

Tuesday, February 13, 2024

**Rotary**



**District  
6110 Newsletter**

## District Governor, Pam Crawford



February - Month 8 of the Rotary year. We are having a great year! We are getting our Facebook pages and road signs updated to the correct brand. People are giving to the Rotary Foundation - both the Annual Fund and Polio Plus, but please don't wait until the last week of June; your gift may not be recorded in the correct year. And our January membership numbers are very positive, but we can't stop inviting people to our clubs and gaining new members; watch for the March Membership Madness contest!

Let me comment a bit more on membership this month. All of our clubs have a unique culture. That is what has made this year a fantastic experience to visit your clubs and help on your projects.

What is important about all the projects is the outreach to a community; our potential new Rotarians are just waiting for the right experience and to be asked.

February 1 found me with Assistant Governor Coordinator Brett Brough, and District Governor Nominee Designate Laura Garrett in Owasso, OK as the Owasso Rotary Club had announced their new "Vial of Life" program in partnership with the Owasso Fire Department. (See article later in this Newsletter) They have had newspaper and TV coverage of this event. Every document related to the Vial has the correct Owasso Rotary Club logo on it. Will someone come join? Maybe. Is it telling the community that the Owasso Rotary Club cares about their community? YES! I would highly recommend looking up this program. I'm sure Owasso would be glad to talk to you. This definitely answers YES to the question: "Would your community miss you if the club closed?"

On February 3, I made the trek to Bella Vista, AR to help with their Winter Fest. This is a children's indoor carnival, and that day it was raining, and parents were glad for a way to entertain their children with games, balloons, face painting, and more. I had so much fun running the Tic Tac Toe beanbag toss. And getting to know the Rotarians; they have a lot of Kansans in that club! And I was TOTALLY honored with a balloon crown; I was Queen for a Day! (I promise - I won't let it go to my head! LOL!) In every child's bag was a flyer about Rotary. This is a growing club; will the flyers get them new members really quickly? Hard to tell. But the club gave to their community; the parents won't forget (the children won't either!).



I had the opportunity to meet our 2024-2025 outbound Rotary Exchange Students at MSNI and SCRYE on January 26-27. What a great bunch of young people! These are the future of Rotary. We learned that one of the Ft. Smith, AR exchange students (2016-2017) has recently joined the club. Welcome Evan! Future Rotariansâ€¦inbound and outbound! Looking aheadâ€¦I believe our youth ARE The Magic of Rotary!

And the District Dogs think they might be helping on membership, tooâ€¦this is a stretch for the boysâ€¦but if you encouraged a friend to vote for your pet back during the 12 Days of Polio Pets, you might have planted a seed. Rotary can be fun! #5thTest! Joey and Beau think we need another contest or twoâ€¦maybe Leap Day? (And they are probably coming to Mid America President Elect Training; if Joey can come for the third year, he thinks the President Elect can come for one year! Hint, Hintâ€¦get someone in your club registered for MAPETS!)

I know I'm missing all kinds of things that our clubs do that help in membershipâ€¦Parks, Christmas parades, fund raisers, trivia events, dictionaries, etc. The fall 5ks and now the upcoming spring 5ks in the communities! And golf tournaments (little round balls and Frisbees)! Keep up the good work of supporting your communities â€” who knows where you may plant a seed that may blossom into membership! Our service is part of our membership outreach.

The District and Rotary International both have money to help on membership publicity and membership events. District Membership Chair PDG Jayne Lowe (Bentonville) listed some things that qualify: a paid social media campaign, prospective member events, developing and supporting a new club, and Rotary branded materials. But the best thing is to call her or [email her \(CLICK HERE\)](#) explaining what you are doing to get her opinion.

See you somewhere in my travelsâ€¦I'm so honored to be serving you as your District Governor!

Pam

In Rotary Service,  
DG Pam Crawford



<b>District 6110 Box Score</b>	
<b>Through 2/12/24</b>	
<b>60</b>	Total Member INCREASE since 7/1/23 (BEST in the Zone!)
7	Clubs using the New Rotary Sign program - \$100 each from 6110
11	District Endowed Funds in the Rotary Foundation
12	Rotary Youth Exchange applicants - need clubs for inbounds!
12	District 6110 Rotarians registered for the Singapore RI Convention
12	Clubs with ZERO Foundation giving - (No change since last month, grr)
31.8%	% of female Rotarians
36	Clubs with ZERO Polio Plus giving - down 5!
50.0%	District clubs in the Dictionary Project
92.9%	Member retention rate this program year
182	<a href="#">Paul Harris Society Members - \$1000/yr (to join, email Michele Gann)</a>
216	Major Donors "all time" (up 4 from last month!)
446	Rotary Direct members - DG Pam's goal: 500 (up 5!)
3,340	Rotary Club Members
7,993	Paul Harris Fellows "all time"
\$36,923	Polio Plus Giving YTD - 95% of goal!
\$227,549	Foundation Annual Fund Giving YTD 78% of goal
1,032,912	<a href="#">Children have received dictionaries since 2004 project beginning</a>

Sources: Rotary Club Central, TRF data, etc.

