

# Rotarians in Action

Rotary



Rotary District 5630

2020-21 • Edition 1 • September 2020

## Message from Bob Taylor, District Governor 2020-2021

Wow! What a crazy time we are living through! My life is presently complicated by the fact that our internet in South Central Nebraska is out, and even in today's hyper-technological world they can only give us a guess when it will be back on. Oh, how we depend on it...

I've been doing and arranging my DG visits by both in-person and virtual (Zoom) means. I've realized once again that unlike my internet signal, the thing that connects us all at Rotary are the members. I am continually thankful to each of you for your perseverance and ability to adjust to keep Rotary moving forward, even with little help from the rest of the world.

My visits so far have shown me that most of our clubs are doing well, haven't lost the spark of service, and are depending on each other more than ever before. If we hold on to those feelings, once this is over we will be that much further ahead in Rotary and this game of Life.

One of the things I speak to in my talk is growing your Rotary heart. Involve yourself by taking advantage of Rotary programs in your club, in your district, in your zone, and internationally. Many of us are comfortable right where we are, in our own silo of friends and activities. Rotary offers you so much more if you have a mind (and a heart) to go for it and take advantage of the many opportunities Rotary offers.

Well, my internet is still out, but I have no doubt that Rotary will continue to lead the way in a world that is a little off kilter at the moment. Our connections are strong, we interconnect well, and we're making progress in providing "service above our selves."

*Always call me for anything Rotary.* Remember, it takes all of you to grab the reins, to be proactive, and show us the way to even greater heights!

**Bob Taylor**

District Governor 2020-21  
Alma Rotary Club  
botaylor2205@hotmail.com  
972-740-6663



## Passing the Gavel



In a small ceremony, reflecting the times, now Past District Governor *Scott McLaughlin* passes the symbolic gavel to incoming District Governor *Bob Taylor*, marking the beginning of a new Rotary year. Bob is thankful for previous District Governors and the strong foundation of service and community they've built.

With strong support from district Rotarians, he is looking forward to building up the District to even greater levels of service. A special thanks to Scott for his work on District membership this past year.

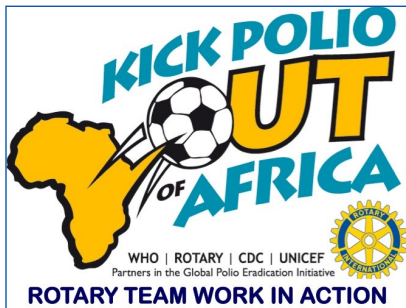


**Rotary is an invitation  
to endless  
opportunities.**

**Our acts of service,  
big and small, create opportunities  
for people who need our help.**

—Holger Knaack, RI President 2020-21

# African Region Free of Wild Poliovirus



In 1996, the great African leader Nelson Mandela launched the Kick Polio Out of Africa campaign with Rotary International's support, setting out a vision for a polio-free Africa. At the time, wild polio paralyzed 75,000 children each year in Africa.

To bolster the effort, Rotary, its Global Polio Eradication Initiative (GPEI) partners, and Mandela used soccer matches and celebrity endorsements to raise awareness of polio and helped more than 30 African countries hold their first National Immunization Days.

**On 25 August 2020, after four years without a single case of wild polio, the African region has been certified free of wild poliovirus. Decades of extraordinary investment have paid off.**



Since 1996, countless Rotary members from across Africa and around the world have contributed nearly \$890 million toward polio eradication efforts in the African regions. More than 9 billion doses of oral polio vaccine have been provided throughout the region, preventing an estimated 1.8 million cases of paralysis. Each year, about 2 million volunteers help vaccinate 220 million children against polio multiple times in the African region.

The last cases of polio caused by the wild virus in the African region were recorded in Nigeria's northern state of Borno in August 2016, after two years with no cases. Conflict, along with challenges in reaching

mobile populations, had hampered efforts to immunize children there.

In a livestream announcement of this milestone event, Rotary International President *Holger Knaack* spoke about people needing good news during the ongoing COVID-19 pandemic. "The challenges ahead are formidable," Knaack said. "That's why we must recognize this great achievement and commend all the people who played important roles in reaching this milestone."

