

# Rotarians in Action



Rotary District 5630

2023-24 · Edition 2 · Winter 2023

## District Governor's Message

Well, we made it through Thanksgiving, and I was so thankful as I made club visits through our great district.

It was so nice to see the different clubs and to meet so many great Rotarians and find out about some of the different fundraisers, like North Platte Sunrise digging potatoes, knowing that it is not about the money we give or raise but what we can do to help support different projects in our communities.

As we get closer to Christmas, I am seeing so many great posts on Facebook of our clubs and Interact stepping up, helping get things ready, wrapping presents, having food drives and doing so much for the local community.

Don't forget that when you see this on your Facebook page to share it with your contacts. If 10 people in your club share the post with their 300 friends, now 3,000 people in your community have seen what Rotary is doing and what a great organization it is.

Remember that each club needs to choose a President Elect for the upcoming year, and that RI says the Presidents Elect need to attend the President Elect Training Session (PETS) to be held in Denver on March 1-3. Registration will be opening soon with more details to follow.

RYLA is gearing up and going strong. Remember to check out the details on their website ([greatplainsryla.org](http://greatplainsryla.org)) so your RYLA Reps will have a timeline to follow.

Also save the date for April 13, 2024, for our District Conference, which will be an action-packed, fun-filled day to celebrate our accomplishments.

Thanks to all our district leaders who took time out to attend the Zone Institute in Chicago in October: DGN *Lore Beckius*, IPDG *Deb McCaslin*, PDG *Bob Mayber*, PDG *Bob Taylor*, PDG *Scott McLaughlin*, Membership Chair *Aaron Colwell*, Global Grants Co-Chair *Jim Delahunty*, Public Image Chair *Sarah Cathcart-Mills*, Rotaract Chair *Steph Reed*, Rotaractor *Ariana Mungia*, and Cheyenne County Club President *Toshia Jones*.

To keep our District #5630 strong we need everyone's help. Think outside the box, have fun, bring a friend, bring your spouse. Clubs: What about discount pricing for a spouse or new member?

**Together we can do this.**

*Doing good in the world,*



**District Governor Glenn Knuth**  
Grand Island Sunrise Rotary Club  
308-380-8786  
[dg.2023@5630mail.org](mailto:dg.2023@5630mail.org)



Enjoying the Big Red Blowout football game with Brenda Jensen, Dale and Chris Borer.



With the first RI President *Paul Harris* and the next RI President Elect *Stephanie Urchick* at the Zone Institute in Chicago

# District Conference - April 13, 2024, in Grand Island



## SAVE THE DATE

ROTARY DISTRICT 5630 CONFERENCE

04

MONTH

13

DAY

24

YEAR

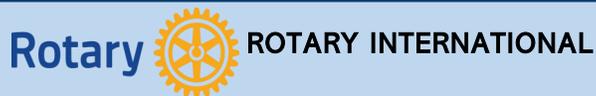
to be held in Grand Island, NE  
Stay tuned for more information!

The date has been set for the 2024 District Conference! It will be a full day of great Rotary stuff.

Our theme is “mental wellness” in preparation for Mental Health Awareness Month (May). Come ready to explore how you and your club can step up for this important cause. We all can create hope in the world, and we are people of action!

Come a day early or stay a day later so you can take in some of the special attractions in the area as well.

And, you won't want to miss Saturday evening's Taste of Grand Island event—a Noon Rotary Club annual fundraiser to benefit Youth Leadership Tomorrow and Polio Plus! Over 25 food and beverage vendors are expected.



A Global Network of Community Volunteers

One Rotary Center  
1560 Sherman Avenue  
Evanston, IL 60201  
www.rotary.org

**Rotary International President 2023-24**  
Member of the South Queensferry Rotary Club  
Lothian, Scotland

**Gordon R. McNally**

### DISTRICT 5630 LEADERS

### District 5630 Central and Western Nebraska

[www.rotary5630.org](http://www.rotary5630.org)

#### District Governor 2023-24 and DGE 2024-25

Glenn Knuth [dg.2023@5630mail.org](mailto:dg.2023@5630mail.org)

#### New Club Development

IPDG Deb McCaslin [dmccaslinx4@gmail.com](mailto:dmccaslinx4@gmail.com)

#### District Governor Nominee 2025-26

Lore Beckius [dg.2025@5630mail.org](mailto:dg.2025@5630mail.org)

#### PolioPlus Chair

Don Kurre [donk05@gmail.com](mailto:donk05@gmail.com)

#### Public Image Chair 2023-24

Sarah Mills [sarahsmath@outlook.com](mailto:sarahsmath@outlook.com)

#### RAGAS (Rotary Action Group against Slavery)

Angela Swanson [angieswanson@hotmail.com](mailto:angieswanson@hotmail.com)

#### District Membership Chair

Aaron Colwell [colwell.aaron@yahoo.com](mailto:colwell.aaron@yahoo.com)

#### RYLA Chair

Kiersten Lange [kkierstenn@gmail.com](mailto:kkierstenn@gmail.com)