## Rotary Dates



Rotary Presidents/leaders want to get dates on their calendars - as far in advance as possible, but also as a reminder of "what's next".  
*Criteria: Big-picture events, NO club events/fundraisers, but events and/or deadlines that Presidents and other club leaders need to know.*

### Important and District-wide (and beyond) Rotary Dates

- Feb 23, 2024: **Anniversary** of first Rotary meeting; 1905 in Chicago
  - March 7-11: **Wheelchair Mission** to Puerto Vallarta, Mexico
  - March 21-23, 2024; **MAPETS, Fort Smith, AR** for Presidents Elect and Nominees (**REQUIRED** for PE, suggested for PN)
  - April 9, 2024: Virtual **Grant Management** Seminar
  - May 3, 2024: District Foundation **Golf Tournament**
  - May 3, 2024: District **Foundation Banquet**
  - May 3-4, 2024: District **Conference** at Rogers, AR
  - May 25-29, 2024: Rotary International **Convention in Singapore**
  - June 29, 2024: District Governor **Warren Lovinger** Installation Luncheon Banquet at Cottey College, Nevada, MO
  - August 10, 202 Virtual **District Training Assembly**
  - Sept 19-21: **Zone 30-31 Conference**, Huntsville, AL
  - October 17-20, 2024: **RYLA** in Tahlequah, OK
  - March 20-22, 2025; **MAPETS** - May 2025; **District Conference**, Rogers, AR
  - June 21-25, 2025\*: Rotary International **Convention** in Calgary, Canada
  - March 19-21, 2026; **MAPETS**
  - June 13-17, 2026\*: Rotary International **Convention** in Taipei, Taiwan
  - June 5-9 2027\*: Rotary International **Convention** in Honolulu, Hawaii
  - 2028\*: Rotary International **Convention** in Manila
  - 2029\*: Rotary International **Convention** in Minnesota
- \* Tentative Date for planning



**WHAT'S THIS ALL ABOUT:** Plug these dates into your calendar - you don't want to be a Rotarian without a date, do you?

## My Rotary Moment: Bryce Anderson

Many of us can point to a time when we "got it" and became a Rotarian...not just someone who goes to club meetings. Please share your experience and send your "Rotary Moment" to DPIC Wally Bloss [wbloss@gmail.com](mailto:wbloss@gmail.com)



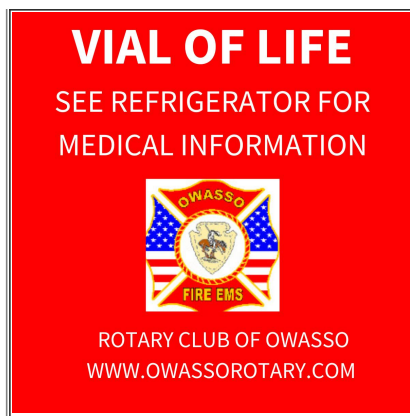
After being in the club for several years and joining committees and eventually the Board, I realized that I was a part of a wonderful organization with an outstanding group of individuals. Our core members in the Pittsburg Noon Rotary Club show a consistency and a passion that doesn't seem to fade year over year. I have found myself wanting to become part of that core to continue the amazing reputation and to perpetuate our positive impact on the Pittsburg community.

**Bryce Anderson Pittsburg Rotary Club President-Elect**

**WHAT'S THIS ALL ABOUT?** What's your Rotary Moment? Send it to the Newsletter Editor, [Wally Bloss EMAIL](mailto:Wally Bloss EMAIL) and share your experience!

## Owasso Rotary Club: Vial of Life

By Lindsey Leon Williams Jr.



The [Rotary Club of Owasso](#), in partnership with the [Owasso Fire Department](#), has launched the *Vial of Life* program for home-bound seniors and residents. The program is nationally recognized as saving countless lives each year by providing emergency responders with life-saving medical information during an emergency.

If your senior parent or another family member had a medical emergency and were by themselves, they might be unconscious or confused. If so, who would provide the crucial medical information that EMS personnel need in an emergency? Even if awake and aware, people don't always remember details in a crisis. This is when the free Vial of Life kits can save a life!