Dr. Tunji Funsho, chair of Rotary's Nigeria PolioPlus committee, noted, "From raising funds and immunizing children to providing 'polio plusses,' such as soap and health kits, Rotary members have shown resilience and steadfast dedication to our top priority of ending polio."

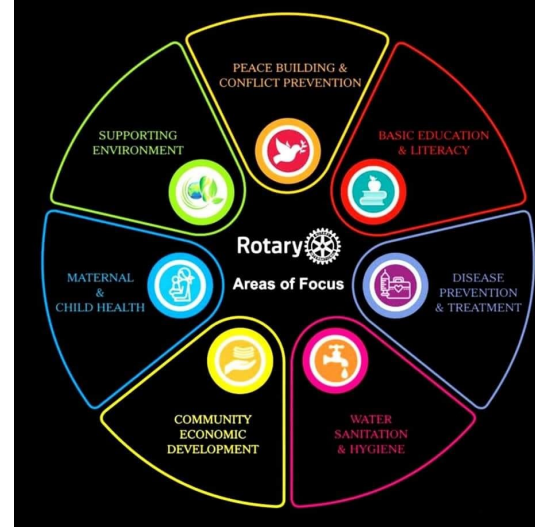
## Challenges still ahead

The GPEI's challenge now is to eradicate wild poliovirus in the two countries where the disease has never been stopped: Afghanistan and Pakistan. Additionally, routine immunization in Africa must also be strengthened to keep the wild poliovirus from returning and to protect children against circulating vaccine-derived poliovirus, which is rare but continues to infect people in parts of the African region.

As Knaack said, "This is a big step in our journey to a polio-free world, but the fight is not over yet. We still need the support of our Rotary members, donors, and heroic effort of health care workers to finish the job."

Sources: [endpolio.org](http://endpolio.org); [africakicksoutwildpolio.com](http://africakicksoutwildpolio.com)

## Rotary's 7 Areas of Focus





Foundation Chair *Scott McLaughlin* recently received the following email from the Rotary Foundation regarding our application for 2020-21 District Grants.

*"Congratulations! The Rotary Foundation has approved your 2021 district grant application. The Foundation will issue payment of this grant to the account specified in the District 5630 grant application."*

According to Scott, 18 clubs applied for the \$29,000 available in District Grants. Kim Baxter (*North Platte Rotary*) asked clubs to use their DDF to help build the Craig Baxter Memorial Clinic in Kenya, a \$24,000 project. The *Arnold, Alliance, Grant, Ogallala, Hastings Noon, Minden, Curtis, and Chadron* clubs responded with a "Yes."

Other clubs will work on projects such as park renovation (*Cambridge*); youth programs (*Gothenburg*); a global food packing project, free books for local children, and Youth Leadership Tomorrow (*Grand Island*); thermometers for the health department (*Grand Island Noon*); a musical playground (*Hastings Sunrise*); housing assistance for local citizens (*Holdrege*); county fairgrounds renovation (*Imperial*); medical help for second language families (*Kearney*); an ag display at a local museum (*Kearney Dawn*); a medically required helmet for a local child (*Lexington*); help for the local Family Resource Center (*McCook*); high school scholarships and a backpack meal program (*St. Paul*); and N-95 masks and sanitizer for first responders and a monument to veterans (*Valentine*).

**Wow! So many doors opened, so much good done in this world!** Thank you to all the clubs who applied, and Best of Everything as you complete the projects.

***Please support our Rotary Foundation as we continue to "Open Doors of Opportunity" through Rotary!***

DO YOUR LITTLE BIT  
OF GOOD WHERE YOU ARE;  
IT IS THOSE LITTLE BITS OF  
GOOD PUT ALL TOGETHER  
THAT OVERWHELM  
THE WORLD.  
DESMOND TUTU



Your club's ability to attract new members is strongly linked to your **image**, the **satisfaction** of your current members and volunteers, and the **quality** of what you offer. Selling the virtues of the club through marketing strategies and recruiting events can greatly assist to put your club and profile in front of potential members.