#### District Foundation & Grants Chair

PDG Bob Mayber [dg.2021@5630mail.org](mailto:dg.2021@5630mail.org)

#### Interact Chair

Nicole Badgley [nicole\\_badgley@yahoo.com](mailto:nicole_badgley@yahoo.com)

#### Global Grants Chair

PDG Don Peterson [dg.2015@5630mail.org](mailto:dg.2015@5630mail.org)

#### Rotaract Chair

Stephanie Reed [stephreed15@gmail.com](mailto:stephreed15@gmail.com)

#### Global Grants Co-Chair

Jim Delahunty [Jimdelahunty@msn.com](mailto:Jimdelahunty@msn.com)

#### District Treasurer

Brooke Robertson [brooke.robertson@ampf.com](mailto:brooke.robertson@ampf.com)

#### Rotary Youth Exchange

Paula Witt [wittinc@icloud.com](mailto:wittinc@icloud.com)

#### Leadership Development

Jerry Milner [jerrymilner@hotmail.com](mailto:jerrymilner@hotmail.com)

#### District Executive Secretary/Newsletter Editor

Cheryl Bryan [daa@5630mail.org](mailto:daa@5630mail.org)



CREATE HOPE  
in the WORLD

# DG Glenn Making His Rounds



Cambridge - November 15



Chadron - September 28



Chappell - September 21

With President Sam Daily



Cozad - October 31  
with Tim Sladek



Valentine Sept. 14



Ogallala - October 5, with  
President Brooke Robertson



North Platte Sunrise - Nov. 30  
with President Jobeth Halling



North Platte Noon Sept. 27,  
with President Brian Phares



St. Paul Oct. 12. On right: Former RYE  
student Vlad from the Czech Republic



Kimball Nov. 7 with  
President Greg Robinson



Hastings October 13,  
with President Patrick Dyer



Hastings Sunrise - September 19



Cheyenne County - November 9

**G**ee whiz! Time flies!

In the past couple months we received applications for the 2024-2025 Rotary Youth Exchange year. Students were interviewed by local Rotarians and forwarded to District interviews held in North Platte on November 11-12.

We selected four awesome candidates to represent District 5630 next year. *Zoey Dornbier* from Sidney, sponsored by the Kimball Rotary e-Club, *Lyssa Hoffman* from Hastings, *Iris Robles* from Imperial, and *Haley Holzfaster* from Paxton (sponsored by Ogallala Rotary Club). They are now in the process of completing their International applications and looking forward to their country/district matches in the next couple months.



North Platte Rotarians really stepped in to interview, meet, greet and feed these hungry students and parents. **North Platte Noon** Rotary Club, with *Brian and Kathy Phares* and others provided an awesomely delicious potato bar with all the fixin's for Saturday's dinner.

**Sunrise Rotary** members were on hand to serve hot and tasty breakfast burritos on Sunday morning at the Girl Scout Cabin at Lake Maloney. Thank you, everyone!

District committee members were actively involved all weekend; *Delane Wycoff* (database administrator), *Todd Madison* (inbound coordinator), *Ronda Graff* (marketing and promotions), *Dena Beck* (learning database), *Chloe Branham-Beck* (Rotex representative), *Emma Reichenburg* and *Jake Rissler*

were also on hand to listen and share. In addition, experienced host parents, exchange parents, former exchange students and Rotexes presented a panel discussion about the realities of Rotary Youth Exchange.

**Inbound students** *Fabian* (Germany to **Imperial**), *Julieta* (Spain to **McCook**), *Kaede* (Japan to **Ogallala**) and *Szymon* (Poland to **North Platte**) also participated in the interviews. They enjoyed community service (Habitat for Humanity) and a tour of the Union Pacific rail yards. The evening and overnight activities included a campfire and s'mores, fun and games until the wee hours. They are all participating in fall/winter sports and activities and making great friends in Nebraska.

Outbound students *Sienna Dutton* (**McCook** to Spain) is polishing her Spanish and "living the dream" in Madrid, Spain. *Johan Mireles* (**Grant** to Japan) is enjoying school and travelling around his host city of Yagamuchi. His Japanese language is "coming along."

The next few months will be a whirlwind of international paperwork, visas, vaccinations and excitement for the students and families. Rotarians will be making exchange agreements, and renewing friendships around the world.

*After the holidays we will be actively seeking Rotary Clubs to host our next group of inbound students for 2024-2025. Please visit with your club members and schools in making your decision to host a student in your community. The number of students we can host is determined by the number of Rotary Clubs signed up.*

*If you have any questions or would benefit from a presentation about Rotary Youth Exchange, please contact Paula Witt [wittinc@icloud.com](mailto:wittinc@icloud.com).*

**Paula Witt**

Youth Exchange Chair  
Hastings Sunrise Rotary Club  
[wittinc@icloud.com](mailto:wittinc@icloud.com)  
402-460-0005



## District 5630 Recognized for Excellence in Grant Reporting

During their April 2023 meeting, the Trustees of The Rotary Foundation made a decision to annually recognize districts that achieve at least 90% compliance with grant reporting requirements during a Rotary year. For 2022-23, **39 districts worldwide were recognized for exceptional grant reporting efforts** and received a certificate of appreciation signed by the trustee chair.

