

Rotarians in Action



Rotary District 5630
2019-20 • Edition 1 • July 2019

Dale's Final District Governor Report

A new Rotary year has already started and as I look back at last year, it went faster than I thought it would. In early June I attended the Rotary International Convention in Hamburg and then finished the year with the District Conference in Estes Park. All who attended had a good time. Project Day at the conference was a successful event and all those who participated came away with a reminder of Rotary's motto of Service Above Self.

I've turned the district responsibilities over to our new governor, Scott McLaughlin. I'm confident he'll do a great job of leading the district. It's always good to have some new ideas, and Scott will have some to offer.

I'm thankful for the opportunity of being your District Governor this past year. A highlight for me was to have met the District Governors in our Zone. Some have become close friends. Meeting the clubs during last year and seeing all the projects you undertake was also a highlight. There's one more Rotary responsibility that I have and that's being the chair of High Country PETS for this year.

Thanks for the memories and hope to see you at a district event in the future.

Dale Schultz

District Governor 2018-19
dg.2018@5630mail.org
402-460-1137



We can't tell who's happier –
DG Dale Schultz or DGE Scott McLaughlin?

Message from Scott McLaughlin, District Governor 2019-2020



Welcome to the beginning of another Rotary year. This new year our 2019-2020 Rotary theme has been designated by RI President Mark Daniel Maloney as "Rotary Connects the World." As I compose this message, I am on my way across France on the Oui Bullet Train to Epinal – more about this later in this message.

This year we have so many things to accomplish. I have big goals for myself, and I hope you all do as well for your clubs. It will be a year of change as we begin our first year in a new zone.

If you don't already know, District 5630 is now included with some new friends to our east. For the first time in a long time we will be partnered with eastern Nebraska, Iowa, Kansas, North and South Dakota, Minnesota, Wisconsin, and Michigan's Northern Peninsula *and* we will now be considered an International district as we will also include a portion of Ontario, Canada! So rather than being discouraged by redistricting, I'm excited about meeting so many new Rotary friends!

Speaking of meeting new friends, I hope you will all take the opportunity to invite many people to your clubs, projects, and social engagements this Rotary year. This is our single biggest challenge, as it always is. You have all heard this from every Governor who preceded me, so no need to repeat the same message. But this year will be our chance to reverse the negative trend.

I will just give you this one thought: *"Don't think of your club as if it exists inside four walls on a specific day or time."* I have given all the 2019-2020 club Presidents permission to think outside the box, to be

Continued next page

courageous and break the “rules.” I plan to. I’m certain that with all the tools I have been given and the opportunities we have ahead of us, together we will meet and exceed my expectations of growing the membership in our clubs.

Rotary presents all of us with unbelievable opportunities for leadership, service, diversity, and fellowship. Have you ever really thought of what your membership really offers? For most Rotarians it never goes outside the four walls of your club meetings. I must tell you that you are missing so much! It is like having a banana split with only vanilla ice cream. No chocolate, no strawberry ice cream; no chocolate, strawberry, or pineapple toppings. No nuts, no whipped cream, no bananas and no cherries on top! Oh my gosh, of course so many people don’t stay in Rotary! All they ever get is vanilla ice cream (aka chicken luncheon.) So, if you aren’t enjoying the full banana split, let’s indulge.

Stay tuned. I have so many things to share, starting July 1 with my new travel blog, OurRotaryMojo.com. I hope you will help me share stories of leadership, service, diversity and – most of all – fellowship as I travel across the district.

At the beginning, I said I was on the bullet train to Epinal, France. As I write, we are rocketing across France towards Zurich at almost 200 mph. Where is Epinal? Epinal is near the border with Switzerland and is the site of one of Europe’s most beautiful American cemeteries for our European war casualties. Rotary has given my wife Tracie and me a lifetime opportunity to do something we only dreamed of doing.

