



District 5680 News



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Facebook.com/
District 5680

Message from

District Governor Dana Brewer

Dear Fellow Rotarians,

PEOPLE WHO HAVE PERSEVERED!!!

Fellow Rotarians,

On behalf of the District Leadership Team, we are so proud of you and your Clubs for keeping the life-enhancing Service of Rotary alive in our Communities!

Remember the scene from *It's a Wonderful Life*, when Fred Bailey sees what his hometown of Bedford Falls would have looked like, if he hadn't served it in so many ways. So drab and dreary and people's lives were much more difficult, with less opportunities to succeed and to help each other!

That's what our communities would be like, without People of Action, People of Service, without the Power of US!

It is time for US Rotarians to roll up our own sleeves to get our vaccinations, which will strongly encourage and support our Families, our Neighbors and our Communities to do the same!

We as a people, have come through so much and made so much progress in bending the Covid cases and deaths curves! With more vaccinations and continuing to follow the protocols that caused us to do so, like social distancing and masks, for a few months longer, we can move ourselves and our loved ones on



through and past this Pandemic!

Please watch and share Dr. Marci Nielsen's video **Proven Ways to Beat the Pandemic**, from the link on the front page of the [District 5680 website](https://www.rotary5680.org). Present it as a Club

Program, on local TV and Radio (using the audio) or as a Community Forum. Dr. Nielsen is leading the State of Kansas' vaccines rollout. *It's solid information we can trust and share with confidence!*

My wife, Tina, and I have been fortunate enough to have taken both of our anti-Covid shots. I was indeed lucky, having almost no reaction to either lifesaving dose. Tina had some limited symptoms from the second "little stick," mild fever, headache, some discomfort and swelling in right arm. However, she said it was much better than having a bout with the "regular flu".

An aside on the "little stick." My injections were over before I realized they were going to stick me. The needle size is the thinnest I have ever seen used for an injection. There was no noticeable stinging sensation.

Lest you think I am oblivious to needles, to the contrary, when just five years old, I was tested with rack after rack of syringes for allergic reactions. Over six decades later, in my still vivid memory, each syringe was pushing one foot in length.

So, it took much determination to over-



Rotary



DG Dana Brewer (cont'd)

come my apprehension of inoculations. I had great examples to emulate. My father, who cheerfully faced the discomfort and sometimes pain from his lower body, left ravaged by Polio. I never once heard him complain.

And there were the Jensens, Julius and his sons, Doc and Benny. Getting ready to go on wheat harvest with them, as a 15 year old, I watched as Benny sliced his hand open on a jagged piece of metal. He reared his head back and laughed, as he walked to the house, got a needle and thread and sewed it up, literally singlehandedly.

Laugh in the face of danger, keep smiling when we are confronted with adversity! Some might say those are foolish ways to deal with very serious problems.

But in reality, we are much more likely to be successful in overcoming our fears, if we keep a positive, upbeat attitude and calmly address and move forward to deal with the situation.

Tina and I so looked forward to coming to see every one of our 60 precious Rotary Clubs and Communities, in person!

However, Rotary International has requested, for the safe-

ty of all concerned, that we not meet with you in person through the end of June. At this point, it will have to be by virtual, Zoom meetings. We'll do our best to get to as many of our 60 Clubs as we can!

If we are not able to fit in a virtual visit, for even a Project or a Board Meeting, we will be glad to do our best to make a special video available, to be shown to your Club.

Our contact information is listed below. Hope to "see" all of our Rotary Service Heroes soon! [Please contact me](#) to set something up!

Let's finish our Rotary Year strong! Rotary is still Opening Opportunities, as we Serve to Change Lives! Let's seize those Opportunities and keep Changing and Saving Lives, where we are and around our World !

Thanks for all the Lives you help to Improve and even Save, through your Rotary Service,

Dana & Tina Brewer

District Governor & Governess
District Governor, 2020-21
District 5680



Exciting New Incentives for PolioPlus Campaign!



It appears that some of us may have overlooked making our life changing PolioPlus goal, while working our way through the Pandemic. We are substantially below our goal of raising \$100 per Rotarian to End Polio Forever!