Here are a few tips that could help your club:

1. **Be easy to find.** Have a dedicated website or social media account using correct branding logos and featuring engaging content: club events, member profiles, articles about Rotary, and why to join, etc.
2. **Encourage existing members to spread the word that you're looking for new members.** Nobody is better suited to talk about your club than your current members. Create your own Rotary story: Why you joined and why you stay. This helps inspire others to be part of the best service organization in the world.
3. **Promote your club on social media.** Constantly post about recruiting new members on your social media platforms. [Social media scheduling platforms](#) will allow you to add that post to your social media queue on a regular basis. Images featuring your club tend to get more engagements on any social media platform.
4. **For specific Rotary content**, check out these sites:

#### Facebook:

- [Rotary Club Members: Public Image, Graphics & Ideas Hub](#) (Private Group)
- [We are Rotarians](#) (Public Group)
- Evan Burrell - [@RotarianEvanBurrell](#)
- Rotary International - [@Rotary](#)

#### Websites:

- People of Action Photo Editor: [poaphotos.com](#)
- Short videos to download: [Vimeo.com/Rotary](#)
- Rotary.org Brand Center: [brandcenter.rotary.org](#).

**Build a strong brand where you inspire and project what Rotary is all about.** — Lore Beckius



If you have questions or need help, please email us. That's what we're here for.



**Lore Beckius**  
Membership Co-Chair  
[loreb@wolfauto.com](mailto:loreb@wolfauto.com)

**Jerry Milner**  
Membership Co-Chair  
[jerrymilner@hotmail.com](mailto:jerrymilner@hotmail.com)



*Coming This Fall...*

## BE A VIBRANT CLUB Workshop

Having Fun While Getting Things Done

### All-Zoom Workshop

Choose a Saturday Session:

October 10 or October 17

Both sessions will be from 9 am to 1 pm and will cover

Who You Are as a Club ~ Foundation ~

Membership ~ Public Image

Free to all District 5630 Rotarians

From the District 5630 Training Team

Chaired by District Trainer Teresa Saul

To register, e-mail Teresa at  
[RotaryTrainer20@gmail.com](mailto:RotaryTrainer20@gmail.com)

Phone 720-301-1355



## Zone Training Institute September 8-11: \*Free via Zoom!



If you've never had a chance to attend a Zone Training Institute — now's your chance to sit at the

feet of Rotarians from all over the world with all kinds of expertise and ways to increase your passion for doing good in the world through Rotary.

\*Other than DGEs and DGNs there is **no cost** to attend the Virtual Zone Institute. However, **registration is required** in order to receive Zoom links for the General and breakout sessions.

Speakers will include RI President Elect *Shekhar Mehta* and 2018-19 RI President *Barry Rassin*. See [zones25b-29.org](https://zones25b-29.org) to register, for more speaker information, and a program.

You don't have to have an official District Leadership position, but you **must register** in order to attend.



Rotary International Zone 25b and 29

## zoom TIPS

**Note:** District Trainer *Teresa Saul* highly recommends the YouTube video, [Zoom Training For Trainers](#) (from Rotary District 5020).

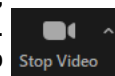
### How to get started:

- Use any laptop or computer with a webcam or accessory webcam or a smartphone or tablet with a built-in camera.
- Go to [Zoom.us](https://zoom.us) and download the app and register.
- Click "Host a Meeting" and send out the invite URL or wait for your invite. Invitees can also phone in.

### For the best experience:

**1. Do an audio test.** People want to hear you!

**2. Use good lighting.** It's best to face the light. Start with the video off, make sure you're looking your best and that your background isn't distracting, sit up straight – then turn on the video. (Check out the filters behind the "Stop Video" icon.)

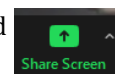


**3. Use good gear.** If you use the phone app, invest in a cellphone stand or mini tripod. A headset will let you be hands-free and help eliminate background noise.

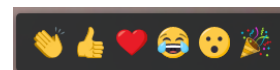
**4. Mute your mic when you're not speaking to prevent unwanted background noises.** Just click "MUTE" (or Alt-A) to mute and unmute.

**5. Don't like your background?** Depending on your [system](#), you can add a unique background by clicking on the "Stop Video" icon.