I am writing this on June 7, the day after the 75th Anniversary of D-Day. Tracie’s Grandfather Henry Repeta, TSgt. U.S. Army Air Corps, was shot down over France on May 30, 1944. His final resting place is in the American cemetery in Epinal. When we think of what we are given an opportunity to do, we must always pay respect to those who made it possible for us. Neither Tracie nor I ever met her grandfather; we don’t even have pictures. As I look out the window of the train I am left thinking about those who have given us so much. People we have never met. That’s what we as Rotarians also do every day. We are doing good for others, just because we ARE Rotarians!

So, I thank all of you for giving me the opportunity to serve you this year, and for giving Tracie and me the opportunity of a lifetime to visit France.

Thank you for everything you are doing, and will do.

Scott

Scott McLaughlin
District Governor 2019-20
DG.2019@5630mail.org
877-906-4678



Which Path Will Your Club Take?

During the Rotary Year (July 1, 2018 – June 30, 2019) the District 5630 leadership directed much attention to the declining membership numbers within the district.

A Membership Challenge was issued in August, area cluster meetings addressing membership initiatives were held in late October and early November; and an online Membership Summit was held in March to help clubs to plan and develop specific membership goals. However, latest numbers reported on June 26 show our district membership to be 1129 (39 members below the starting total of 1168 recorded on July 1, 2018). (For club details, see the chart that can be accessed at [2019 Zone Membership Chart](#).)

As we begin a new Rotary Year, we urge each club to make membership development and engagement a priority. We challenge each club President to help us reverse this “slide” in membership for our District 5630.

As soon as possible, please log onto your “My Rotary” account to enroll in The Learning Center’s Online Course entitled [“Your Membership Plan.”](#) This course is a comprehensive reference that emphasizes use of essential Membership Resources to support the development of Club Membership Plans. Please use these resources to develop a very specific plan to retain members through service engagement and to create an environment that will attract new member prospects.



2018-2019 was my last year to serve as the District 5630 Membership Chair. I passed the baton to **PDG Jerry Milner** on July 1, 2019. I will continue to support the District 5630 leadership in my new role as Zone 29 Rotary Coordinator for Membership Development. You can phone

Jerry at 308-380-2731 or email him at jerrymilner@hotmail.com.

The theme for Membership Development throughout the new Zone 29 will be “Highways to Membership” as displayed in the above logo. There are many roads and avenues to travel on our Rotary Journey to Service. Let us help you find the best route for your club!

Dian

Dian Edwards
PDG 2012-2013
dg5630.2012@gmail.com
Call or Text: 402-340-6166



Foundation Giving Exceeds Goals in 2018-19

THANKS TO ALL OF YOU, THE ROTARY FOUNDATION experienced a very successful year in our District 5630, not only because of the record funds we raised but the engaging actions of our Rotarians in making a difference locally and globally.

The work of Rotary comes full circle when Rotarians support our Foundation because of the difference they can make through Global and District Grants. The partners and friendships made by Rotarians and their Clubs working together truly exemplifies our Rotary theme for this year, "Rotary Connects the World."

Thank you all for your Rotary passion!

*District Fundraising Analysis

District 5630 reached our fundraising goals for Polio Plus & Annual Fund.

- Annual Fund Share contributions totaled \$105,655.
- Polio Plus contributions totaled \$37,708.
- **All clubs contributed to the Annual Fund.**
- 2018-19 showed the highest per capita giving to the Annual Fund in the past five years.
- 50% of clubs reached their Annual Fund goal.
- Rotary Direct members increased by over 30%.
- The District contributed 20% of District Designated Funds (\$9,378.40) to PolioPlus for the fifth straight year.

*District Grant 1977733 Report 2018-2019:

- The grant report has been submitted, approved, and closed by the Rotary Foundation.
- 19 clubs completed district grants on 25 projects.
- \$24,006 DDF have been received.

District Grant Spending Plan 2019-2020

21 clubs have successfully applied for DDF on 25 projects for a total of \$30,550.00.

*Details can be found at [FOUNDATION GIVING](#) and [GLOBAL GRANTS](#).

Don

Don Peterson

PDG 2015-16
District Foundation Chair
dg.2015@5630mail.org



Students are coming and going. Arriving and departing. Bidding farewells and making promises to meet again.

It's a busy time around the world for Rotary Youth Exchange. Visas, consulate visits, transcripts, DS2019 forms, passports, international insurance, language courses, outbound camps; this is all part of the process on both ends of the exchanges.