We now see firsthand what a raging worldwide virus can do. We must not let Polio come back, when we have the opportunity to end it's horrific effects, like we did by eliminating smallpox!

RI President Holger Knaack tells us finishing off Polio, as we have pledged as Rotarians to do, is still our number one priority!

To provide additional incentive, Tina and I are offering to provide a \$50 match to our District's Clubs that raise/donate an average of between \$50 and \$74 per Rotarian and \$75 per Club for averaging between \$75 and \$99.

\$100 or more per Member still gets a \$100 match from the two of us.

At a Districtwide average of a little bit over \$50/ per active member, WE can still get to an overall contribution of \$1,000,000, with matches.

WE can do THIS! Donate what you can or have a feel good PolioPlus fundraiser, please!

If we average \$40/member more than we have already raised, or \$13 and change for the next 4 months till July 1, we can get there. We need and count on Every Rotarian's Support!

Honored to have you join us in Rotary Service,

Dana & Tina Brewer

District Governor & Governess
District Governor, 2020-21
District 5680





*When there is no leadership . . .
 Nobody listens. Nobody pays attention.
 People stop doing good work. Teamwork disintegrates.
 Clubs and districts get nasty. People pick on each other.
 Quality goes out the window.
 Some members quit and leave.
 Some members quit and stay.
 Partner organizations leave... often in a hurry!
 Service and fellowship dry up.
 The rest – what little there is – is obvious.
Rotarians, we need your leadership!*

RI President-Elect Shekhar Mehta announced our theme for 2021-22 will be “SERVE TO CHANGE LIVES” and asked each of us to be change-makers. What a testament about Rotarians’ abilities to meet the challenges of our communities and world. We all want to serve others to change lives for the better. Fellow Rotarians, one way you can be a change-maker is by volunteering at the district level to create positive change in your communities, across the district, and around the world.

We have several committees, tasks, and needs for which we encourage you to consider becoming involved. Are you interested in:

Promoting the RI Foundation	District and Global Grants	RYLA – Rotary Youth Leadership Awards
Community Service	New Generations: Interact, Rotaract and young professional membership	Scholarships
International Service	Peace Initiatives around the world	RLI – Rotary Leadership Institute
Membership	Public Image	New Club Development

ANY AREA NOT LISTED BUT WHICH YOU HAVE AN INTEREST

The opportunities are endless!

**FOR MORE INFORMATION ABOUT OPPORTUNITIES AND TO VOLUNTEER
 CONTACT ANY MEMBER OF THE DISTRICT LEADERSHIP TEAM**

Fred Heismeyer, District Governor-Elect

fred@leadingandteaming.com

479-841-1525

Meet Gloria Homeier—D5680 Governor 2023-24

From DG Dana Brewer, 2/25/21

I am very happy to formally introduce to you our selection for District Governor for the 2023-2024 Rotary year. Meet **Gloria Homeier** from the **Rotary Club of Russell, KS**.

Gloria has been a Rotarian for 11 years and actively involved with Interact, the Flatland Car Show and many Russell Rotary Club committees and projects. She has been a Club President, a Club Vice President, Club Foundation Chair, Chair of several Club Projects and a Club Secretary. She has also been involved on Rotary at the District level with several Interact presentations at Rotary District Conferences and PETs training sessions.

Outside Rotary, Gloria has had lots of involvement in other community service. She has been on Chamber Boards, involved with Main Street projects, on PRIDE Committees, hosted Musical Festivals and does whatever it takes to make her community a better place to live.



Gloria is involved with several business ventures which involve Residential and Commercial properties in Kansas, Nebraska and Missouri, furniture stores in Kansas & Nebraska, and a hardware store. She belongs to several business organizations and has been involved with their governing boards.

Gloria's hobbies include boating, fishing sky diving and rappelling.

Gloria is married to James Schwien. Together, they have 7 grown children.

We are so lucky to have active leaders willing to step up and participate in Rotary at higher levels. Gloria is one of these people. I am very anxious for you to get to know Gloria.

Congratulations, Gloria!