Rotary encourages all districts to aim for exceptional compliance in 2023-24. Your dedication to transparent reporting and to stewardship is instrumental in driving meaningful impact within your communities.

Country	Districts
England	1060 and 1190
Finland and Åland Islands	1410
France	1520
Austria	1920
Switzerland and Liechtenstein	2000
Italy and San Marino	2072 and 2101
Russian Federation	2223
Norway	2310
Latvia and Sweden	2350, 2390, and 2410
Japan	2510, 2520, 2550, 2560, 2570, 2620, 2640, 2690, and 2820
India	3203
Korea	3640
Philippines	3810
Brazil	4521 and 4680
Argentina	4905
USA	5630, 5710, 6220, 6310, 6670, 6760, 6780, 6860, 7390, and 7670

**District 5630 grant applications by 26 clubs for the 2023-24 Rotary year totaled \$18,202.** The DDF available for these grants came from 25% of the total donations given by district members to the Annual Fund of the Rotary Foundation for the Rotary year 2020-21.

All 26 grant applications followed the guidelines of Rotary and corresponded to at least one of the seven areas of focus of Rotary: Peace and Conflict Resolution, Disease Prevention and Treatment, Water and Sanitation, Maternal and Child Health, Basic Education and Literacy, Helping Community Economies, and The Environment.

It is pleasing to know that **our district was one of the 39 Rotary districts that were recognized for excellence in grant reporting as noted in the chart.** If you have any questions about the reporting process, grant application guidelines or about the Rotary Foundation Annual Fund, please contact me.

### Dale Schultz

District Foundation Chair  
Hastings Sunrise Rotary Club  
dg.2018@5630mail.org



## District Membership: Let's Add 200!

Have you asked anyone to join Rotary lately? Who comes to mind in your community when you think about "Service Above Self"? It is absolutely time to start pursuing those who you thought of!

Your district membership team is rolling out the Membership Olympics. [See page 6.] Your club can earn cash prizes as you grow your club and your district!

We are about halfway through the Rotary year, but there's still plenty of time to grow. District 5630 needs to grow in membership by around 200

members by the end of the Rotary year (June 30, 2024) or our clubs may face re-zoning! Every Rotarian needs to make it a priority to help with the push in membership. Imagine having that many more people in our district doing good right alongside you. Run the Four-Way Test by it. Does it check out? I believe it does! Keep those cogs

### Aaron Colwell

District 5630 Membership Chair  
Gothenburg Rotary Club  
402 841 7023  
[colwell.aaron@yahoo.com](mailto:colwell.aaron@yahoo.com)



# Rotary



## DISTRICT 5630 MEMBERSHIP OLYMPICS

The Membership Olympics is a way for your club to help increase the membership in District 5630 while earning you some money to bring back to do even more good in your community! Cash prizes will be given out again this year based on participation in the Olympics and club performance.

### **Game One** - Appoint a Membership Chair!

- Appoint a Membership Chair for your club and update their information in DACdb; send their name to [DMC Aaron Colwell!](#)

### **Game Two** - Define Club Membership Goals!

- Enter the club membership goals in [Rotary Club Central](#).

### **Game Three** - Survey your club!

- Conduct a survey of your club. **Find out what your members want in their experience with Rotary.** Perhaps they've got some unique skills that would allow them to contribute to your club in a new way? Perhaps there's an area of service that your club's membership is interested in that hasn't been a part of the normal yearly projects? There may be aspects that are restrictive to their ability to serve or small changes that would open new doors. Anything is on the table!

### **Game Four** - Have an Engagement Activity.

- Organize a Membership Engagement event that promotes personal growth, leadership development, community service, and networking opportunities. **Bring the energy! Make it FUN!**

### **Game Five** - Have a Retention Workshop/Meeting.

- Analyze the results of your survey. Come up with a plan with your leadership team and the district membership team on how your club can implement the feedback from your membership. Take that plan to the membership and let them know.

### **Game Six** - Have your club's Membership Chair complete the Club Membership Committee Basic Learning Plan in [Rotary Learning Center](#).

- Reach out to your District Membership Chair if you're unfamiliar with the Learning Center and how to accomplish this.

### **Bonus Round!**

### **Game Seven** - Sponsor or Nurture a new Service Companion or Rotary Club.

- Is there a population that your current Rotary club isn't tapping into? Is there a whole area of need in your community or a surrounding community that isn't being addressed and you know there are people eager to fill that need? Consider exploring the different club options and the process to get one started.



### Blue Campaign Releases New Online Safety Videos

Traffickers use social media, video games, virtual chatrooms, and other digital platforms to target potential victims, especially young people. To combat these tactics, Blue Campaign has developed a new animated video series that shows what online exploitation can look like and how it can lead to a human trafficking scenario. Following a young person named Carter, this two-part series raises awareness of how to keep youth safe while playing online video games by providing tips to parents and adults working with youth on how to recognize signs of the crime. Watch the video [here](#).