Nebraska students departing in August/September:

- *Arianna Bonesteel* (Doniphan/Grand Island) to Italy
- *Ashton Braun* (Hastings) to Germany
- *Zachary Kring* (North Platte) to Argentina
- *Matilda Malcolm* (Imperial/Palisade) to Spain

Students will be visiting their sponsoring clubs asking for 3 to 5 exchange flags to share with their hosting clubs and Rotarians during their exchange years.



Returning to Nebraska

- *Kaila Avent* (Hastings) from India
- *Lily Black* (Grand Island) from Japan
- *Evelyn Kryzsko* (Hastings) from Brazil
- *Sophie Cass* (Hastings) from Peru
- *Kelsey Kusek* (Doniphan/Hastings) from Brazil
- *Hallie Malsbury* (No. Platte) from Indonesia
- *Natasha Scott* (Holdrege) from Sweden

These students have had AMAZING opportunities and experiences. They have all become fluent in their respective languages and culturally integrated. Several are already making plans to continue their education abroad. Please invite these students for presentations at your clubs before they get away! They have *fantastic* tales to tell!



Hosted Students Departing by July

- *Alex Aiello* (Gothenburg) will return to Italy in mid-July after participating in District Conference and summer vacation.
- *Felix Aman* (St. Paul) returned to his home in Sweden after District Conference.
- *Katherine Delgado* (Kearney) returned to Peru after District Conference.

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Rotary Youth Exchange (cont'd)

- *Kanon Kishi* (Holdrege) will return to Japan after the USA Tour in mid-July.
- *Bia Costa* (No. Platte) returns to Brazil after the USA Tour in Mid-July.
- *Rainer Pagno Santana* (Ogallala) returned to Brazil in early June.
- *Daniel Sardon* (Hastings) returned to Peru in late April for his sister's wedding.
- *Laura Solinas* (Hastings) returned to Italy in early June to continue her studies.
- *Asri Satyaswari* (Minden) recently departed for Indonesia to meet family obligations.

Please keep in touch with these remarkable young people. They have added to our appreciation of other cultures around the world.



Hosted students arriving in Nebraska August 5-10, 2019

- *Elena Pilk* (Germany) will be hosted in Hastings and attend Adams Central High.
- *Rafael Cassagrande* (Brazil) will attend Hastings High School, hoping to play basketball.
- *Juan Pablo Zanguitu* (Argentina) will enjoy his time at North Platte High School.
- *Mayka Chuquiure* (Spain) is looking forward to living in Gothenburg.
- *Heijy Mattos* (Brazil) is excited to learn about the areas around Imperial/Palisade.
- *Yuliia Shurek* (Ukraine) is looking forward to living in rural Nebraska during her stay in Ogallala.

Each of these students is *already* fluent in English. They will be able to participate in school and share about their families and countries.

Please make the effort to meet these amazing young people. Take advantage of their curiosity and learn how they view America. You will grow from the experience.

Paula

Paula Witt

District Youth Exchange Chair
wittc@icloud.com



Rotary: Making peace,
one exchange student
at a time.



Passing the Megaphone

It has been both a pleasure and a challenge serving as District Public Image Chair for the last three years. I have gained so much from my association with the District Governors who entrusted me with this responsibility as well as the other District leaders. I look forward to serving in a supportive capacity to the incoming **District Public Image Chair, Deb McCaslin**.



Newly retired, **Deb McCaslin** spent 20+ years serving the newspaper industry and in community development. She is a past president of Nebraska Press Association Services, former board member for the National Newspaper Association, including serving as their Government

Affairs chair, and a three-time former club president with eight overseas mission trips under her belt. This past year she was tapped as the state chair for the Community Vitality Industrial Council of the newly formed Blueprint Nebraska Initiative, a role she continues today.

In her own words: "When I look at what triggers community vitality, Rotary is right there making crucial differences in our communities, our state and our world. I'm honored to serve the district in this role and hope to help share your stories."