**6. Share a screen.** Just click "Share" and choose your screen.



**7. React.** You can text comments using chat; you can also "respond" with an icon.



**8. Record the meeting.** When the meeting ends, the recording will download to your hard drive.



**9. Use Zoom Shortcuts!** Here are some of the most popular:

- Mute or unmute audio: *Alt + A*
- Mute the entire group at once: *Alt + M*
- Start or stop video: *Alt + V*
- Pause or resume screen sharing: *Alt + S*
- Start recording a meeting: *Alt + R*
- Pause or resume screen recording: *Alt + P*

See more at [Zoom's Hot keys and keyboard shortcuts](#).

# Club News - 1

## Area 1 - Alliance



Congratulations to the Alliance club for 100 years in Rotary! PDG *Scott McLaughlin* and DG *Bob Taylor* participated in the celebration on August 18.



**District Grant Project:** Out of \$2,000 they received, Alliance presented Newberry's and Dairy Queen gift certificates to every employee at Box Butte General Hospital.



They donated the other half to the Community Table through their charge account at Grocery Kart.

## Area 1 - Chadron



We found these smiling faces at [Chadron Rotary's new website](#). Looks like their Facebook page is new, too: @chadronrotaryclub.

## Area 1 - Chappell



**District Grant Project:** In June, the Chappell Rotary Club donated \$700 worth of food and necessities to help the Table of Grace Food Pantry supply goods for 65 area families.

## Area 1 - Kimball



Kimball's annual Fireworks sales not only brought in funds for community service, it's great publicity for all that Rotary does.

## Area 2 - McCook



**District Grant Project:** McCook Rotary matched their \$2000 grant to stock the shelves of the McCook Food Pantry. Earlier, the Rotary and Interact clubs purchased and planted elm trees to provide shade in Kelly Park—a yearly project.



# Club News - 2

## Area 2 - Ogallala

### Diary of an exchange year

In 2000-01, Lore Beckius traveled from Amherst, Ecuador, to Ogallala, Nebraska, as a Rotary Youth Exchange.

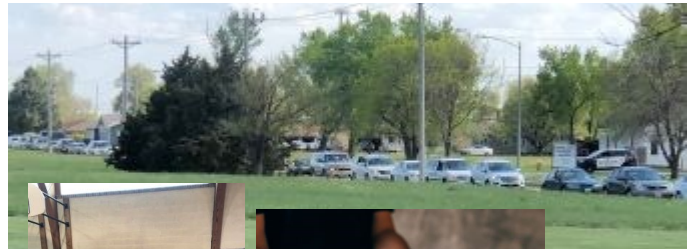


Have you seen the latest *Rotary* magazine? Ogallala's Past-President and **District Membership Co-Chair Lore Beckius** was featured in their special edition on Rotary Youth Exchange.



Ogallala Rotary proves that many hands get a lot done: 1) **Rotaract, Interact, and Rotary** clubs cleaning a lakefront beach. 2) **Lake Mac Rotaractors** donating \$100 to local law enforcement; and 3) Cleaning up weeds under the viaduct entrance into Ogallala. 4) Selling hotdogs to raise funds for **Rotaract**. 5) Donating 3D printed face masks to local EMT and hospital workers.

## Area 3 - Lexington



Lexington Rotary donated \$1000 to a local service project that provided 12,000 free meals to families in need because of the Covid-19 outbreak.

## Area 3 - North Platte Noon



**District Grant Project:** After matching district funds and with additional monies from Gary's Super Foods, North Platte Noon distributed 282 cases of food over a three-day period to five local pantries.

**Day 1:** Loading up for North Platte Catholic Food Pantry, using a trailer provided by Nebraska Land Brokers. **Day 2:** Load ready for Salvation Army and Grace Ministries. **Day 3:** Delivery for the North Platte High School Food and Mobile Food Pantry.



# Club News - 3

## Area 4 - Alma



Alma Rotary taking care of business in the city park. They used the **District Grant** to buy several communication radios for city services. They also gave \$1500 to the local food pantry. Next on the agenda: cleaning the local arboretum and city gazebo.