More recent news about the “Blue Campaign”

[CCHT \(Center for Countering Human Trafficking\) Marks 3rd Anniversary](#). In October 2023, the CCHT (Center for Countering Human Trafficking) marked its third anniversary as the first unified, intercomponent coordination center for countering human trafficking and the importation of goods produced with forced labor....

[HSI Houston Investigation Results in 25-year Sentence for Man Who Trafficked 7th Grader](#). In October 2023, Juwan James Davis, a 28-year-old Houston man, was sentenced to 25 years in federal prison following his conviction for sex trafficking a 13-year-old girl. The conviction was a result of a five-year investigation by Homeland Security Investigations (HSI) Houston and the Montgomery County Sheriff’s Office....

If you haven’t saved the date yet, it’s not too late: National Human Trafficking Awareness Day, also known as [#WearBlueDay](#), is next month.

On **January 11, 2024**, the U.S. Department of Homeland Security’s (DHS) Center for Countering Human Trafficking’s (CCHT) Blue Campaign invites you to help combat this crime by raising awareness — and it all starts with wearing blue. By wearing blue, the international color of human trafficking awareness, you’re stating your commitment to bringing this heinous crime out of the shadows.

**Participating is easy:** Once you’ve picked a favorite blue outfit or item of clothing, take a picture of yourself wearing it and share the photo on social media. Whether it’s a selfie, group picture, or video, just make sure to use the hashtag #WearBlueDay.

Leading up to #WearBlueDay, the Campaign will share awareness resources on our website and social media channels. Follow Blue Campaign (@DHSBlueCampaign on [X](#), [Facebook](#), and [Instagram](#)) for more details.

### Angie Swanson

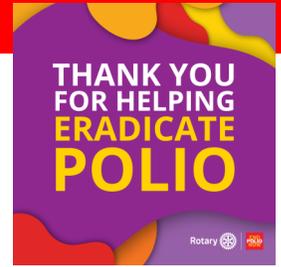
District Chair, [RAGAS](#)  
(Rotary Action Group Against Slavery)  
McCook Rotary Club  
[AngieSwanson@hotmail.com](mailto:AngieSwanson@hotmail.com)  
308-352-6016



It happened in Minden on November 9 — Seven (7!) Past District Governors in the same room: *Bob Mayber* (2021-22), *Koby Rickertsen* (2014-15), *Dale Schultz* (2018-19), *Don Peterson* (2015-16), *Scott McLaughlin* (2019-20), *Jerry Milner* (2017-18), and *Bob Taylor* (2020-21).



# Three Ways We Can End Polio Now



As we approach the new year, I want to review our role in eradicating polio. Rotary International has been working to eradicate polio for over 35 years. As a founding partner of the Global Polio Eradication Initiative, we have played a significant role in reducing polio cases by 99.9% since our first project to vaccinate children in the Philippines in 1979.

We contributed more than \$2.5 billion and countless volunteer hours to protect nearly 3 billion children in 122 countries from this paralyzing disease. Year to date, our District 5630 has contributed \$47,087 to this effort.

Our advocacy efforts play a role in decisions by governments to contribute more than \$10 billion to the effort. Today, polio remains endemic only in Afghanistan and Pakistan.

Our work to end polio focuses on three key areas:

**Immunization.** Rotary and our partners work to vaccinate all children under the age of five with the oral polio vaccine (OPV). OPV is a safe and effective vaccine that has helped to protect millions of children from polio.

**Surveillance.** Rotary and our partners work to track polio cases and identify new outbreaks as quickly as

possible. We use this information to target immunization campaigns and prevent the spread of the disease.

**Advocacy.** Rotary advocates for governments and other organizations to support polio eradication efforts. We also work to raise awareness of polio and the importance of vaccination.

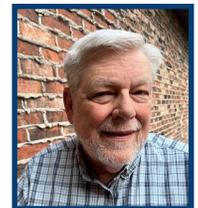
Our efforts have been instrumental in bringing the world closer to eradicating polio. However, it is important to continue working to keep other countries polio-free. Our commitment to eradicating polio is a testament to our dedication to service and making the world a better place.

I hope you have a renewing holiday season.

Peace,

**Don Kurre**

District Chair, PolioPlus  
North Platte Noon Rotary Club  
[donk05@gmail.com](mailto:donk05@gmail.com)  
308-221-1005



Rotarians attending the “Come Home Zone” Institute training in Chicago in October got up bright and early Saturday morning, October 21, to “pound the pavement for polio.”

PDG *Scott McLaughlin* decided to challenge his club to join in on the fundraising. He rewarded everyone in the Kearney Dawn club who contributed to the fundraiser with 100 Paul Harris points. Thirteen members answered the call, for a total of \$450 from the club.

Scott writes, “That in itself was awesome, but with the Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation match, this meant the Kearney Dawn Rotary Club was in for \$1,350! Other District Rotarians added a total of \$695, and with the Gates Foundation Match the new total was \$3,435! How cool was that. The total raised for the event was \$5,017; with the Gates Foundation match that brings the grand total to \$15,051!” And because they’re Rotarians—they also had fun!



