

# District 5690 News



## IN THIS ISSUE

**Page ..... 1-2**

*Governor's Message*

**Page ..... 2**

*November is Rotary  
Foundation Month*

**Page ..... 3**

*Did you know? - RYLA,  
Russia, eLearning, etc.  
Call for 2017-18 District  
Governor*

**Page ..... 4**

*Rotary Youth Exchange  
report from France  
Drink Beer for Water!  
Polio Facts & Figures*

**Page ..... 5**

*Jade Piros reports on  
Youth Professionals  
Summit!*

**Page ..... 6**

*Club News  
Awards presented at  
Conference  
Susan Ellis receives  
Service Above Self  
Award  
Year-end deadlines for  
contributions to TRF*

**Page ..... 7**

*District Conference  
Photos*

**Page ..... 8**

*October Membership  
Report  
Rotary Foundation News*

**Page ..... 9-10**

*Ambassadorial Scholar  
News from Andrew Haw-  
kins studying in Sweden*

## Message from District Governor

**Martin Bauer**



Dear District 5690 Rotarians

As a Rotarian, the Rotary Foundation is your Foundation! November is **Rotary Foundation Month**. The goal of the Foundation is to improve the health of all, support education particularly of young people and to alleviate poverty. In your non-Rotary activities, you may try to achieve some of the same things. I know from my Club visits that the Clubs in District 5690 achieve many of these goals in their respective communities. The Rotary Foundation is unique because it gives money back to your Club to support efforts in *your own community* and also allows your Club to select and be involved in an international project. At the recent District Conference, we heard about how our District has fostered many water projects in a wide array of countries, built libraries in Vietnam, bathrooms in India and supported a school and agricultural project in Haiti and there are more. I ask each of you to give just \$120 per year or more to the Rotary Foundation. This is only \$10 a month. If every Rotarian in our District would do this, we could generate \$50,000 of local grants every year.



On October 17-18, we held the District Conference. We had 120 people participate in the Conference. Amanda Wirtz, just selected as Ms Reservist America, brought the audience to their feet by challenging the audience to Ask the Right Question, which is how we

would become better and more effective people by helping others. The Conference closed with Liberal, Hugoton, Kinsley and Derby receiving awards for giving far greater than \$100 per month to the Foundation. District 5690 became the only District in our Zone to have two Clubs that achieved 100% Paul Harris Fellows -- Kinsley previously and now Newton. Our conference RI President's Representative, Joe Dino, former District governor from New Jersey, shared his Rotary moment and encouraged all of us to Light Up Rotary through supporting the Foundation and its many projects.

My Club visits were so uplifting. Even the Clubs who are struggling wanted to find ways to improve and continue their service to their communities. The District Conference joined many who have given years of

## MARK YOUR CALENDARS!

**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)

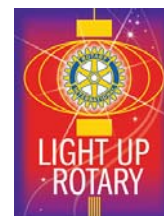
service to Rotary with many new eager Rotarians. But the most encouraging thing for me has been the response to our call for those interested in the Membership Cadre for our Rotary Zone. This is a program funded by a grant at no expense to our District to help our Clubs to recruit and retain Rotarians. **Mike Andursak** (Ulysses), **Kaydee Anderson** (Winfield) and **Jamie Anderson** (West Wichita) have been selected to the Cadre. They will receive training November 14-15 in Denver and then attend a Presidential Membership Summit in Albuquerque New Mexico in January. In addition, we had another 9 Rotarians who expressed an interest in forming a membership team in our District. They include recent retirees, new members, young and old members and from all over the District. The diversity of interest makes me realize there are those excited about what Rotary does and want to see it grow and continue in our District.

Finally I want to thank all those who helped in any way with the District Conference. It was a joint effort and I want all to know how much I appreciated your part even if it was just attending. Steve Woods is chairing a Committee to discuss how we can improve the District Conference and encourage more Rotarians to attend. Those who missed the Conference missed a great weekend of information and fellowship.

Help us find ways to let you Light Up Rotary !

**Martin Bauer**

*District Governor 2014-15  
Rotary Club of Wichita*



## November is Rotary Foundation Month



*By Brenda Cressey, Rotary Club of Paso Robles, California*

November gives us the chance to build greater ownership and pride in our Foundation. We have so much to celebrate. The new grant model, [Rotary's website](#), our publications, and

our new branding effort all focus on building a strong message — the importance of contributing to and supporting our Rotary Foundation.

