Committee) helps these families find homes, jobs, English classes, etc.

Rotarians are (1) providing dinnerware, kitchen, cookware and bathroom kits with new and gently used items, and (2) transporting gently used furniture, vacuums & household items.



This is a perfect opportunity for Rotarians who are downsizing to find a loving home for extra pots, pans and dishes that are never used or the china your kids don't want.

On Monday, February 21, we will be working to put together kits (kitchen, household, bathroom, etc.) for the Afghan refugees.

If you have items or are interested in your club participating, text or call Kathy Sexton, Project Leader, at 316.371.6451 or send email to sextonkbs@gmail.com.

Did You Know?

- Public service announcement campaign builds momentum**

Did you know ads showing Rotary members as people of action have reached millions of Americans through TV, radio, and print? You can help keep the momentum going by reaching out to PSA directors at your local media outlets to let them know about Rotary's campaign. [Watch the ad here](#)

- New Brand Center Resources to promote Rotary**

Did you know that it's easier to learn how to use the Rotary mark logos to strengthen our communication? Visit the [Brand Center](#).

- Human Trafficking** Kansas Attorney General Derek Schmidt recently announced partnership with Rotary district 5680 and 5710 to increase awareness of and compliance with the new state law enacted last year that requires certain establishments to post information about how to contact the National Human Trafficking Hotline.

This is a part of our "Ending Human Trafficking" initiative and supports Rotary International President Shekhar's Empowering Girls and Women goal. Read and share the statement [here](#).

Hybrid / Virtual Meetings

Submitted by PDG Rod Kreie who says, "I was telling another Rotarian about how we are videoconferencing our Zoom meeting. He thought I should share it with other clubs."

The RC Newton has had considerable success in providing zoom video conferencing meetings (hybrid) to our members that are not comfortable attending in person - or that are traveling and still want to attend a meeting. It was greatly improved when we got a Poly videoconferencing device. You can usually get them for around \$ 750. At first, that sounds expensive - but when you figure if you lose 2 members because they have detached themselves from Rotarian activities, if you can keep them through providing good experiences through video conferencing, then you might be at break-even with the cost of this device.

What Poly does is sit in one spot with a range of view of 90 degrees. If a speaker moves, it moves with them. If

someone else speaks- it automatically rotates towards the person speaking, then zooms in if necessary. It might require that people asking questions get up and move where they are detected by the Poly, but that works pretty good. You want your zoom participants involved in the meeting - they want to know who asked the question and what the question was. It's not perfect, but it certainly is much easier than using an I-Pad on a tri-pod and having to move that device whenever someone speaks. It is also easy to setup - just plug in the power, plug the Poly in using a USB port, then you are ready to go.



While this might not be for every club - it does make zooming much easier.

<https://www.amazon.com/Poly-Conferencing-Plug-Play-Connectivity/dp/B07PNWM4MN>

Club Presidents, Secretaries and district leadership—**PLEASE ACT NOW**

This is the **LAST CALL** for registration for our upcoming RYLA one-day event.
DEADLINE for registration is Friday, January 28.

The event is Saturday, February 19 at The Cosmosphere in Hutchinson.

REGISTER ONLINE AT: www.sckans.edu/leadership (click on service outreach and then click on rotary camp) or visit our district website (www.rotary5680.org) and follow the links for the one-day event.

RYLA is open to all high school students in your community.

Public Image Seminar

We're starting the new year with a great Public Image Webinar...please join us and pass this invitation along to any of your District PI Team Members, Club Presidents, or Club Public Image Leads!