Rotary remains committed to fighting polio & responding to Covid-19



As Rotary members continue the fight against polio, they're also responding to the COVID-19 health crisis by addressing the urgent needs of the communities it's affecting worldwide. And now with the development of COVID-19 vaccines, Rotary is ready to use its

expertise in distributing polio vaccine and communicating about vaccine efficacy to assist local health authorities in promoting and delivering COVID-19 vaccinations.

[Learn how Rotary's experience with global polio immunizations is helping COVID-19 vaccination efforts.](#)

World Immunization Week

With decades of experience from working to eradicate polio, Rotary members can play a key role in publicizing the power of vaccines. World Immunization Week, **April 24-30**, is an opportunity for Rotary clubs to raise awareness of the importance of vaccines in saving lives — and the critical need to continue supporting polio vaccinations even while protecting people against the coronavirus. [Download the World Immunization Week Toolkit.](#)

Covid-19 Webinar Available!

Proven Ways to Beat the Virus



Dr. Marci Nielsen, Chief Advisor for COVID-19 Coordination for the State of Kansas presented the most up-to-date information regarding vaccines, vaccinations and distribution strategies within the State of Kansas. We recom-

mend using this video to help further educate your club's members, community leaders and citizens of your community. Please share this webinar through your personal social media and other means of distribution.



Thanks to RC Wichita's president Sue Tirudonda for facilitating a follow-up Question & Answer session at the end of the webinar!

https://adamsbrowncpa.zoom.us/rec/share/jKblvjhyzVnAgFaC4YzOln93EhIqZMEri-Ou83Hyf3lqLwZ_od_sNAh0hZWJvE6EI.PRukWKQTNZQyJJmW?startTime=1615402745000

Club News from around the District

Rotary Club Pratt: The Rotary Club of Pratt recently completed a fundraising project with funds raised donated to the Hope Center of Pratt (\$2,187) and Rotary International PolioPlus Fund (\$1,700).

Rev. Scott Powell, Hope Center President, received a check from club president, Kent Adams on March 18 after presenting a program at the club's weekly meeting. Special thanks to the 31 club members who contributed funds for the project. For information about the Hope Center, visit <https://spowell38.wixsite.com/hope-center>



Rotary Club Washington: Our annual Radio Days event will be held this year on April 9 at Washington Bowl. The proceeds will be donated to KSDS and additional community projects (i.e. park project, livestock show).

Rotary Club W Wichita: We delivered the bookshelves we made several months ago to Lawrence & Benton Elementary for the 1st grad teachers to give to each student.



Are You Interested and Passionate in Ending Human Trafficking?

Volunteer needed! We know that human trafficking is a major problem across the district, especially with the intersection of I-135 and I-70. We have an opportunity to have an impact in helping our fellow citizens better understand the devastating effects this has on individuals and families.

Specifically, I'm looking to identify one or more Rotarians who are interested and passionate in ending human trafficking. Our Zone is looking at doing a "DAY OF SER-

VICE" that focuses on the issue of human trafficking and we need a Champion/Coordinator to help us identify a district-wide project/effort. This Rotarian will also work with other district coordinators within our Zone on this initiative.

ARE YOU INTERESTED?

Please contact 2021-22 District Governor Fred Heismeyer to learn more.

2021 PETS a Success!



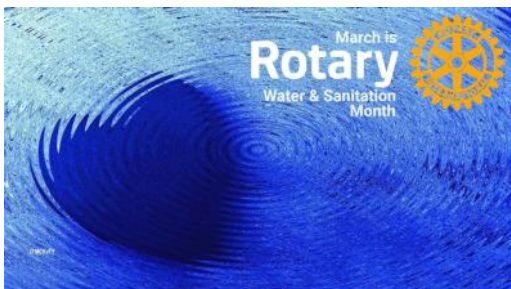
We heard from R/President-elect Shekar Mehta

This year's PETS (Presidents-elect Training) was very well attended and was full of valuable tips to our incoming club presidents. The talks by all the speakers were informative and inspirational and "live" entertainment was even provided.

Links for the recorded sessions and support materials can be accessed on the district website, under club resources, club presidents and PETS. A direct link to the PETS information is at [Club Presidents | District 5680 \(rotary5680.org\)](https://clubpresidents.district5680.org).