PolioPlus is highly successful because we believe in our commitment and are getting the word out that we are indeed "This Close" to ending polio. We give to polio eradication because we see very clearly what our money is doing and what we are helping to achieve. We all take pride in knowing that our donations are helping to create a polio-free world.

However, many Rotary members do not have the same pride and ownership in The Foundation's Endowment Fund and Annual Fund. We are still falling short of our goal in the Every Rotarian, Every Year initiative. Why? Because Rotarians do not fully realize the power of these funds.

The Rotary Foundation's Endowment and Annual Funds are what make Rotary International more than just an association of Rotary clubs. These funds, powered by your gifts, continue to allow us to share our resources, work together, and take our work to a higher level. Greater

Foundation resources allow us greater ability, as Rotarians, to meet the needs of communities locally and throughout the world.

When every one of us donates to the Rotary Foundation at any level every year, it truly connects us to our Foundation's mission "To Do Good in the World." Our goal for the Annual Fund in 2014-15 is US\$123 million dollars; representing a donation from every Rotarian averaging \$100 each.

What can you do to encourage Rotary members to make the Foundation their personal charity of choice?

- Encourage every member to give from the heart
- Ask members to share projects on [Rotary Showcase](#) to show the results of our giving
- Invite others in your region to learn more about the Foundation by holding an event this month
- Thank donors by celebrating those who are already giving
- Share the value and convenience of giving through [Rotary Direct](#)

We need a strong Endowment Fund for whatever lies ahead. We need a strong Foundation to have the freedom to be ambitious in our service. Today's gifts to the Annual Fund make it possible for us to witness and take part in great humanitarian efforts. Please join us by [making your gift today](#).

## Did You Know?

- Rotary International was named a **2014 Learning!** 100 award winner by Elearning! Media Group, publisher of Elearning! and Government Elearning! Magazines, for our learning and development programs. Says Alfred R. Novas, chief executive officer of Interactyx, whose learning management software is used by Rotary: "We admire Rotary's dedication to training and engaging its membership base through e-learning technology. Rotary is leading by example, and earned the recognition as a Learning! 100 winner." Learn more about RI's extensive ELearning here: <https://www.rotary.org/myrotary/en/learning-reference>
- **Rotary Showcase**—Rotary members in Juneau, Alaska, USA, are using their loose change to make a big difference in the world through the microfinance website Kiva. It's just one of the projects you'll find on Rotary Showcase. Have you added your projects? See how easy it is to do, and stay informed:
  - [Go to Rotary Showcase](#)
  - [Read the roundup of projects on Rotary Showcase](#)
  - [Enter the Interact video contest for a chance to win \\$500](#)
- **RYLA 2015**—Save the dates of May 27-31 for RYLA. It is not too soon to begin finding students for RYLA. The applications and all information are online at the District web site or [www.sckans.edu/leadership](http://www.sckans.edu/leadership) and then click on Rotary Camp.
- **Want to Visit Russia?** As a member of the Rotary International U.S.-Russia Intercountry Committee, our district has been invited to send a delegate on a **Friendship Exchange** in May 2015. Although details are still being worked out, it is anticipated the exchange will include arrival on or before May 9, with a possible visit to Crimea and a recently restored war memorial day on Victory Day (May 9), followed by visits to Moscow, a number of cities in the Moscow vicinity, and ending with the Rotary District 2220 District conference in St. Petersburg May 22-24. A participant will be responsible for travel costs, including obtaining a visa. Although efforts will be made to provide home stays in some cities, this will not be likely in Moscow and St. Petersburg, so at least some lodging and meal expense is anticipated. For details, please contact Kurt Harper at [kurt.harper@sherwoodharper.com](mailto:kurt.harper@sherwoodharper.com).

## Call for District Governor Nominations for 2017-2018

The month of November begins the process for selecting the District Governor for the 2017-2018 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 5690 leader.