"I think it important to note, I wouldn't have considered the job had Cheryl Bryan not volunteered to stay on board. She has done, and continues to do, a brilliant job. Thanks, Cheryl, for your wonderful mentorship and for remaining a key part of the team."

If you have suggestions, questions or assistance, you can reach Deb at dmccaslinx4@gmail.com or 308-870-2909.

Cheryl

Cheryl Bryan

District Public Image Chair 2016-19
Cheryl@cherylsdesk.com
Text or phone 629-218-1242



According to the **Rotary Showcase**, since 2013, **615,926,203 Rotarians** have volunteered **108,874,623 hours**, given **\$1,057,740,469 in cash** and contributed **\$483,742,058 in-kind**.

Mind you, these are only the amounts that have been posted! **Add to the numbers by posting your project!**

BIG RED BLOWOUT Kickoff



BIG RED BLOWOUT tickets have been mailed out to your Club! We also included a brochure that gives you the highlights and impact this project has had over the last 10 years.

Even if you've never sold any tickets, you have benefited from this project: We have had no district dues increase in the last 10 years.

Please do your part this year and sell at least one packet of 10 tickets. **The game this year is on September 14 against Northern Illinois. Ten winners will be able to take a guest to the game, and so will the person who sells the winning ticket.**

Everyone is a WINNER!

Of the net ticket proceeds:

- **50%** goes to the Foundation in your name. Over \$200,000 has gone to the Foundation in the last 10 years; \$100,000 has come back to the District to use for local grants.
- **25%** goes to the District to help stabilize dues.
- **25%** is returned to your Club.

More than winning a ticket on the bus

You have helped...

- Children be polio FREE,
- Provide families with clean drinking water,
- Touch the lives of people you will never know.

Bottom Line

75%+ of the funds raised have a Rotary Impact.

Game Tickets Needed

Please phone or email Tiffany Ritchie (308-440-4302, ritchiectn@gmail.com) or me if you can donate game tickets or sell them to us at face value.

Thank you for everything you do for Rotary!

With gratitude,

Paul



Paul Stec
Chair, Big Red Blowout
308-440-3713
socpstec@gmail.com

Big Red Blowout (BRB) Sale Tip

- **TAKE A PICTURE** on your phone of your packet of tickets (front & back).
- **TEXT** it to your circle of influence – Friends, Family, Insurance Agent, etc.
- **ASK** them how many packets of 10 tickets they would like.

75%+ OF THE MONEY RAISED HAS A
ROTARY IMPACT!! THANKS!!

#bigredblowout

Our Families: The Key to Rotary's Future



David and Lore Beckius

"Our families are ... the key for our future. We need to introduce them to Rotary as early as we can to teach them about caring, love and helping others," said

Lorena (Lore) Beckius, in the speech she gave at her induction as President of the Ogallala Rotary Club. Following is an edited version of her speech. *

"As everyone knows, I am from Ambato, Ecuador, and my dad is a Rotarian. When I was 12, Rotary built a school for a very poor indigenous community called Illagua through a global grant sponsored by a Rotary Club in California.

"Every year the Rotary Club of Ambato hosted a Christmas party at the Illagua school. I was also allowed to attend. These children were so happy to receive a bag of popcorn, a bag of chips and a stuffed animal. This made me realize how fortunate I was. I had everything: a family, a house, cars and a maid.

"I wanted to give back, so I started helping the Rotary Ecuador Medical Mission, which brings a hundred doctors and nurses from the USA for a week. I helped translate for the dermatology doctor. I met amazing people who took a week off and paid for their own tickets to come to Ecuador to help people in need – all because of a Rotary club in Alabama.

"Later on, I became involved with the Rotary Youth Exchange Program, and I had an opportunity to be a youth exchange student in Ogallala for 2002-2003. I remember feeling scared going to a town where the closest information on Wikipedia was only Omaha. At that time the internet was dialup, and we were not allowed to talk to our families for the first three months. It was hard, but the people here made me feel so welcome in their homes. It was one of the most amazing experiences in my life – once again because of Rotary.

"Ogallala is my home now, and I can tell you I have never felt alone because I have all of you, I have my Rotary family with me."

The full version of Lorena's speech will be published at rotary5630.org.