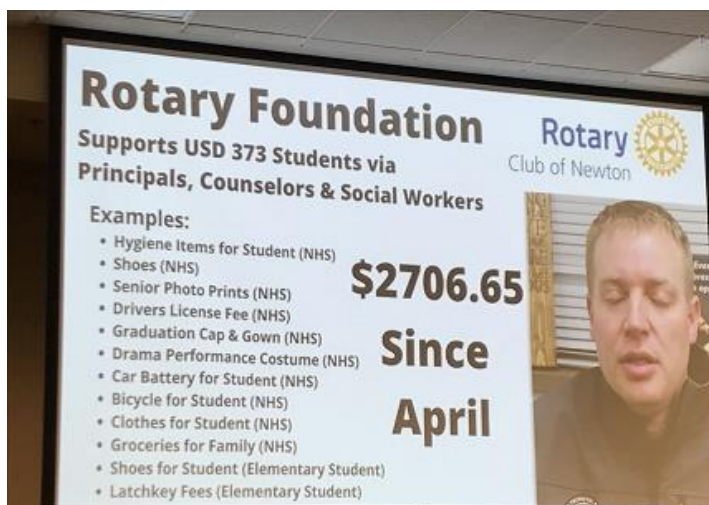
Thursday, January 27



- PUBLIC IMAGE -	<p>ROTARY ZONE 25B & 29 PUBLIC IMAGE WEBINAR SERIES</p> <p>THURSDAY, JANUARY 27 @ 4PM-5PM REGISTER TO RECEIVE LINK</p> <p>-THIS MONTH'S TOPIC- COMMUNICATING WITH THE MEDIA PRESENTED BY: PATRICK HARRISON & AMBER SCARBOROUGH</p> <p>ALSO, PLANO WEST ROTARY PRESIDENT ALEX JOHNSON WILL SHARE HOW THEY USED PUBLIC IMAGE TO GROW FROM 21 TO 65 MEMBERS!</p> <p style="text-align: right;">Rotary <small>Zones 25B & 29</small></p>	- PUBLIC IMAGE -
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[CLICK HERE TO REGISTER](#)

Club News from around the District



Rotary Club Newton: Newton Rotary established their own Foundation in 2021. One of the projects they started during that year was a program at Newton High School where counselors are able to discretely approach students in instances where they have obvious needs that are too sensitive for them to ask for help. Many times the simplest of things might keep a student from attending school.

This program has been very effective in creating a quiet pathway to better morale at the high school. This slide was part of a presentation by Newton High School at the monthly Chamber Breakfast attended for over 100 of Newton's business community. The feedback for this program has been very good and it has been a great connector between the high school and Newton Rotary Club.

Rotary Club Wichita: For the past several years, our "Rotary Wraps" project has provided warm coats, hats and gloves to our local schools for their "emergency closets." This year, with funds provided by a District Grant & our own Charitable Fund, we spent \$10,000 to provide **all new** coats/hats/gloves to each TITLE 1 grade school and K-8 schools in USD 259 -45 total). Each one got 7 coats, 18 pair of gloves & 9 stocking hats for their emergency closet. Members delivered to the schools along with a letter from Rotary. Both [KSN](#) and [KWCH](#) covered the story on air. Click to see the stories.

Mayor Brandon Whipple & Nicki Vossman at Kelly Liberal Arts Academy



Rotarians Mayor Brandon Whipple & Doug Stark head out

More 2020-21 Foundation Banner & PolioPlus Giving Presentations

Rotary Club Sublette: We were honored to receive our Rotary Foundation Giving Banner for 100% participation in giving to PolioPlus from DGE Ivanhoe Love at a recent club meeting.



Rotary Club Washington: PDG Dana Brewer visited our club to present our Certificate for Recognition for Polio Giving during the 2020-21 Rotary Year.



Rotary Club W Sedgwick Co Sunrise: DG Fred Heismeyer visited our club to present our Certificate for Recognition for Polio Giving during the 2020-21 Rotary Year.



Rotary Club Great Bend: DGN Gloria Homeier visited our club to present our Certificate for Recognition for Polio Giving during the 2020-21 Rotary Year.



Rotary Club Pratt: Our club provided Christmas dinners for 18 Pratt families. We raised \$1,179 to purchase the meals from Dillons. Each meal feeds 4 people and we worked with The Hope Center to identify the selected families.



Rotary Club Pratt: In recognition of World Polio Day on October 24, President Darrell Shumway kicked off an annual "Pennies-for-Polio" fundraising campaign. Members are asked to bring their pennies each week to fill the "End Polio Now" bucket.



Rotary Club W Sedgwick Co Sunrise: Club members prepared a meal last month for families staying at the Ronald McDonald House. This is a monthly service project of our club.



More Club News

Rotary Club W Sedgwick County Sunrise: Below is a thank you note we received from one of the families we helped at Christmas.

Dear Rotary club members,

Thank you so much for helping out my family during Christmas! I cannot thank you enough; I appreciated the help! It was a rough year and your generosity will never be forgotten. The kids had toys, new clothes, new shoes, diapers and more thanks to kind people!! Thank you.

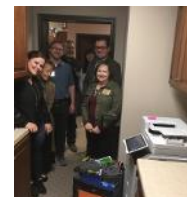
The outfits were so cute, the shoes were much needed and the baby toys were perfect for sensory play. Thank you for diapers as well! I used the Dillons gift card for much needed household items and gas. It was so nice to go get items I normally go without. Thank you for helping my family!

Megan

Rotary Club Kinsley: DG Fred presented our Rotary Foundation Banner and certificate of appreciation for our contributions to The Rotary Foundation and PolioPlus.



Rotary Club Garden City: Thanks to a district grant, we provided a much needed office copier to the Western Kansas Child Advocacy Center. The WKCAC provides services to children who have been abused.