# People, Places, and Prizes at Zone Institute Oct. 18-22

## People



Fine looking group! PDG *Bob Mayber*, Global Grants Co-Chair *Jim Delahunty*, Cheyenne County Club President *Toshia Jones*, IPDG *Deb McCaslin*, PDG *Scott McLaughlin*, DGN *Lore Beckius*, Rotaract Chair *Steph Reed*, Membership Chair *Aaron Colwell*, Public Image Chair *Sarah Cathcart-Mills*, DG *Glenn Knuth*, and Rotaractor *Ariana Mungia*. At right: PDG *Bob Taylor*, *Ariana*, *Steph*, *Sarah*, and *Jim*.



District Membership Chair *Aaron Colwell* with Assistant Rotary Coordinator *Faron Barr*.



5650's IPDG *Barb Bartle* and 5630's IPDG *Deb McCaslin* standing with *Paul Harris*



*Jim Delahunty*, PDG *Bob Mayber*, DGN *Lore Beckius*, and *Sarah Mills* taking their turn.



*Steph Reed* and *Ariana Mungia* enjoyed meeting Rotarians from *Nigeria*.



DGN *Lore Beckius*, RI President *Gordon McNally*, DG *Glenn Knuth*.

*Thanks to all who shared your photos on Facebook!*

# People, Places, and Prizes at Zone Institute Oct. 18-22

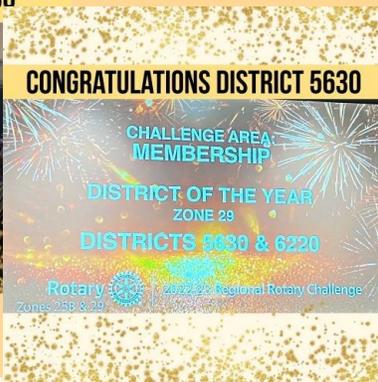
## Places

Jim at One Rotary Center; the gang at Wrigley Field; Deb Minkler, Sarah (& Angie), Ariana, Steph & Selah, enjoying a walk in the park.

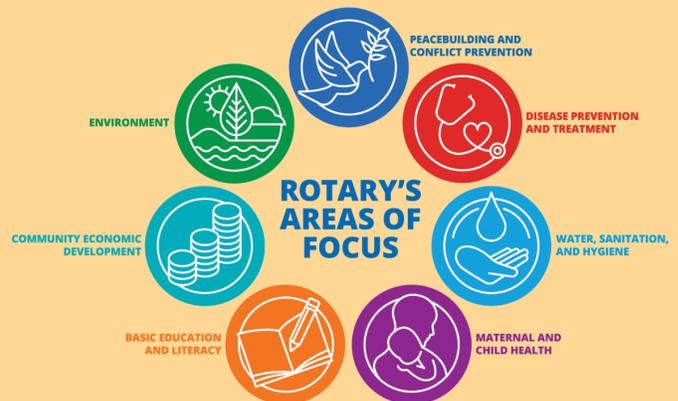


## Prizes

Out of the 16 clubs in Zone 29, our district was recognized several times and received several mentions and awards: **Membership Challenge District of the Year, Membership Net Gain**, Mention in Foundation, Mention in Polio Plus.



Never too young! *Selah Reed* holds court in the Rotary International boardroom (with help from mom *Steph*).





On behalf of all our RYLA campers: Thank you!



## 2023 Great Plains RYLA Sponsors



**TRIANGLE BAR  
RANCH**



P.O. BOX 156, Oconto, NE 68860 | 308-858-4509 | Clifford Badgley, Owner



Each year we appeal to Rotary clubs, individuals and business owners to sponsor various aspects of RYLA. The sponsorship opportunities are for expenses not covered by the “participate fee” clubs pay from each student. The estimated total cost for a successful RYLA camp is \$40,000.

What’s in it for you? You (club, individual or business) will receive recognition on all printed materials and the “feel good” sensation of knowing you are contributing a phenomenal leadership program for our young people.

Please contact *Kiersten Lange* ([Chair@GPRYLA.org](mailto:Chair@GPRYLA.org)) if you have questions or would like to participate in this sponsorship opportunity. It takes an entire district to pull together to make RYLA an incredible experience.

You can download a [sponsor form](#) from our [website](#).

# Club News - 1

## Arnold



**November:** Arnold Rotarians build a fence around city dumpsters as part of the Arnold Rotary community beautification project.



**September:** RYLA Campers came to relate their RYLA stories to the club.



**September:** [Interact](#) students represented Rotary in Arnold's Fall Festival parade.



**September:** President *Ron Cool* accepts Rotary Citation from IPDG *Deb McCaslin* signed by RI President *Jennifer Jones* for the club's membership growth in 2022-23.



**November:** Arnold club member *Mary Becker* and her husband *Mike Harvey* received an award from the Arnold Foundation for Co-Philanthropist and Philanthropist of the Year.

