



# District 5680 News



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Facebook.com/  
District 5680

## Message from

### District Governor Dana Brewer



Dear Fellow Rotarians,  
WARNING ENTERING DANGER ZONE .....ABANDON SAFETY PRECAUTIONS AT THE RISK OF YOUR LIFE AND THE LIVES OF THOSE FOR WHOM YOU ARE RESPONSIBLE!

Thomas A. Dorsey wrote a hymn made famous by the incredible singer Mahalia Jackson, whom many called a National Treasure. Whatever your faith may be, we can probably relate to at least some of what is being said:

*“Precious Lord, take my hand  
Lead me on, let me stand  
I am tired, I am weak, I am worn  
Through the storm, through the night  
Lead me on through the light  
Take my hand, precious Lord  
And lead me home.”*

All of us have felt it, to varying degrees and at different times in our universally experienced but mostly not shared at the same time, Pandemic Pilgrimage through more isolation than we’ve ever before experienced and decades of introspection drawn out over but a single year.

If we are truly applying the Four Way Test to our own lives, we have to admit to being tired and worn from the daily battle of doing what we can to hold up and urge forward those precious persons we have the privilege of getting to Serve in our lives.

Family, Friends, Neighbors, Congregations, Communities. They all make our lives more full of love, laughter, even shared and sympathizing tears. Sharing our time, talent and treasure with them makes our existence have far deeper meaning!

The onslaught of the dreaded Killer Covid, after doing its worst following Thanksgiving and through January, seems to be easing.

All of us could use a break and some of the almost giddy feelings that a taste of “normalcy” rapidly brings flooding back.

We need that respite, but we cannot rest for long, because DANGER, in the form of Covid resurgence and even more wicked mutations are spreading quickly. The U.K. Variant and the South African Variant aren’t necessarily more deadly but they spread more quickly and aggressively.

The faster the spread, the more people get the virus, creating more chances for the Virus to mutate again and again. Each mutation may give rise to a more deadly or effective version of the Virus’ “worst self.”

But our best solution for winning the WAC the War Against Covid, is to continue what was working to “bend the curve down” dramatically – masks, social distancing and speeding up the vaccination



## DG Dana Brewer (cont'd)

rollout.

Those things started making drastic reductions in cases and deaths when something crucial happened. More and more of us realized that numerous people we knew and cared about had gotten the disease and some had lost their lives to IT.

So collectively, we began doing the things we were told could make a difference.

That hasn't changed! Those facts are now gruesome statistics in the WAC. Over 500,000 souls in our Nation alone, lost to us due to Covid.

We are at a crossroad in this life or death fight. If we relax, are lulled again into complacency, those deaths will escalate again. If we continue to do what is working, we and those who depend on and need for us to step up, have a fighting chance!

We must throw our full and wholehearted support behind the rollout of the soon to be four or more effective vaccines against Covid. Since shouting "Suck it up and get the Shot" might alienate some, we will lead with thoughtful reasoned and sound science and medical knowledge

based information and set a Rotarian example of rolling up our sleeves to take a shot of lifesaving serum, when we can't be the ones administering it to others around our World!

Dr. James Hildreth, longtime HIV researcher now running Meharry Medical College, one of four historically black medical colleges, was also the first volunteer in the Phase 3k clinical trial for Novavax Inc.'s NVAX experimental COVID-19 vaccine.

He said "I want to demonstrate that I'm doing what I'm asking other people to do, that I'm confident enough in the safety of vaccines."

We must too!

Thanks for all the good you will do, through your Rotary Service, when we are needed the most,

*Dana Brewer*

District Governor, 2020-21  
District 5680



## Kansas Leadership Training—First come - First Served!

First come – first served! Hurry and get on the waitlist for KLC Leadership Training slots!!

Together Rotary District 5680 and District 5710 received a Leadership Transformation Grant valued around \$48,000 from The Kansas Leadership Center for 2021. The grant slots filled up quickly but our District Trainer is creating a wait list for anyone wanting to participate. There have already been some cancellations and it's possible we may be able to get additional slots later in the year.