Thanks to all who participated - especially DGEs Fred Heismeyer (5680) and Vern Wakefield (5710) who hosted the event!

March is Water & Sanitation Month



The COVID-19 pandemic has made it clearer than ever that hand washing — which requires a safe water source — is essential to our health. Yet more than 2 billion people worldwide don't have access to clean water. Since 2014, The Rotary Foundation has invested more than \$51 million in global grants to enable clubs to carry out projects that help people around the world with clean water, sanitation, and hygiene. [Learn how you can get involved in a water project](#), and give to support Rotary's work in this area through the [Donate](#) page. Go to the **Areas of Focus** tab and choose **Water, Sanitation, and Hygiene**.

Club News from around the District

Rotary Club Russell: Our club manned a mass vaccination event in Russell recently. 384 individuals were vaccinated that day.



If you want to order more Smiley kits or signs, let us know no later than April 9.

Info on cost and ordering was emailed to club presidents. Price is lower on higher volumes.

Contact DeAnn Sullivan to order

Rotary Club Andover: Kids 4 Kids is an Interact-type club at Andover High School. Our club helped organize the club and continues to support it. Our club recently visited the school to present Kids 4 Kids a donation for their ongoing efforts to serve disadvantaged families in the Andover community during the recent holidays.



With the COVID-19 pandemic, support was desperately needed as their typical fundraisers for this annual event were cancelled. However, the students are finding ways to have food drives and seek support from local businesses through individual meetings and various efforts to ensure this important program continues to serve the community.

#RotarySharingSmiles

#Rotary5680

Please use the hashtags when posting photos to social media!

Visit our website www.rotary5680.org for more photos!

We ARE People of Action!

Rotary Club of W Wichita: There are smiles at the home of W Wichita Rotarian Sharon West!



Rotary Club of Winfield: We are smiling in Winfield, too!!



Rotary Club E Wichita: Signs, signs, everywhere there are signs . . . Smiley faces lined our walk to our meeting at Wichita Country Club.



Rotary Club Pratt: AG Lisa Perez Miller is smiling in Pratt!



Rotary Club Derby: Smileys in Rtn. Jim Hickman's yard!



Rotary Club Kinsley: On the main downtown street in small park enjoyed by many to relax, perhaps a snack or to watch a parade. We plan to move our signs every 5 days. Smile!



Rotary Club Wichita: Rtn Ann Fox surprised our club president with smiles thanking her for her service to our club. We designed a customizable template "Note" that can accompany the signs. Please take a better look at it on our website www.rotary5680.org



A Different Day During the Pandemic—from Columbia

From Gladys Maldonado in Cucuta, Colombia – our \$81,000 project—Global Grant #2218461

Today was a different day.

A day that shows us that in the midst of the global uncertainty due to the virus, we can do great things, without leaving home.

The Pandemic hid our smile with the masks, it prohibited hugs, meetings, visits, celebrations, it has stolen friends from us, however the pandemic has not managed to diminish the fibers of our hearts, nor to appease our dreams, they are there in each awakening, alone it is enough to look around us to observe some need and allow our heart to speak ... He in a harmonious way with The Rotary Foundation of Rotary International and in complicity with the Supreme Being, come together to generate important changes.

It was approaching noon and I received the expected e-mail, the one with the good news, the one who with a phrase "Your global grant project Number 2118461 has been Approved" generates smiles that no mask can hide.

This time it is about helping five Educational Institutions, located in vulnerable neighborhoods of my city, highly needy, where a high percentage of students have dropped out due to lack of technology equipment to re-

ceive their classes remotely. They do not have connectivity, they spend their days at home, most of them with their parents, who lost their jobs because of the situation, their greatest illusion previously was, everything they learned and shared at school.

The Pandemic stole from them, not only the smile, the meetings, the celebrations, the games, the hugs. The Pandemic robbed them of their education.

The Rotary clubs of Cúcuta joined, and thanks to the generosity of an excellent Rotarian and friend Bill Davis, Honorary member of our San José de Cúcuta club and the international contact club Rotary Club League City, plus multiple clubs and districts of the world that joined in this wonderful project, we will bring education through global grant project Number 2118461 to sectors where there is currently none.