**Rotary After Hours  
in Broken Bow  
included with a tour of  
Broken Bow Wind II,  
thanks to Rotarians  
*Rylan Everett* and *Jodi  
Spotanski*.**



# Club News - 2

## Cambridge



The Rotary Park entrance after (on left) and before (below). More improvements to come!



Left: Cambridge kindergartners



Arapahoe (Right)

Southwest (below)



Cambridge area kindergartners learned about water safety and received their own copy of the *Josh the Baby Otter* plus coloring books and stickers. Thanks to Rotarians *Kate Warner, Cheryl Haakenson, Kathy Benson, and Patricia Sayer*.

## Chadron



Chadron High School Interactors deliver dictionaries and interact with the third graders.

## Chappell



Chappell Rotary welcomed *Loren Engle* to their club in September. Loren is the new Superintendent of Creek Valley Schools. He and his wife Tanya have two grown children.

# Club News - 3

## Cheyenne County

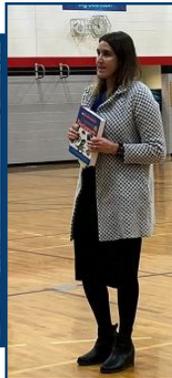


[HotMeals USA](#) was on hand to cook and serve lunch at Cheyenne County's Anti-Bullying Day. Proceeds went to [PlainsWest CASA](#).



Cheyenne County Rotarians are all smiles as they man their bake sale at the All Is Bright Christmas Tour in Sidney. They hosted another Bake Sale on December 16.

## Cozad



The Cozad Elementary third graders love their new dictionaries! Thanks to *Claire Bazata* who does a wonderful job of presenting and teaching the students on the best way to use them.

*All Aboard!*

**7<sup>th</sup> ANNUAL  
COZAD ROTARY  
POLAR EXPRESS**

TRAIN TICKETS \$8

Watch the Polar Express Movie while waiting for your ride.  
FREE HOT CHOCOLATE, COOKIE & MILE

MONDAY, DECEMBER 18 <sup>th</sup>	
6:00 PM	7:30 PM
6:30 PM	8:00 PM
7:00 PM	8:30 PM

**TICKETS CAN BE PURCHASED AT  
BERRECKMAN & BAZATA LAW OFFICE  
Or  
COZAD CHAMBER OF COMMERCE**

## Gothenburg



Gothenburg Rotary, with Gothenburg FFA, funded new recycling containers at Gothenburg High.



Gothenburg Interact and their "Reverse Halloween" sweet treats—delivered to Stone Hearth Estates Assisted Living residents.

# Club News - 4

## Grand Island Noon and Grand Island Sunrise



At Grand Island's October 10th meeting, Club President *Jessica Hendricks* presented Paul Harris Fellows to *Tonja Brown, Joe Watkins, Senator Ray Aguilar, and Juliet Wright.*



The Noon and Sunrise clubs (and friends) helped coordinate band buses at Grand Island's Harvest of Harmony on October 7.

Schools from all over the state send their bands (24 this year!) to march. It's a ballet of bus coordination so each bus can meet their band at the right time. Coffee, donuts and restrooms are welcome accommodations for the drivers.

## Hastings Sunrise



**August** - For their 5th Thursday Social, Sunrise Rotarians enjoyed a ride with Joyride Pedal Company.

**October 24** - Participated in a purple pinky fundraiser at Adams Central Elementary on World Polio Day.

**November** - Sponsored a "Night at the Museum" with students and families attending from Hastings Public Schools, Adams Central, and St. Cecelia—nearly 550 people.

# Club News - 5

## Holdrege



**October** - On behalf of the Phelps County Caring Cupboard, *Betty Schroder* accepts the donation of 1,064 diapers and 1,800 wipes from Holdrege Rotary.

**November** - Club President *Chris McQuillan* (on right) presents Paul Harris award to Rotarian *Ron Tillary*.

## Imperial



**October 24:** On World Polio Day Imperial hosted Beer and Brats for Polio Prevention to raise funds for PolioPlus.

**November 18:** Rotarians and Interactors had a perfect day for their highway cleanup project.



# Club News - 6

## Kearney



**November** - Sue Hardessen received her Paul Harris +2 pin from Foundation Chair Tammy Jackson. And Sue joined Sarah Mills on KGFW Radio's *Talk of the Town* to talk about the Dolly Parton Library Project. For only \$30 you can help provide a year of books for one child. A \$150 donation provides a child with one book per month for five years.

