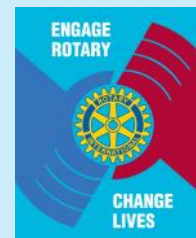


Rotary International District 5630



December 2013

# District Newsletter



## Governor's Message

By DUANE TAPPE  
District Governor  
[dg5630.2013@gmail.com](mailto:dg5630.2013@gmail.com)

Hello District 5630 Rotarians,

It is always interesting and informational to get together with our fellow Rotarians in other Rotary Clubs. As you know, one of my duties as District Governor was to visit all 35 of our Rotary Clubs on their turf. I recommend that you try to make some other club meetings if you are on the road. You will make new friends and see how they do Rotary.

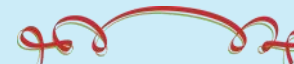
There are a lot of opportunities to hang out with and share ideas with other Rotarians within our district. A couple weeks ago, my wife and I attended a reception for the National Cattle Trail Association in Ogallala hosted by the Ogallala Rotary Club. This event took place on a Friday evening at the Museum on the Hill. It was a good time.

A week later, I was invited to speak at an orientation meeting for possible outgoing Rotary Exchange students. Our exchange students from other countries were also in attendance. It was an outstanding group of young people brought together in North Platte by Ronna Morse and her Rotary Youth Exchange team. It was great to see "Rotary in Action".

There are many opportunities to share and work with other Rotarians if you want to get involved with district committees and programs. Of course, I would like to see members from all of our District 5630 clubs in McCook May 2-4, 2014 for our Rotary District Conference. It will be a great opportunity for all of you to network with some very nice people. (It is not just for club officers.)

We hope to provide a conference that is educational, inspirational and fun for everybody. Club officers (presidents-elect and president-elect-nominees) will have an opportunity to train with club leaders from other states at the upcoming PETS held in Denver Feb. 28 to Mar. 2, 2014. Later this month, I and a few other district leaders will be attending a Rotary Zone meeting and training in Texas.

If you really want to hang out with dedicated and inspirational Rotarians, you should think about attending an International Rotary Convention some time. I have been fortunate to attend three RI conventions and can tell you that it is an incredible experience. In 2014 (June 1-4), it will be held in Sidney, Australia. Not sure if I'm going yet, but I expect that this should be a good one!



*District Governor Duane Tappe*

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## Hastings Noon Names Rotarian of the Year

Hastings Noon Rotary presented Erin Cafferty with "Rotarian of The Year Award" on November 22. Erin served many years as the club treasurer, and coordinates and oversees the "Purple Pinky" project, which the majority of the Hastings Schools participate in every year. Erin and her entire family participated in the recent Highway cleanup project, along with many other Rotary Projects.



*“Working to find peace in the world is a family problem. It is not too big a problem to deal with if we realize that we are all from the same family.”*

*—Hiroji Mukasa, Rotary Club of Nakatsu, Oita, Japan, August 1982*

## Prep for PETS

President Elects and President Elect Nominees (PEs and PENS) are now receiving frequent emails about preparing for the PETS seminar.

If you or your PEs or PENS are not receiving these emails from Koby Rickertsen, contact [Jean Issler](#) immediately.

## Distinguished Visitors at Hastings and O’Neill

On November 15th, Laffe Anderson and Jack Crowley of Hastings Noon Rotary Club presented guest speaker William M Connolly, Nebraska Supreme Court Justice. Judge Connolly practiced law in Hastings for many years.



On November 26, the O’Neill Rotary Club met with US Senator Deb Fischer and her husband, Bruce, at the Blarney Stone Restaurant. The senator commented on current topics.

Pictured from l to r: O’Neill Rotary President Cody Boettcher, U.S. Senator Deb Fischer, and Bruce Fischer





*Solar lamps like this one will be given to students in India as parts of the Light for Education project.*

## Solar Lamp Project Earns Grant

By Srivatsa "Sri" Seshadri  
[seshadris@unk.edu](mailto:seshadris@unk.edu)

District 5630, in collaboration with District 3190 (India), has received a \$92,000 Global Grant in the area of "Basic Education and Literacy" to (1) provide 2,400 solar LED lamps to 10<sup>th</sup> grade students in and around Bangalore (India) through 75 high-schools and (2) teaching aids to the teachers of 10<sup>th</sup> grade in these schools. The goal is to improve the performance of students in rural schools in the critical 10th grade state-wide exams (aka SSLC exams). The state-level 10th grade examination is the first and most important milestone in every student's career in India. Failure in this exam effectively closes the door to a college education. The project, named Vidya Deepa (Light for Education), will be implemented starting January 2014 by District 3190 in the state of Karnataka, India and completed in a two months.