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

- |             |  |
|-------------|--|
| November 15 | District Governor Bauer has 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 Mike Ford (Beaver), Charlene Mathis (Derby), Steve Woods (Wichita), PDG Larry Rumburg, PDG Sue Pearce (E. Wichita), PDG David Nygaard (Newton), Committee Secretary PDG Rod Kreie (Newton), and Committee Chair PDG Phil Michel (W. Wichita), Chair.. For their contact information please refer to the district web site. <http://www.rotary5690.org/>

**PDG Phil Michel**  
**Nomination Committee Chair**  
[phil\\_michel2001@yahoo.com](mailto:phil_michel2001@yahoo.com)  
**Office—316-681-3292 or Cell—316-213-5515**



## Rotary Youth Exchange



I think this picture sums up my host family pretty well. First you have Isis who is the energetic, ill-behaved Labrador of my host parents, and also my best friend. Behind her there is Martine and Pascal. My host parents are both retired lawyers who are pretty much the epitome of retirees.

They spend their time reading, debating politics, and hunting for mushrooms in the forest. They have three children, all of which have their own apartments. The oldest is Mathieu. He lives in Paris, but comes down for the week-end fairly often. He is always cheerful and laughing at some joke that I usually don't understand. The next oldest is Justine. Her apartment is nearby in Orléans, so she comes over all the time for dinner or just to visit. She is very nice and we spend a lot of time just talking (she always tries to talk to me in English, though she doesn't really need to anymore) or hanging out. Then there is Xavier. He also lives in Paris, but is usually busy with work and does not visit very often. I don't think I have ever had a conversation with him, but he seems nice enough.

School is...fine. It is much better now that I can, for the most part, understand what my teachers are saying. I can't say it is fun because French people don't believe in

having fun at school, but at least now it's normal. Most days it is from 8am to 6pm, but there are hours where I don't have classes. A lot of my classes are basically the teacher giving a lecture, and the students writing down everything he says. I am in an international section at my school, so I have two classes in



Valerie Goertz

English and all of my classmates speak English. That is good because it made it easier for me to figure out how things worked and to make friends, but it also makes it harder for me to learn French. Even now that I can speak French well enough, my friends still speak to me in English. I am on vacation from school now for two weeks. My favorite thing I have done so far was during the first week of vacation I stayed at my host parents' beach house in Normandy and we brought my friend and her little brother. It was so nice to get a break from school and we just had fun walking along the beach and playing board games. We also visited lots of WWII memorials and a museum. They were really interesting and it gave you a sense of how much history there is here. We learn about WWII in school, but it just seems like something that happened a long time ago, but in Normandy we visited craters and German bunkers where the war actually happened.

*Valerie Goertz is sponsored by the Rotary Club of Newton*

## Drink Beer for Clean Water!



The **Rotaract Club of Wichita** invites you to form a group of four for the 3rd Annual "**Drink Beer for Clean Water**" Pub Crawl. This year we are raising funds for a water filtration system at the Lambert school in Haiti.

It's on **Saturday, November 22, from 3 p.m. to 6 p.m.**, and the cost is \$25 per person.

To buy a ticket or make a donation, please go to <https://www.eventbrite.com/e/third-annual-rotaract-pub-crawl-tickets-13661685469>.

For more information, go to our Facebook page at <https://www.facebook.com/rotaractwichita>.

Thank you from all the young professionals in the Rotaract Club of Wichita!

## Polio Facts & Figures\*

<u>Area</u>	<u># of cases YTD 2014</u>	<u># of cases YTD 2013*</u>
Afghanistan	18	9
India	0	0
Nigeria	6	51
Pakistan	236	59
Non-endemic countries	19	215
Total Worldwide	279	334

\*Data as of **12 Nov 2014** / World Health Organization  
Go to [www.polioeradication.org/Dataandmonitoring/Poliothisweek.aspx](http://www.polioeradication.org/Dataandmonitoring/Poliothisweek.aspx) for more information



## Jade Piros Carvelho—at Young Professionals Summit



On September 26-27 in Chicago, Rotary played host to a Young Professionals Summit that brought together 30 Rotarians between the ages of 25-40 to discuss ways in which Rotary can better attract members of the under 40 demographic.

With less than 10% of Rotarians under the age of 40 and membership in

North America declining, engaging young professionals in Rotary is crucial to the long term sustainability of this outstanding organization. With that in mind, a very generous Rotarian couple donated \$1 Million to a multiphase campaign with targeted efforts to reach generations X and Y. The Summit was one of those phases.

*What an extraordinary experience!* Imagine a large group of successful, fun-loving, service-minded 20 and 30 somethings in one room, and you'll start to get an idea of the energy and ideas that were generated over our weekend! We discussed what brought us to Rotary and our love for the organization, but we also unpacked our frustrations with some of the traditions that present barriers to people our age joining a club.