Tuition is **FREE**, books are at your expense. As of now KLC plans for all sessions to be via Zoom. The complete program consists of three steps. You'll be asked to initially enroll in only the first session until we've made sure all who want to attend that one are able to. Here's some information on that first session. For more details check out the Kansas Leadership Center's website: <https://kansasleadershipcenter.org/>

**Your Leadership Edge** ([Free through this Grant, Regularly \\$399](#))

### 2 DAYS

Your Leadership Edge is the foundational training that introduces core concepts in KLC's powerful leadership framework. Discover new ways to communicate, solve problems and lead more effectively back in your context. Sharpen interpersonal skills, self-awareness and confidence with others. Your Leadership Edge helps you find, test and push to the edge of your comfort zone. **Required Publications: Your Leadership Edge (\$19.99 and KLC Guidebook \$12.95)**

You'll find this training valuable for your career work as well as your Rotary work. Contact DeAnn Sullivan, District 5680 Trainer, at [deann.sullivan@att.net](mailto:deann.sullivan@att.net) to be added to the waitlist. Questions? Call 316-841-0652

# Rotary Foundation News

## Area of Focus: Protecting the environment

We are moving forward on Rotary’s new area of focus! You can now find more information about how we’ll **protect the environment** in the updated [Areas of Focus Policy Statements](#). Clubs and districts can apply for global grants in this area beginning 1 July. If you want to apply for a global grant, review the policy statements carefully to make sure that the activities you propose are eligible for funding.



## February is Peace and Conflict Resolution Month

Rotary members encourage conversations to foster understanding within and across cultures. These important conversations support one of our areas of focus, peacebuilding and conflict prevention. To support Rotary’s year-long efforts to build peace, you can collaborate with our partners to foster peace:

- Host a [Peace Conversation Facilitation training](#) through [Mediators Beyond Borders International](#).
- Collaborate with [Peace Corps](#) volunteers on community peacebuilding projects.
- Support [ShelterBox](#), which provides emergency shelter and tools to displaced families.
- Access a wide range of change-making experts with [Ashoka](#).
- Join the [Rotary Positive Peace Academy](#), a free online learning platform developed in partnership with the [Institute for Economics and Peace](#), to learn how to use new peacebuilding methods and mobilize your community to address the underlying causes of conflict.



*Rotary Service Newsletter, February 2021*

## Speaking of Peace . . .

The Rotary Peace Fellowship application for the 2022-23 academic year is now available for both our master's and certificate programs. Learn more and share this opportunity with peace and development leaders in your network. **Application deadline is 15 May!**

[Click HERE](#) for more info

Source: *Rotary International on LinkedIn and Rotary Global History Fellowship*

ROTARY PEACE FELLOWSHIP

FULL FUNDING

for a master’s degree or certificate in disciplines related to peace and development

APPLY NOW

## March is Water, Sanitation, and Hygiene Month



March is Water, Sanitation, and Hygiene Month. Rotary’s people of action mobilize resources, form partnerships, and invest in infrastructure and training that yield long-term change in communities’ access to water and ability to stay healthy. Read about [Rotary’s work to provide clean water and sanitation](#) and consider celebrating with a [gift to our Foundation](#) on World Water Day, 22 March.

## How we use our social media accounts matter



*By Jeffrey Cadorette, past RI director and chair of Rotary International's Communications Committee*

Most of us have social media accounts that we use to promote Rotary. In our network are Rotary friends, but also family, friends, and colleagues outside of Rotary. This is all very good.

Many of our profile banners include a stamp that says "Proud Member" or "End Polio Now" along with our mark of excellence, the Rotary logo. We have photos of club events we attended (from the time when we could attend events in person). Our posts go to both members and those outside the Rotary family.

### What could be wrong with that?

Unfortunately, on more occasions than I'd like to admit, I have seen posts come across my smartphone or laptop from a member who has resigned from their club and is airing a list of "dirty laundry" about their club in the form of gripes and complaints. They are right and their erstwhile club is in the wrong. They chose this forum to wage battle with their club president, district governor, or Rotary International leadership.

In all of these examples, our brand, and the public's understanding of who we are, is tarnished.

Personally, I've never been a big fan of people who decide to take their ball and go home, tearing down an or-

ganization behind them on their way out. That is just ego.

**A similar problem** occurs when we use our social media accounts, the same ones with all of our Rotary branding on it, to share our deep-seated political views on divisive subjects. These posts are followed by endless comments which all too often spiral into something downright ugly.

Rotary is supposed to be apolitical. But to both our Rotary friends and those on the outside, that line is blurred as they see these posts and the ensuing comment threads, and our brand can suffer.

I am not suggesting trampling on anyone's right to free speech. But I am simply asking that you use some discretion and judgement when you choose to post your political opinions from the same account that you use to promote Rotary.

**We have 1.2 million brand ambassadors** in our organization. You are one of them. We need each of you and all of you to promote and protect our brand and increase the public's awareness and understanding of us.

So please use good judgment when you post on social media. We have an incredible communications team on staff in Evanston and Rotary Public Image Coordinators (RPIC's) to help you.

Visit the [Brand Center](#) for tools and resources that will help you promote Rotary on social media. Know that your efforts are greatly appreciated.