Club News - 1

Area 1 - Alliance



Fist bumps as now-Past President *Nick Kizzire* passes on his responsibilities to incoming club President *Jon Sperl*.

Area 2 - Kimball



The Kimball club encouraged the spirit of Independence – and raised funds – through their July fireworks sale.

Area 3 - Grant



With such a great turnout for their April road clean-up, you know the *Grant* club made a huge impact on their environment – and had fun doing it!

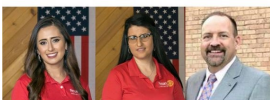
Area 3 - Imperial



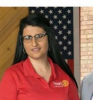
Congratulations to the newly certified *Interact Club of Wauneta-Palisade*. The club is a satellite of Imperial Rotary and is led by *Stephanie Malcolm*.

Area 3 - Ogallala

Welcome 2019-2020 Leadership Team



Lorena Beckius
President



Deb Devine
President Elect



Mike McQuillan
Treasurer



Roger Rankin
Secretary



Tim Yip
Board Member



LuRee Hagan
Sargent of Arms



Teresa Delahunty
Board Member



Rod Ruzanic
Board Member



Herb Knudsen
Board Member



Ogallala Rotarians took advantage of the City's summer concert series to sell drinks and raise funds to buy winter coats for area children in need.

Kudos to the Ogallala Club for welcoming their new club leaders for 2019-20 with this graphic on Facebook.



The *Imperial Club* also recently officially recognized **seven** new members!

Worth Repeating:

"Never believe that a few caring people can't change the world. For indeed, that's all who ever have."

From Imperial Rotary Club's Facebook page

Club News - 2

Area 6 - North Platte



Even with the three winners taking home more than a thousand dollars in food, North Platte Noon's Grocery Grab yielded \$3,146.33. The local radio station broadcast the event as it happened.



One of North Platte Noon's ongoing programs features Josh the Otter (AKA Dale Sones), here with District Governor Nominee Bob Mayber. They are teaching local kindergarteners about water safety.

Area 6 - Arnold



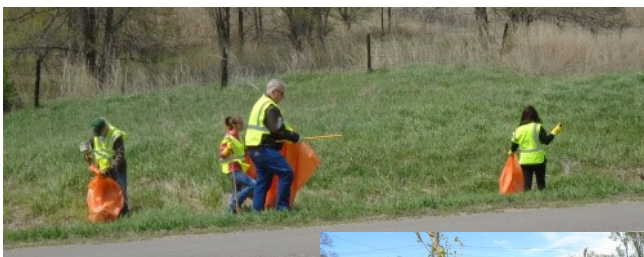
Past Club President Adam Tucker passes the gavel to incoming President, Donna Litton, at their installation banquet.

Area 7 - Cambridge



Cambridge Area Rotarians served ice cream floats and raffle tickets at the local Big Wheels races and again at their Medicine Creek Day celebration.

Area 7 - McCook



McCook Rotary and Interact Clubs cleaned up the ditches east of McCook along Highways 6 and 34 for their Spring Highway Cleanup.



Following the cleanup, they gathered at Elks Park to plant two Autumn Gold ginkgo trees in support of Earth Day and to give back to the community.

Area 8 - Alma



Rotarians take advantage of the season to help their local environment. Here, Alma Rotarians help clean up the Arboretum – and the same day picked up trash along the highway.

Club News - 3

Area 8 - Holdrege



Rotary Youth Exchange student from Japan, *Kanon Kishi*, with her Holdrege host parents.

Area 9 - Broken Bow



The Custer County Foundation has awarded Broken Bow Rotary with their 2019 grant of \$3500 to establish the Wellness Recovery Action Plan (WRAP). They will work with the Custer County Mental Health Coalition and Jennie M Melham Memorial Medical Center to create this program. The club will use a District 5630 grant to provide training.

Area 9 - Kearney Dawn



Danneborg in March



Hamburg in June, with Knights of Columbus

Rotarians helped Hot Meals USA serve food to Nebraska communities stricken by floods.

Area 9 - Kearney Noon



Judi Sickler and Sharon Hoffman presented Kathryn Delgado of Peru a certificate acknowledging her Rotary exchange in Kearney.