It can? Of course you can, I'll be telling you details later.

Let's not waste dreams. On the contrary, let's look for them in each awakening!

Thanks to Rotarians in our district and several others, a dream will be coming true for hundreds of children in Cúcuta, Columbia. Thank you! - *Dave Abbott, D5680 Global Grants Chair*

Another Global Grant in Columbia

Global Grant #2095558 - This global grant #2095558 was to purchase medical equipment for the Hospital in Cucuta, Columbia located on the border with Venezuela. This Hospital treats numerous refugees that cross the border from Venezuela. This was a joint effort of 7 Rotary Districts lead by the Houston TX District. This grant is complete except for the review of 100 vulnerable patients, (Dr. Juan Carlos Vogel), and the relocation (*sic*) of 60 mammograms and 60 breast ultrasounds, which will be finished on April 30, 2021. This could not be done before due to the Covid pandemic. This only represents an approximate

of USD 4,300. The balance has already been spent for Medical Equipment, and everything is working fine!

Delivery of the equipment to Erasmo Meoz Hospital was covered by the local news.

Anyone wanting see pictures of from this project email Dave Abbott District Global Grant chair wabbott5@cox.net. This is 1 of 9 active District 5680 projects.

Remember giving to the Foundation supports future projects.



Upcoming Events

April 3, 2021

PE/Club Committee Chairs Workshop
10am - 11:30 am (Zoom)

May 14-16, 2021

Presidential Conference-USA

[Click here for info](#)

June 12-16, 2021

RI Virtual Convention

July 31, 2021

District Grant Application Deadline

Sept. 7-12, 2021

Zones 25B & 29 Institute

Houston, TX

[Register here](#)

October 29-30, 2021

District Conference

Wichita Marriott

District 5680 Membership Report As Of February 28, 2021

Club	7/1/2020 MEMBERSHIP	2/28/2021 MEMBERSHIP	NET GAIN 2020-2021
Abilene	59	52	(7)
Andover	26	26	0
Arkansas City	59	58	(1)
Atwood	23	24	1
Beaver	15	15	0
Beloit	40	39	(1)
Boise City	20	20	0
Cimarron	20	20	0
Clay Center	47	53	6
Colby	54	54	0
Concordia	31	35	4
Derby	70	59	(11)
Dodge City	38	36	(2)
Downs	9	10	1
East Wichita	87	82	(5)
E-Club	20	17	(3)
El Dorado	36	33	(3)
Ellinwood	20	19	(1)
Ellis	9	9	0
Garden City	45	41	(4)
Goodland	36	21	(15)
Great Bend	46	42	(4)
Guymon	26	32	6
Hays	64	63	(1)
Hays Sunrise	15	15	0
Hill City	13	16	3
Howard	13	12	(1)
Hoxie	20	20	0
Hugoton	15	16	1
Hutchinson	100	96	(4)
Johnson	15	15	0
Kingman	25	22	(3)
Kinsley	15	6	(9)
Larned	16	16	0
Liberal	43	43	0
Lindsborg	8	8	0
Lyons	23	23	0
McPherson	39	35	(4)
Ness City	21	24	3
Newton	53	58	5
Norton	13	14	1
Oberlin	33	31	(2)
Osborne	14	14	0
Phillipsburg	49	48	(1)
Pratt	53	51	(2)
Russell	39	39	0
Salina	123	121	(2)
Sharon Springs	10	6	(4)
Sterling	20	18	(2)
Sublette	18	17	(1)
Syracuse	16	17	1
Texhoma	15	13	(2)
Ulysses	28	27	(1)
Washington	35	33	(2)
Wellington	12	11	(1)
West Sedgwick Co Sunrise	38	36	(2)
West Wichita	61	59	(2)
Wichita-Downtown	410	382	(28)
Wichita-Old Town	9	13	4
Winfield	74	76	2
TOTALS	2404	2311	(93)

Rotary



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



2020-21 RI President
Holger Knaack
Hersogtum Lauenburg-
Mölln Germany



June 12—June 16, 2021
Visit convention.rotary.org

Did You Know?

We have a link on YouTube!