## RI President 2021-22 Shekhar Mehta reveals new theme



Incoming RI President Shekhar Mehta, a member of the Rotary Club of Calcutta-Mahanagar, West Bengal, India, revealed the 2021-22 presidential theme, Serve to Change Lives, at RI's virtual



Rotary International Assembly. He urged district governors-elect to become more involved in service projects, saying that caring for and serving others is the best way to live because it changes not only other people's lives, but also our own.

[Read more about the 2021-22 presidential theme.](#)

## Upcoming Events

**March 7, 2021 - 7:00—8:30pm**

Pre-PETS Virtual Training #2

[Register here](#)

**March 21, 2021 - 7:00—8:30pm**

Pre-PETS Virtual Training #3

[Register here](#)

**March 26, 2021 - 4:30 -7:00pm**

PETS Training - Virtual

[Register here](#)

**March 27, 2021 - 8:00am - Noon**

PETS Training - Virtual

[Register here](#)

**March 10, 2021 - 1:00pm**

COVID-19 Webinar - Dr Marci Nielsen  
Zoom

**May 14-16, 2021**

Presidential Conference-USA

[Click here for info](#)

**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

## 2019-2020 D5680 International Scholarship Winners

Please join the Rotary District Scholarship Committee in congratulating the 2019-2020 Rotary Graduate Scholarship Recipients. As Rotary Scholars you may call upon these students to prepare an online presentation for your local Rotary Club. If you would like to invite one of the students to speak at your club, contact Carol Solko-Olliff, Committee Chair [csolko@fhsu.edu](mailto:csolko@fhsu.edu) and she will put you in touch with a Rotary Scholar. Keep in mind out of bound student scholars are on different time zones when scheduling.

**Inbound** Rotary District Scholarship Recipients are **Ms. Mengfei Lian** and **Ms. Xiaohe Wang**. Ms. Lian is a graduate student from Luoyang, China majoring in Organizational Communication at Fort Hays State University. Ms. Lian hopes to become a teacher that makes a difference in her students' lives in China when she finishes her graduate degree. Ms. Xiaohe Wang is a graduate student from Ping Du, China majoring in Communication Studies at Fort Hays State University. Ms. Wang's career goal is to work in a new media enterprise position that promotes communication between cultures so people in different counties can understand each other better, and then setup her own media studio in the future.

**Outbound** Rotary District Scholarship Recipients are **Ms. Catherine Jenkinson** and **Ms. Robin Ritsema**. Ms. Cath-

erine Jenkinson is from Sharon Springs, Kansas and was sponsored by the **RC Sharon Springs**. Ms. Jenkinson is attending University of Oxford in Oxford England where she is working on a doctoral degree. Her interest in history and the criminal justice system and the ways in which prisons function led her to the University of Oxford. Her degree will allow her opportunities to teach at the college level and work in American prison reform and education. **Ms. Robin Ritsema** is from Lakin, Kansas and was sponsored by the **RC Garden City**. Ms. Ritsema is studying in the Johannes Kepler Universitat Global Studies Master's Program. This program includes semesters in Austria as well as Victoria, Canada and Lima, Peru. This program will allow her to obtain a double degree in two years, a Master's of Business Administration as well as Master of Science in Global Studies. When she completes her degrees, she hopes to work in the Netherlands where she has dual citizenship and then return to the U.S. to further her career.

*Each of the Rotary Scholars expresses their thanks and gratitude to each Rotary member for your support in making this scholarship available for graduate students who are international students in the U.S. or Kansas students pursuing a graduate degree abroad.*

*Article submitted by Carol Solko-Olliff, Committee Chair*



## 2021 Rotary Race Across America



The "Team Rotary RAAMS Polio" will start again in 2021, not as a team of 4 but with solo driver, Kurt Matzler, accompanied by a crew of 9-10 members. The team is looking for sponsors. If your club is interested:

[Team Rotary RAAMs Polio](#) has set up a donation site on [Rotary International's "Raise for Rotary"](#) platform at this link: [raise.rotary.org/Team-Rotary-RAAMs-Polio/fundraiser](https://raise.rotary.org/Team-Rotary-RAAMs-Polio/fundraiser)

Note that the course goes through D5680 in Kansas. It has the hall marks of Rotary (Polio Eradication, and

International participation), with potential Public Relations for the Rotary Clubs along the way. And, perhaps stimulating non-Rotarian community financial support.

Look more closely at the course: [www.raamrace.org/route](http://www.raamrace.org/route). If your club is en route and you would like to know more, contact Bob McKenzie at [contact@raampolio.com](mailto:contact@raampolio.com)

For complete information on this project [Click Here](#).