Our two days together began with hilarious ice breakers that loosened us up and helped us get to know one another. These activities were followed by several rounds of intense brainstorming, where we covered topics ranging from club meeting formats and service projects to effective communication through social media. In addition to the structured agenda, we all gathered for dinners and time together outside the Summit to continue our conversations.

At the end of Summit, we were each asked to write down a few ideas that we wanted to take back and implement in our clubs and districts.

Some of the takeaways from the Summit were:

1. **Tell our story.** Rotary needs to distinguish itself from other available avenues for networking and giving back. 50 years ago, the opportunities to connect with others that exist today (social media, young professionals groups, other civic orgs., etc.) didn't exist. Rotary is different—it's organized globally and it's making a huge impact on daunting world challenges. We need to tell that story better and in a way that reaches young people.
2. **Turn off auto pilot.** The same traditions that brought people to clubs decades ago, such as exclusivity and

noon meeting times, don't appeal to the newer generations. We need to examine our club traditions and determine if they still serve us well. Are our service projects relevant in our community? Or are we still doing the same projects we've done for years that might not be needed anymore? Are our club fees making membership inaccessible to young professionals? Do we need to consider a different meeting format? Survey your club to find out what members want to START, STOP and CONTINUE doing.

3. **Be flexible.** Some members might not always be able to attend during the normal meeting time. Can you provide alternatives for make-up meetings? Perhaps an after-work networking time once a month can count as a make-up for those who missed a noon meeting because of work obligations. Maybe electronic attendance through Skype could count toward attendance once in a while. Be creative in how you engage your members.
4. **Be nice.** Clubs should go out of their way to welcome new members with an inclusive mindset. Having unwritten seating arrangements and other exclusionary practices will lead to member turnover. It can be intimidating for a new member to sit down at a table of established business people they don't know. Creating a new member/seasoned member pair up system can help initiate new members into your club and make them stay.
5. **Be fun!** Rotary doesn't need to be 100% structured in order to be effective. Rotarians are some of the most fun individuals I know! Introduce fellowship opportunities outside of meetings where Rotarians can come together for casual conversation and get to know each other better. Often times, the most compelling ideas for service projects are generated from these informal types of gatherings. These events are also great ways to recruit non-members. Invite them to events BEFORE you invite them to a meeting.

It was an honor (and a LOT of fun!) to be a part of the first Rotary Young Professionals Summit. As attendees, we immediately felt more like lifelong friends than random strangers from across the United States. The relationships we formed will not only be personally rewarding, but will make a positive difference in the Rotary world. It's my firm belief that we can turn around the membership decline, and Rotary will continue to be a force for tremendous good in the world for generations to come.

*Jade is a member of the RC Hutchinson. Thanks, Jade!*

# Club News from around the District

**Rotary Club El Dorado:** During the month of October the El Dorado Rotary Club had a varied range of speakers including Caleb Marsh the manager of the El Dorado Airport; Becky Walters, from Walter's Pumpkin Patch; Louis Smith from Wichita who was a WWII B-17 pilot; and Katie Banks-Todd and the EHS drama students performing selections from their upcoming production of Beauty and the Beast. El Dorado's big event for the quarter was hosting a football tailgate to generate funds for the dictionary project.

**Rotary Club El Dorado:** We had a great time delivering dictionaries—and the students loved them!



**Rotary Club Kinsley:** The annual Rotary Reindeer Run/Walk will be held on December 6, sponsored by our club. The Kinsley Chamber of Commerce is sponsoring a craft show and other activities, too.



**Rotary Club Wichita:** We were surprised to learn of Larry Hatteberg's retirement from KAKE-TV when he made his first public announcement at our club meeting. We will miss his Monday newscasts and corny/bad jokes!

## Congratulations to DG Martin Bauer on a very successful District Conference! 2013-2014 Awards – PDG Sue Pearce

Here are some of the awards presented at the conference. See photos of conference elsewhere in this issue.

1. Highest membership growth rate from RI – Greensburg.
2. Special recognition from RI for growing membership to 10 or greater – Greensburg.
3. Retention awards from RI – Kinsley, Greensburg, Ark City, Cimarron, Guymon, Sublette, and Larned.
4. Most members inducted from RI – Wichita DT.
5. Significant Achievement Award from RI upon nomination by PDG Sue Pearce – Hutchinson for Meals on Wheels involvement.
6. Service Above Self Award for D5690 – Susan Ellis (Johnson).
7. Outstanding Club – Wichita DT.