Area 11 - Burwell



Ready to get to work! Burwell participated in the 29th annual Great Nebraska Trash-Off in April. They participate twice a year.

Area 10 - Grand Island Noon



The club awarded *Don Deitemeyer* with their 2018-19 "Spirit of Rotary" award. Don is a "tireless volunteer," and "his smile and quick wit are contagious, making those around him happy to be helping, too."

Club News - 4

Area 11 - St. Paul



The lucky duck was #28 in St. Paul's Rotary Polio Duck Plunge . The fundraiser will support Rotary's effort to wipe out polio.



St. Paul's Rotary Youth Exchange student, *Felix Aman*, is back home in Sweden with his family.



Homestead Bank is helping students attend RYLA (Rotary Youth Leadership Awards) camp in Halsey, which is in July.



Area 12 - O'Neill



Still shot of O'Neill's Shamrock Fun Run. Dedicated to victims of area flooding, race proceeds enabled Rotarians to donate \$1000 each to five area fire and rescue departments.

Area 12 - Valentine



Valentine's Fish Fry fundraisers meant that high school seniors *Reganne Schrunck* and *Lane McGinley* received \$1000 scholarships, and *Skyler Reagle* and *Michaela Keller* could go to RYLA this summer.

Area 13 - Cozad



Sri Seshadri of Kearney Dawn Rotary attended the launch of a Global Grant project in Bangalore, India. This Mobile unit provides breast cancer screening for the underprivileged, a project of the Rotary Club of Palmville. The club's past president, *Devjani Pillai*, recently passed away from breast cancer. She and her husband were guests at the 2016 District Conference in Kearney. **Cozad Rotary** is their international partner.

Club News - 5

Area 13 - Lexington



Lexington Rotary was delighted to present awards to the bright Pershing and Bryan 5th grade students who won their Rotary 4-Way Test essay contest.



In April, the High School Interact group helped keep Lexington beautiful by gathering four large bags of trash.

Area 14 - Hastings Sunrise



Hastings Sunrise recently awarded scholarships to six area high school students.



Area 14 - Hastings Noon



Hastings Noon is co-sponsoring a global grant with the Totoras Argentina Rotary Club (District 4945) to bring clean water to a migrant village and school in rural Argentina. According to District Foundation Chair *Don Peterson*, the project has just been put into service, and area Rotarians are planning a trip to Argentina for the dedication.

Hastings Clubs Celebrate 125 Combined Years of Service

Hastings Noon Rotary turned 100 years old in June 2019. **Hastings Sunrise** Rotary's 25th anniversary was in December 2018. On March 28th, the two clubs held a joint anniversary celebration at the Lark in downtown Hastings.

About 80 local Rotarians, spouses and out-of-town Rotary guests attended the celebration, which featured an address by District Governor Dale Schultz, a jazz band, and free food and drinks.

In conjunction with the event, Rotarian *Bill Witt* wrote a 12-page history, ["Service Above Self": 100 Years of Rotary in Hastings](#), for the local historical society.



Hastings Rotarians served other Rotarians as they helped DG Dale Schultz coordinate the District Celebration in Estes Park.



During the ceremony DG Dale Schultz presented a 50-year membership award to Noon Rotarian Elmer Murman. Noon Club Past President Bob Herbek was the evening's MC.

How do Rotarians celebrate? By serving!

Here are some selected photos from the 2019 District 5630 Celebration held in June in Estes Park, Colorado. Doing what Rotarians do best: Volunteer.

Photos by *Deb McCaslin*
Broken Bow Area Rotary Club
2019-20 District Public Image Chair



The publication target date for the next District 5630 newsletter is **October 15, 2019**.

Please submit your photos and/or articles by **Tuesday, October 8**, to cheryl@cherylsdesk.com. Thanks, *Cheryl*

Rotary District 5630 - Rotarians in Action



2019-20
RI President: Mark Maloney
District Governor: Scott McLaughlin

Newsletter Editor: Cheryl Bryan (Cheryl@cherylsdesk.com)
Distribution: Lori O'Brien (daa@5630mail.org)