# Club News from around the District

**Rotary Club Derby:** Members of Derby Rotary Club recently gathered to prepare a delivery of 550 Scholastic dictionaries to all third graders in Derby USD 260, Faith Lutheran School and St. Mary Catholic School.



Derby Rotary Club has delivered dictionaries to third graders for 17 years. This year, students will also receive a custom Derby mask funded by a generous grant from the Kansas Leadership Center's Kansas Beats the Virus campaign. Rotarians typically deliver dictionaries in person and talk to the students about Derby Rotary's local service projects and the mission of Rotary International to make the world a better place. Due to COVID-19, this year's dictionaries and masks were delivered to the schools to be given to the students by their teachers.

Derby Rotarians helping box dictionaries included (left to right): Jack Hezlep, John Bode, Linde Ohmes, Rhonda Cott, Eric Gustafson, Jenny Webster, Robert Mendoza, Dana Quigley, Nancy Drosselmeyer, Linda Bode, and Vaughn Nun. Not pictured: Rob McDonald, Jean Garinger and Maggie Garinger.

*Courtesy Derby Informer*

**Rotary Club Goodland:** Like many clubs, we were struggling with membership, especially during Covid-19. We changed our meeting schedule and have seen an increase in participation! When we were meeting in person we were down to about 4 members average per meeting. Our new schedule of one Friday a month for lunch, and one social dinner a month places more importance on being at limited meetings. Our average attendance is up to 10 now and most bring their spouses for the evening social.

**Struggling with Membership? Read this!**

**Rotary Club Washington:** We are busy planning our annual "Rotary Radio Day" which will be different due to Covid-19. The event happens in the spring and KCLY is our partner in this fun event. Stay tuned!

**Rotary Club Washington:** At the December 22nd meeting our club voted to donate \$150 to the Parents As Teachers program to buy books. The Club received a thank you and a photo from Devon Sherlock. Here you see Peyton enjoying his book.



**Rotary Club of McPherson's** smiles survived 40mph wind & snow!



**Rotary Club of Russell** cares about the Russell community!! Rotary has kicked off their campaign to encourage everyone in the community to get their COVID vaccination.



**Rotary Club of Liberal:** Southwest Guidance Center is happy to be the first location for our new vaccine awareness campaign! Keep an eye out around Liberal to see where these smiles will turn up next! Sign up to get your COVID-19 Vaccine today!

**See more Smiles and Vaccine Awareness photos and stories at our District Website: [www.rotary5680.org](http://www.rotary5680.org)**



**RC E Wichita** member DGE Fred Heismeyer also has smiles!

**#RotarySharingSmiles #Rotary5680**

Please use the hashtags when posting photos to social media!



**Rotary Club of Wichita** member Gayle Goetz has smiles at her house!



**Rotary Club of Great Bend:** The Smiley sign and vaccination push made the front page of the Great Bend Tribune. The article was based on the press release provided as part of the "kits" that were delivered to every club in D5680 thanks to a grant from the [Kansas Leadership Center](http://www.kansasknowledgecenter.org).

## District 5680 Membership Report As Of January 31, 2021

Club	7/1/2020	1/31/2021	NET GAIN
	MEMBERSHIP	MEMBERSHIP	2020-2021
Abilene	59	54	(5)
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	31	0
Derby	70	59	(11)
Dodge City	38	36	(2)
Downs	9	10	1
East Wichita	87	81	(6)
E-Club	20	17	(3)
El Dorado	36	34	(2)
Ellinwood	20	19	(1)
Ellis	9	9	0
Garden City	45	41	(4)
Goodland	36	21	(15)
Great Bend	46	46	0
Guymon	26	32	6
Hays	64	63	(1)
Hays Sunrise	15	15	0
Hill City	13	16	3
Howard	13	13	0
Hoxie	20	20	0
Hugoton	15	16	1
Hutchinson	100	96	(4)
Johnson	15	15	0
Kingman	25	23	(2)
Kinsley	15	6	(9)
Larned	16	16	0
Liberal	43	44	1
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	120	(3)
Sharon Springs	10	6	(4)
Sterling	20	19	(1)
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	37	(1)
West Wichita	61	60	(1)
Wichita-Downtown	410	388	(22)
Wichita-Old Town	9	13	4
Winfield	74	76	2
<b>TOTALS</b>	<b>2404</b>	<b>2324</b>	<b>(80)</b>



District 5680

[www.rotary5680.org](http://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](mailto:appelg@kenlerman.com)



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



Rotary International Convention  
Taipei, Taiwan—VIRTUAL  
June 12-16, 2021  
[www.rotary.org/convention](http://www.rotary.org/convention)