*Congratulations to  
Susan Ellis!*

*Susa received the  
2013-14 District  
5690 Service Above  
Self Award at the  
District Conference.*



## 2014 Year-end Deadlines for TRF Contributions

### Credit Cards:

Via rotary.org – must be authorized by midnight on Wednesday, **31 December 2014**.

Via fax (847-328-5260), phone (866-976-8279) or mail – must be received prior to the close of business on Wednesday, **31 December 2014**.

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 2014** and received by Thursday, **8 January 2015**

*Please note:* Contributions mailed at the end of **December 2014** intended as early gifts for **January 2014** will be treated as **December 2014** gifts. Do not mail **January 2015** gifts in the month of January.

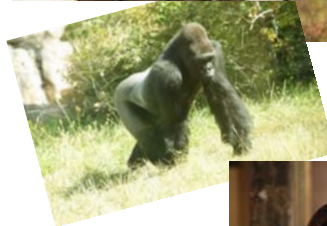
The Rotary Foundation  
14280 Collections Center Dr.  
Chicago, IL 60693 USA

**Wire transfers:** Must be initiated prior to Wednesday, **31 December 2014** and received by Monday, **5 January 2014**.



## Photos of the District Conference October 17-18, 2014

We are working on a special edition newsletter of the District Conference but here are a few photos. Thanks everyone who attended and for those that weren't able to be there we hope you'll join us next year!



Fun at the Zoo!  
Elephant painting included!



Bill Gardner  
(above) &  
Charlie Moon  
(left) emceed  
and kept things  
lively!

DG Martin and wife Ann &  
RI President's Representative  
Joe Dino & Marion



Photos  
courtesy of  
Christopher  
Clark, RC  
Wichita



Friday Night's Banquet speaker  
Amanda Wirtz was terrific! With DG  
Martin and RI Rep Joe Dino!

## Awards

Many awards were presented at  
Conference (see pg. 7). Here are  
some of the photos.



**Tony Durano** became  
our District's newest  
**Major Donor** to TRF  
with presentation of the  
award crystal by  
RI Rep Joe Dino..  
**Congratulations, Tony!**



Kinsley #3 per capita  
Giving 2013-14



100% Paul Harris Fellow Club—Newton



2013-14 Wichita  
Downtown club  
president **Gayle  
Goetz** received the  
Outstanding  
Club trophy on  
behalf  
of the club



Liberal & Hugoton Sustaining  
Member Club 2013-14



Liberal #3 per  
capita Giving  
2013-14



Newton #1 per  
capita Giving  
2013-14

District 5690 MEMBERSHIP REPORT as of October 31, 2014					
	7/1/2014	10/31/2014	NET GAIN	Goal	YTD
	MEMBERSHIP	MEMBERSHIP	2014-15		to Goal
Andover	23	24	1	23	1
Arkansas City	57	57	0	100	-43
Beaver	18	17	-1	18	-1
Boise City	14	15	1	15	0
Cimarron	26	26	0	26	0
Derby	68	66	-2	70	-4
Dodge City	38	38	0	38	0
East Wichita	125	124	-1	150	-26
El Dorado	49	55	6	52	3
Garden City	41	42	1	41	1
Greensburg	12	14	2	20	-6
Guymon	27	27	0	27	0
Hugoton	25	24	-1	26	-2
Hutchinson	123	127	4	123	4
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	64	0	64	0
Sublette	16	17	1	16	1
Syracuse	21	19	-2	21	-2
Texhoma	16	17	1	16	1
Ulysses	38	38	0	42	-4
Wellington	19	19	0	19	0
W. Sedgwick Co	45	45	0	45	0
West Wichita	63	63	0	63	0
Wichita-DT	390	386	-4	425	-39
Wichita-Old Town	17	20	3	17	3
Winfield	84	87	3	87	0
<b>TOTALS</b>	<b>1601</b>	<b>1615</b>	<b>14</b>	<b>1732</b>	<b>-117</b>

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

## Rotary Foundation News

### Paul Harris Society: Web sign-up now available

We have a new webpage for the [Paul Harris Society](#), complete with a [sign-up form](#). The Paul Harris Society recognizes Rotary members and friends of The Rotary Foundation who contribute \$1,000 or more each year to the Annual Fund, PolioPlus, or approved global grants. The purpose of the Paul Harris Society is to honor and thank donors for their generous annual support of The Rotary Foundation.