Rotary Club Washington: We presented the Horse Soldier Memorial Project a check for \$14,000 from proceeds of our 2021 Festival of Trees. We also contributed \$500 to The Rotary Foundation for polio.



Rotary Club E Wichita: We celebrated 25 years of our own EWR Foundation by establishing an endowment fund to allow us to continue to provide financial support to area students who did well in high school but experience financial challenges to attend college. We have funded 51 students with \$145,000 since we started the program in 2013.



**Plan to attend
Rotary at the Ball Game!**

Wednesday, June 1
Game time 7:05 pm
Details coming soon!

RI Annual Report Available

In a challenging 2020-21 year, Rotary members quickly adapted and embraced change to continue being people of action. This report brings life to some of the meaningful ways in which we have made a difference in the past year and exciting opportunities for the days ahead.

Read about Rotary's accomplishments, discover how clubs are making a difference, and learn about why donors

contributed to The Rotary Foundation in the [2020-21 annual report](#).

You will read stories and performance highlights, you will see how the Rotary global network is scaling up. Your support of The Rotary Foundation helps us build a better world.

www.rotary.org/donate

Upcoming Events

February 18, 2022
RYLA 2022 - 1 Day Pop-up
Kansas Cosmosphere, Hutchinson

March 31-April 2, 2022
PETS 2022
Wichita Marriott

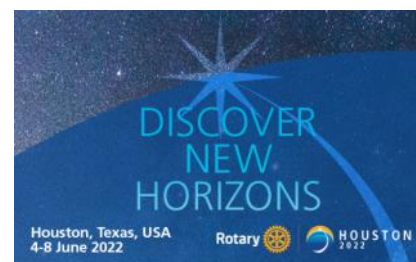
May 31-June 4, 2022
RYLA
Southwestern College, Winfield

June 1, 2022
Rotary at the Wind Surge
Wichita, KS

June 4-8, 2022
Rotary International Convention
Houston, TX

Sept. 15-18, 2022
Zone Institute
[Info & Register here](#)
Bloomington, MN

October 21-23, 2022
District Conference
Liberal, KS



Rotary International & The Rotary Foundation's Position Statement on COVID-19 Vaccination

We see the decision to vaccinate as a civic and humanitarian imperative. Rotary is not a political or religious organization, it is a service organization and this is the lens through which we are advising you of our position.

1. Global vaccination is the path to ending the pandemic and the emergence of new variants. Rotary endorses and strongly encourages vaccination for all individuals including our members who are currently able to be vaccinated against COVID-19. In areas where COVID-19 is surging, communities are facing extreme challenges, health systems are overwhelmed, and contentious rhetoric is dividing us. It is critical that the virus be contained so that the world may begin to heal. To that end, the purpose of this statement is to reinforce Rotary's position.

2. Misinformation has become an "infodemic" that hinders the fight against COVID-19. In line with our Four-Way Test, Rotary International and The Rotary Foundation are committed to providing our members with science-based information.

3. Rotary International staff at One Rotary Center were required to be vaccinated by 10 October 2021, as a criterion for employment after that date. RI's employee vaccination rate stands at over 99 percent.

4. Globally, Rotary is actively engaged in assuring equity in vaccine access to all people. Our efforts have included advocacy with the G-20, and a proof-of-concept program with GAVI/COVAX to leverage our frontline experience with polio eradication to facilitate vaccine delivery in several low- and middle-income countries where Rotarians are active. While we know many clubs are already deeply involved in COVID-19 prevention, we are working on additional strategies to multiply our collective efforts. GAVI/COVAX is a partnership including WHO and UNICEF focused on global access and delivery of COVID-19 vaccines.

5. Those children for whom vaccines are not currently available are at significant risk. Until vaccines are available for all children, the vaccination of adults is the best way to protect children who cannot be vaccinated. Pediatric admissions for COVID-19 are rising precipitously in areas of low vaccination.

6. Rotary salutes health care workers everywhere as they continue to provide lifesaving services. Local recognition of these heroes by each of our clubs can help to encourage them to continue their important work. Rotary abhors any harassment and attacks on healthcare workers.

7. Rotary and Rotaract clubs are encouraged to

- set good examples by being exemplary role models;
- redouble their efforts to support COVID-19 treatment, prevention, and vaccination efforts.

8. Vaccines have proven to be one of the greatest advances of modern medicine. The World Health Organization estimates that vaccines save between 2 to 3 million children's lives each year, and the Global Polio Eradication Initiative estimates the polio vaccine has saved more than 19 million children from paralysis. Vaccines are safe, effective and are responsible for eliminating or controlling many other vaccine-preventable diseases such as smallpox, measles, rubella, and Ebola. And now, there is the opportunity to end the COVID-19 pandemic through vaccines.