## Area 4 - Cambridge



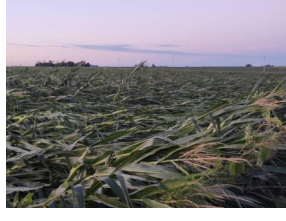
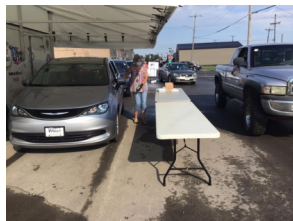
*Left:* Cambridge Rotary members pose with items the club donated for the Cambridge Food Pantry. *Right:* Cambridge Rotarians worked at the Rotary Park in downtown Cambridge, weeding, trimming, and fixing the archway boards.

## Area 4 - Kearney Dawn

**HotMeals USA**, supported by Kearney Rotarians, hit the road to help our neighbors in Iowa after devastating winds destroyed 10 million acres of corn and damaged or destroyed thousands of businesses and homes. Thanks to Rotary, Knights of Columbus, Kiwanis, generous donations, and countless volunteers who showed up to serve. Here are some photos and notes from the 3 days they served.



**August 21:** Great day in Tama and Toledo, Iowa. We cooked over 3,400 meals. Had great volunteers. These folks are simply wonderful. We need volunteers daily from 10am till 2pm or 4pm till 7pm. More power is getting restored daily.



**August 22:** 1,180 pounds of meat. 130 gallons of Mac and Cheese. 245 gallons of vegetables. 140 gallons of mashed potatoes. If you're going to feed 3,700 people a day in a disaster area, this will help you: Know what to bring along. Oh — and the most important part: 240 people to volunteer.



**August 23:** The power is 99.5% restored in Tama and Toledo, so tonight we're cooking our last meal here. Thank you to JB Swift for the meat donation. We cooked a bunch and are handing out the rest to local folks. As we head out tomorrow, remember how much you folks accomplished. You fed your neighbors just shy of 10,000 meals. You handed out over 6 thousand pounds of meat. And on Friday you'll be handing out around 40,000 pounds of fruit and vegetables. Your efforts have been a blessing for us to see. Wonderful people in a wonderful town in a great state. —Dick Cochran, [HotMealsUSA](http://HotMealsUSA)

# Club News - 4

## Area 4 - Kearney Noon



**District Grant Project:** With funds from the Rotary Foundation, District 5630, a \$750 grant, and club donations, Kearney Noon Rotarians were able to hand over \$5000 to Rotarian *Dick Cochran* for HotMeals USA. Club members also volunteered with the daily cooking and meal delivery in Kearney.

## Area 5 - Hastings Sunrise



Special thanks to *Paula Witt* and *Brent Gollner* for their time and effort in presenting a graduation gift basket at the Maryland Living Center, which provides transitional housing for homeless and aged-out youth.

## Area 6 - Broken Bow Area



Some serious — and not so serious — golfing by the 16 teams of Rotarians and friends at Broken Bow Area Rotary's "Service above Self" golf tournament at the end of June. More photos on their Facebook page.

## Area 5 - Grand Island Noon



The Grand Island Noon Rotary Club Board unanimously voted *Carlos Bárcenas* as the 2020 Spirit of Rotary recipient. Carlos was born in Chilpancingo, Guerrero, Mexico, moving to Grand Island in 1994 at the age of 14.

As a community member and volunteer, he has continually demonstrated the ideals and fundamentals of Rotary. Through notable and ongoing volunteer service, including the Grand Island Public Schools Board of Education, in addition to advocating for intercultural development and inclusion, Carlos continues to make a significant difference for youth and families in the Greater Grand Island community.

## Area 6 - O'Neill



O'Neill Rotary welcomed visitor *Nick Hall*, PDG of District 6890, who was riding his bike across America in support of PolioPlus. He began in Seattle, WA, on June 3 and was back home in Tampa by July 16—a 7-week trip.

The publication target date for the next District 5630 newsletter is **December 1, 2020.**

Please submit your photos and/or articles by **Monday, November 17**, to [cheryl@cherylsdesk.com](mailto:cheryl@cherylsdesk.com).

Thanks, *Cheryl*

## Rotary District 5630 - Rotarians in Action



2020-21  
RI President: **Holger Knaack**  
District Governor: **Bob Taylor**

Newsletter Editor: *Cheryl Bryan (Cheryl@cherylsdesk.com)*