### #GivingTuesday

Get in the holiday spirit this year by giving to those in need on #GivingTuesday. On 2 December, join the community of people making a difference in the world by making a gift to The Rotary Foundation.

### Note from Andrew Hawkins—D5690 Rotary Scholar at Uppsala University

Hello once again from Uppsala. I sure hope it's staying lighter there longer than it is here. We set the clocks back two weeks ago, and it gets pitch black at 4:00 p.m. Yikes! All is well though and the school year is going great so far. I was able to make contact with a local Rotary club here and they have taken me in



District 5690

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

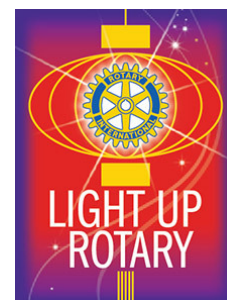
**This is your newsletter!**  
Send your articles and club information to:

PDG Geri Appel, Editor

Phone: 316-733-5800

Fax: 316-733-5077

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



2014-2015 RI Theme

Gary Huang, Taiwan

RI President



Rotary International  
Convention

June 6-9, 2014

Sao Paolo Brazil

as one of their own.

Please find attached my monthly newsletter for October with updates. Take care and talk to you real soon.

*(Read Andrew's monthly report at the end of this newsletter)*





# Rotary District 5690 Ambassadorial Scholarship News

NEW COURSES AND NEW FRIENDS

OCTOBER 2014

The trees, so brilliantly vibrant with fall foliage just yesterday, stand today as mere wraiths against a grey backdrop, illuminated only slightly by a low-hanging, distant sun. Winter is definitely on its way to Uppsala. However, rather than longing sullenly for warmer days of the past, I have noticed a markedly cheerful bustling feeling amongst the people of Uppsala. "There is, after all, quite a bit to celebrate," I am told by Gunilla, a retired woman who runs a small market stand in the Old Town square which sells autumnal Swedish treats such as Lingonberry juice and baskets of freshly picked Chanterelle mushrooms. While I sample a glass of Lingonberry juice, Gunilla goes on to tell me that this sense of excitement, which seems to have engulfed the entire city, comes every year at this time as the Swedish instinct to start preparing for the long and cold winter sets in, as well as a sense of anticipation for the many holidays and festivities which will be celebrated throughout Sweden until the New Year. Tomorrow is one of them, Gunilla explains, and is *alla helgons dag* (All Saints Day), and is celebrated on November 1<sup>st</sup> each year with a visit to graves of passed loved ones where a candle is lit in their memory. Another reason, Gunilla exclaims, is that there is only one month until December and the start of Advent! A month full of Swedish festivities in preparation for Christmas and the New Year. "Remember," Gunilla says before I say goodbye, "you are in Sweden, *the* Christmas wonderland!"

I walked away from Gunilla's market stand with a similar sense of excitement. Not only did I have the next two months, full of Swedish festivities and traditions to look forward to, but I had also just come from a Rotary meeting with club Aros, an Uppsala based Rotary club which invited me to their Friday breakfast meeting. At this meeting, I introduced myself and gave a detailed presentation about Kansas and Rotary District 5690.



PDG Staffan Björklund and myself following District 5690 Presentation

I also extended warm greetings from our District and conveyed my interest in becoming involved with some of their community activities. Characteristic of Rotary, they were more than welcoming and eager to learn more, and I was invited to a Rotary mingle the following Monday which was hosted by the Uppsala Rotaract club, where members from all clubs within Uppsala were present. This was a fantastic experience and there were many representatives from various clubs who expressed interest in me coming to give a similar presentation at their club, which I am of course more than happy to do!

Furthermore, I had yet another reason to walk away from Gunilla's market stand with a feeling of excitement. After the breakfast meeting with Club Aros, I turned in my final course work for my course *Governance & the State*, which saw the end of this course and the starting of a new one, *Research Methods*. More to come about this and my experiences with Rotary here in Uppsala in the next newsletter. Until then, hej då!

-Andrew Hawkins

## More from Around Uppsala...



Gunilla's fall market stand with tasty Swedish delights



The last leaves of this fall blanket the walkway of an Uppsala park



A couple ducks into a café at St. Eriks Gränd to escape the fall rains