The unique feature of this project is that the lamps are lent by the beneficiary schools to their 10<sup>th</sup> grade students for an academic year (like a library lending books) and are returned to the school for maintenance and redistribution to the next batch of 10th grades. Students also bring the lamps to the school every 2<sup>nd</sup> or 3<sup>rd</sup> day to recharge the lamp-batteries. The charging stations are only available at the recipient schools. This procedure has the benefit of reducing truancy among 10<sup>th</sup> graders to almost zero percent. The lamps are expected to last for about 10 years. Thus the project will eventually benefit over 20,000 students at a cost of \$3.83 per student, with the contribution from District 5630 being about \$1.14 per student.

Two small-scale pilot studies in 2011 and 2012 have demonstrated many other long-term benefits of this project. Attendance and performance in 9<sup>th</sup> grade has gone up as the kids in 9<sup>th</sup> grade are motivated to get to 10<sup>th</sup> grade and get the lamps for a year. Their parents prod their children to attend school regularly and to do well in the school so they too might get the lamps the following year. By having to return lamps, students learn to be 'ethical' and understand the positive impact of their own 'ethical' behaviors on others. The Rotary clubs will have a ceremony both at the beginning and end of each academic year to (1) instruct all students at the school on Rotary's 4-way test, (2) celebrate the 10<sup>th</sup> grade students' success in the statewide exam, and (3) to acknowledge their ethical behaviors for returning the lamps in good condition.

Over the 10 years almost 25,000 students' lives will be changed for the better, both in the short-term and long-term. Through this extraordinary project the schools, their teachers and students will benefit by ENGAGED ROTARIANS who will CHANGE LIVES.

## PH Society Membership East to Attain

By Frank Sibert  
 Paul Harris Society Coordinator  
[fjs@rcom-ne.com](mailto:fjs@rcom-ne.com)

Have you given \$1,000 to Rotary this year? Do you plan to give next year?

If your answer to either of these questions is yes then you are eligible to become a member of the Paul Harris Society. All you need to do is fill out the pledge form, send it to me and we will see that you receive your membership.

Do you realize the good \$1,000 will do? So many people around the world need a leg up. You could be the one to give a person or persons a boost into a better life. The Rotary Foundation is involved in helping people both old and young in all parts of the World.

The Foundation needs your support. The money you give to the Foundation is Tax Deductible. There are many other reasons to give. If you think about it, you will come up with a reason to become a member of the Paul Harris Society. As Larry the Cable Guy would say, "Let's get her done."





Send your event details and flyers to [rotary5630@gmail.com](mailto:rotary5630@gmail.com)  
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# ROTARY INTERNATIONAL CONVENTION, JUNE 1-4, 2014

## Zones 21B & 27 Convention Newsletter, #2



# HOP ON TO SYDNEY, HOP OFF TO REGISTER For Early Discount by December 15

### HOP ON TO THE 2014 CONVENTION



**Sydney is exciting and beautiful!**

**Sydney is family friendly.**

**The Aussies are fabulous hosts.**

**The host events are entertaining & spectacular**

**The Convention Venue is the best.**

**Our own Ron Burton will be presiding.**

**The Convention will have interesting speakers and informative workshops.**

**The "Billabong " House of Friendship is very special—Rotary projects from around the world, family friendly activities; sample fine Aussie wine, see Aussie animals, try their delicious cuisine.**

**Meet Rotarians from around the world and make new friends.**

**AN EXPERIENCE NOT TO BE MISSED!**

### IMPORTANT WEB SITES

#### Convention/Registration

[www.riconvention.org/en/2014](http://www.riconvention.org/en/2014)

#### Host Organizing Committee

[www.rotary2014.com.au](http://www.rotary2014.com.au)

#### Facebook

[ww.facebook.com/ricon14](http://ww.facebook.com/ricon14)

#### Tourism

[www.australia.com](http://www.australia.com)

There are so many interesting places to visit in Australia.