9. The eradication of polio remains a goal of the highest order for Rotary. We can apply the lessons we have learned in fighting polio to the efforts in responding to the COVID-19 pandemic.

Regards,

Shekhar Mehta
President,
Rotary International

John Germ
Chair
The Rotary Foundation

Call to Action—Assistance for Northcentral Kansas

As we are all too well aware, the recent weather events and subsequent fires/wind damage affected our neighbors. Especially hard hit were the counties in and around Russell. This is a call for action to help! Please consider an individual and/or club effort to assist in those in need.

The best ways to help are with financial assistance or donations of hay/supplies. We are directing you and your club to The Kansas Recovery Resources site ([Kansas Wildfire Recovery Resources December 2021](https://www.kansaswildfire.com/) ([ks.gov](https://www.ks.gov))) which has information for you on needs and how

to direct your efforts. Southwind Bank is collecting funds to be administered by the Paradise United Methodist Church. Info is on Southwind's Facebook page. Finally, you may wish to contact the local Red Cross for other needs and ways to help.

Please make every effort to get this information out to all club members. Thank you for whatever you can do to assist our neighbors and for serving to change lives.

District 5680 Membership Report As Of December 31, 2021

Club	7/1/2021 MEMBERSHIP	12/31/2022 MEMBERSHIP	NET GAIN 2021-2022
Abilene	47	51	4
Andover	23	26	3
Arkansas City	58	56	(2)
Atwood	25	23	(2)
Beaver	15	15	0
Beloit	39	39	0
Boise City	20	18	(2)
Cimarron	23	23	0
Clay Center	55	56	1
Colby	46	47	1
Concordia	35	34	(1)
Derby	58	57	(1)
Dodge City	38	38	0
Downs	10	10	0
East Wichita	67	72	5
E-Club	16	16	0
El Dorado	30	33	3
Ellinwood	16	18	2
Ellis	11	11	0
Garden City	38	37	(1)
Goodland	21	19	(2)
Great Bend	41	38	(3)
Guymon	25	38	13
Hays	61	66	5
Hays Sunrise	15	15	0
Hill City	14	14	0
Howard	10	10	0
Hoxie	20	19	(1)
Hugoton	16	16	0
Hutchinson	94	89	(5)
Johnson	13	13	0
Kingman	22	22	0
Kinsley	6	5	(1)
Larned	16	16	0
Liberal	39	39	0
Lindsborg	7	7	0
Lyons	23	21	(2)
McPherson	35	29	(6)
Ness City	23	23	0
Newton	60	65	5
Norton	14	13	(1)
Oberlin	31	28	(3)
Osborne	11	10	(1)
Phillipsburg	48	48	0
Pratt	51	61	10
Russell	37	37	0
Salina	117	112	(5)
Sharon Springs	6	6	0
Sterling	14	14	0
Sublette	17	17	0
Syracuse	13	13	0
Texhoma	12	12	0
Ulysses	25	27	2
Washington	33	33	0
Wellington	10	7	(3)
West Sedgwick Co Sunrise	34	36	2
West Wichita	59	63	4
Wichita-Downtown	378	383	5
Wichita-Old Town	13	10	(3)
Winfield	74	76	2
TOTALS	2228	2250	22



District 5680

www.rotary5680.org

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

PDG Geri Appel, Editor
Phone: 316-841-2592
appelg@kenlerman.com



2021-22 RI President
Shekhar Mehta

Calcutta INDIA

We don't have a secret clue hidden in the newsletter this month.

However, a winner had been chosen for the first 6 months of the year.

Rotarian Pamela Tuller (Garden City) will receive 500 Paul Harris Points to help her reach the next giving level at the Rotary Foundation!

Thanks for reading!

Did You Know?

We have a link on YouTube!



Join Us For This Historical Opportunity

All Rotarians & Guests Invited to Attend

**Special Guest &
Rotary International
President Elect**

JENNIFER JONES

*The first woman to lead the
116 year old organization*

**Rotary Luncheon
Guest Speaker**

Saturday, April 2, 2022

Wichita Marriott

11:30 am - Networking & Photo Opportunity

12:00 pm - Luncheon



\$50 per person - Deadline to Register is Thursday, March 17

<http://events.constantcontact.com/register/event?llr=zpax4ohab&oeidk=a07eixxwhfd6369b366>

District Contacts for More Information or Questions

District #5680 - District Governor Fred Heismeyer

479-841-1525 or fred@leadingandteaming.com

District #5710 - District Governor Vern Henricks

785-564-2121 or vernh@mcfsks.org

Rotary
District #5680
District #5710



Heartland
Multi-District President Elect Training Seminar