## Kearney Dawn



*In the town of Kearney, not so far away,  
The Dawn Rotary Club had a plan one day.  
To join in a mission, full of cheer and light,  
"Operation Christmas Child," oh what a sight!*

*They gathered up items, toys, and a soccer ball,  
With school supplies, toothbrushes, packed for all.  
Their members joined in, with hearts open wide,  
To fill up those shoeboxes, side by side.*

*Rotary members, cheerful and bright,  
Began collecting goodies, by day and night.  
Volunteers gathered, from young to old,  
Filling each box, so the story is told.*

*In each little shoebox, gifts were tucked tight,  
With love and with care, making spirits bright.*

*A card with a note, added with flair,  
Sent with a wish, and a little prayer.*

*Off went the shoeboxes, from Kearney with love,  
To children in need, under skies above.  
Across the world, in lands far and near,  
Bringing joy and some hope, and holiday cheer.*

*The Rotary's mission, so noble and kind,  
Left a trail of joy and goodwill behind.  
In the hearts of the children, the gifts found a place,  
And Kearney Dawn Rotary spread smiles on each face.*

*So remember this tale, of the boxes and cheer,  
How the small town of Kearney spread love far and near.  
With shoeboxes packed, and hearts full of light,  
They brought Christmas joy, and made the world bright!*

# Club News - 7

## Kearney Dawn



**November.** Kearney Dawn is installing state-of-the-art communication boards at Yanney Heritage Park and Nina Hammer Memorial Park. The boards offer easy access to common words used in various settings, helping those with limited language abilities.



**August.** Kearney Dawn provided two Special Olympics teams with complete softball uniforms. The Special Olympics provides year-round sports training and athletic competition in a variety of Olympic-type sports for children and adults with intellectual disabilities, offering opportunities for these individuals to develop physical fitness, demonstrate courage, and experience joy.



## Lexington



**October.** Lexington Rotary hosted the Truckers Against Trafficking truck and a two-day antihuman trafficking awareness event at the middle school.



**November.** Lexington third graders say "Thanks" to the Rotarians for the dictionaries.

## McCook



**October** highway cleanup



**November.** Serving up pancakes at the McCook Farm & Ranch Expo.



**November.** McCook Rotarians help the local Boy Scouts with a check and some pizza for their Adopt-A-Chaplin project.

# Club News - 8

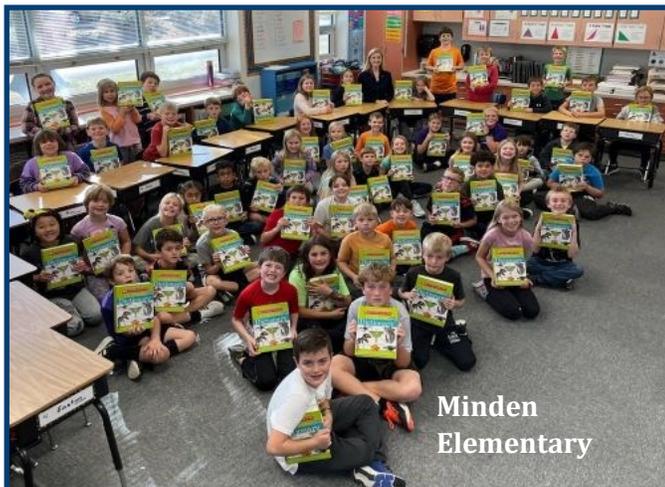
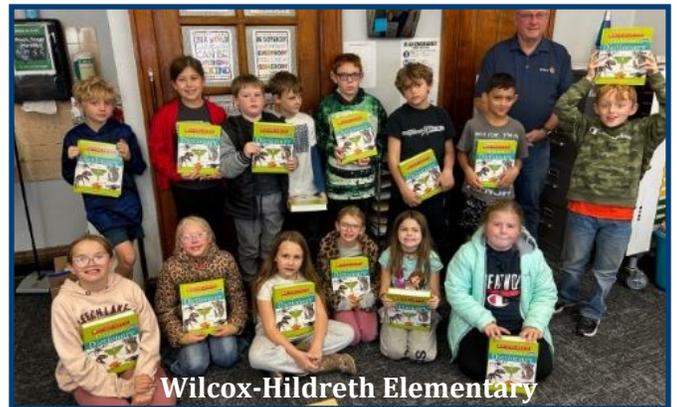
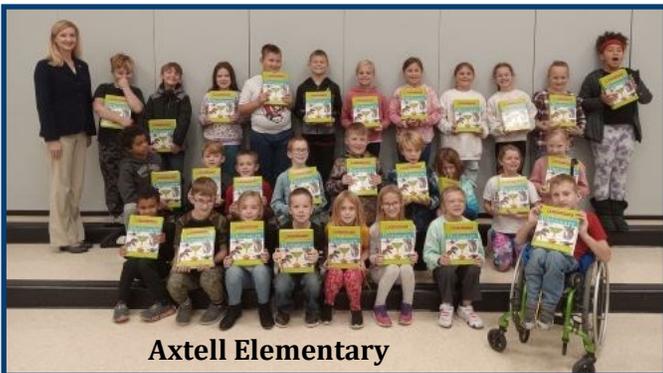
## McCook, McCook Interact



Now you can make plans for New Year's Eve, thanks to McCook Rotary. Open to anyone 21 and older. *Angie Swanson* has more information if you need it.

McCook Interact raised money at a bake sale then used the proceeds to purchase Christmas gifts for three children from the YMCA Tree of Love.

## Minden



**November.** Minden gave out over 100 dictionaries to 3rd grade students in Kearney County. Fifteen area businesses helped contribute to the project.



Area Rotarians assess the cleanup needs at Minden's historic Pioneer Village on November 12—designated as "Rotary Volunteer Day."

# Club News - 9

## North Platte Noon



North Platte Rotarians having fun again - serving at the Cody Park concession stand.



Louise Hoffmann receives her Paul Harris +8 from Foundation Chair Kendi McClain.



New member Haven Smith, Executive Director of Mid-Plains United Way, is welcomed into the club by Don Kurre and PDG Bob Mayber.

## North Platte Sunrise



**October.** Sunrise Rotarians *Thom Wolfgang*, representing the Village of Hershey, and *Jake Rissler* were recognized at the 2023 North Platte Area Chamber and Development Annual Meeting for Economic Partner of the Year and Young Professional Award respectively. **(Above)** Selling potatoes for a good cause.



## O'Neil

Just look at all these Holt County third graders who now own their own dictionaries!



# Club News - 10

## Ogallala Rotary, Lake Mac Rotaract, and Ogallala Interact



Ogallala Rotary and Lake Mac Rotaract assembled and delivered 35 bags of nonperishable food items to Keith County Senior Center for Meals on Wheels recipients.



RYE student *Kaede* with her host mom, *Mary Eizenzimmer*, at a Husker game.



It was a perfect day for Ogallala's annual Kayak Big Mac.



Every year, the Ogallala club delivers over 100 dictionaries to third graders in Keith County, Arthur, and Big Springs.



*Jim Delahunty* receives his Paul Harris+1 pin from club president *Brooke Robertson*.



After raising money from a volleyball game concession stand and a bake sale, Prairie View students used the proceeds to buy gifts for Lake Mac Rotaract's Caring Is Sharing Christmas Tree Program. Where there's a will, there's a way!



Interactors painted pinkies at Prairie View for Polio Eradication.



Rotary's Vision Statement

**TOGETHER** WE SEE A WORLD  
WHERE **PEOPLE** UNITE AND TAKE ACTION  
TO **CREATE** LASTING  
**CHANGE** ACROSS THE GLOBE  
IN OUR COMMUNITIES AND IN OURSELVES

# Club News - 11

## St. Paul and St. Paul Interact



St. Paul Rotarians delivered dictionaries to third graders in St. Paul. Pictured here: students at Loup City and Elba.



Many hands make light work—and many orange bags lined the highway after the Rotarians and Interactors finished up.



We don't know who enjoyed the pumpkin carving best: Residents of Brookefield Park or St. Paul Interactors!

## Valentine



**October.** Valentine Interactors raised money for the Sandhills Area Cancer Fund with a Color Run. Runners could purchase a white T-shirt to be "colored" while they ran.

Left: Club co-president *Regina Osburn* and Foundation Chair *Ronna Morse* present *Mike Burge* with his Paul Harris fellow.

# You Can Help Determine the Future for District 5630.

## DISTRICT 5630 VISIONING

Rotary  
District 5630



REGISTER NOW: <https://forms.gle/8XR5oidPbYXY9XhD6>

Let's gather to set some District wide goals and hone in our individual strengths, and how to best use them to move the mission forward

You're invited to join the District leadership team in North Platte on **Saturday, January 20, 2024**, in navigating through a visioning session to develop our District 5630 Action Plan. Please let your club president know you are interested in participating and sign up to represent your club.

The more diverse the members and clubs around the table, the more this visioning session will help bring our District together as we recognize our shared values and purposes and articulate a shared vision of our District 5630.

Register at: <https://rb.gy/h2v28v>. The deadline to register is **Friday, January 5, 2024**.

*We hope to see you there!*

5630 Action Plan



Share Ideas



Together



**SATURDAY JANUARY 20TH, 2024**

10:30AM - 2:30PM CT

MID-PLAINS COMMUNITY COLLEGE NORTH CAMPUS  
1101 HALLIGAN DR NORTH PLATTE, NE

\*LUNCH SPONSORED BY



FACILITATOR  
**DENA BECK**

NEBRASKA COMMUNITY FOUNDATION  
AFFILIATED FUND DEVELOPMENT  
COORDINATOR  
MINDEN ROTARY CLUB



**Lorena Beckius**

District Governor Nominee  
Ogallala Rotary Club  
dg.2025@5630mail.org

District 5630 *Rotarians in Action* is published quarterly. Archives are posted in PDF format at [rotary5630.org](http://rotary5630.org) and at [DACdb.com](http://DACdb.com)—District. We encourage Rotarians to use this newsletter both internally and externally as a resource for club newsletters and for the advancement of Rotary.

The publication target date for the next District 5630 newsletter is **March 15, 2024**.

Please submit your photos and/or articles by **Thursday, February 29**, to [daa@5630mail.org](mailto:daa@5630mail.org).

Thanks, *Cheryl Bryan*



CREATE HOPE  
in the WORLD

## Rotary District 5630 - *Rotarians in Action*

2023-24

RI President: **Gordon McNally**

District Governor: **Glenn Knuth**

Newsletter Editor: *Cheryl Bryan (daa@5630mail.org)*