**"The Vial of Life Kit is designed to speak for the residents when they can't speak for themselves."**

**Vial of Life Kit:** Each Vial of Life Kit contains

- Two Decals/Stickers (the stickers are branded with "Rotary Club of Owasso" and our website [owassorotary.com](http://owassorotary.com))
- One Medical Information form
- One zip-lock sandwich baggie

#### How it Works:

- **Step 1:** The resident answers questions about their health history and medications on the medical information form. Do not add social security number.
- **Step 2:** Place the completed medical and insurance information form in the baggie and securely tape it on the refrigerator door using one of the stickers. **Include copies of additional medical information:** If you have a chronic heart condition, include a copy of your most recent electrocardiogram (EKG). **Also include any relevant documents, such as** Advance Directives, copies of driver's license, Veterans health care cards, copies of insurance cards, copies of Medicaid or Medicare cards, and do-not-resuscitate (DNR) order (signed Oklahoma document).
- **Step 3:** Place one sticker on the refrigerator door, taping the baggie to the refrigerator, and one on the front door at eye level.

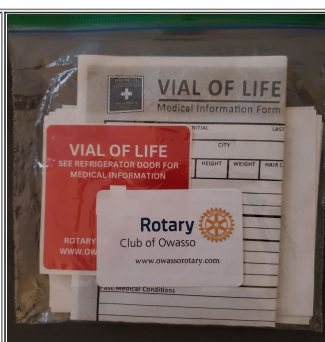
If the resident must be transitioned to the hospital or an urgent care facility, the free Vial of Life kit travels with them. When the emergency personnel arrives, the kit can be given to hospital medical and administrative personnel. This creates a seamless transition of medical information that allows hospital caregivers to provide needed services sooner.

Lindsey Williams, Owasso Rotary Club President, notes their goal "besides assisting residents, is to separate the Owasso Rotary Club from other civic and non-profit organizations and place our brand name in a situation that benefits everyone in the community. People are at their optimal awareness in a medical emergency."

[Tulsa's TV Fox 23 did a recent story on the project, click here.](#)



Lindsey Williams and Chase Coates, Owasso EMS Captain




The completed baggie - vial

### Step 1

Complete the Medical Information Form in full. It is important to answer each question.


Refrain from including your social security number.



### Step 2


Place the completed Medical Information Form and additional medical information inside the baggie.

Tape the baggie to the refrigerator door using one of the stickers.



### Step 3

Place the second sticker in the kit on the front door or the most commonly used door, such as the garage door.



**WHAT'S THIS ALL ABOUT?** Here's a simple, inexpensive project (98¢ each) that helps vulnerable people and gets the local Rotary Club significant attention! Sounds like other



## My Rotary Moment: A. C. Moncrief

*Many of us can point to a time when we "got it" and became a Rotarian...not just someone who goes to club meetings. Please share your experience and send your "Rotary Moment" to DPIC Wally Bloss [wbloss@gmail.com](mailto:wbloss@gmail.com)*



It would be hard to select a single Rotary Moment as being the most significant. But the very first moment came when Travis Adams took me to PETS. Just fellowship with Rotarians who have that special glow that comes from Service Above Self at PETS, District Events, and International Conventions has been a consistent heartfelt highlight.

The emotional thank you to Van Buren Rotary for our club grant coming from the head of the Malawi Children's Village was a truly special moment. He came from Central Africa to describe how hundreds of orphans were eating all of an ear of corn to survive and how the gift had an immediate impact on so many lives.

Watching people from India kneeling and touching our feet in appreciation of Rotary's ongoing role in making such a difference in their villages was humbling and gratifying.

Listening to a Belize club president express how much "fixing the children's lips" had impacted his community and signing together another grant application on the banks of a river.

Being involved with Shelter Box and the Altus Area Sunset club helping with terrible tornado destruction relief resulted in multiple moments. And, seeing the real appreciation for Rotary our District Simplified Grants create is very touching.

Meeting good people from local communities and learning about their efforts and accomplishments and sharing in the synergy Rotary creates. That's a Rotary Moment I am sure is shared with many others throughout the world.

**A. C. Moncrief, Past District Governor 2009-2010**

WHAT'S THIS ALL ABOUT? What's your Rotary Moment? Send it to the Newsletter Editor, [Wally Bloss EMAIL](mailto:Wally Bloss EMAIL) and share your experience!

## February is Peace Month

### What if?

What if we started thinking about Rotary as more than a collection of service clubs and started thinking of ourselves as a global peace building force?

Just imagine, Rotarians building a world beyond war. Learn more about our organization and how you can join us to spread the message:

## Rotary's Four Roles in Promoting Peace

### Rotary and its members are:

- **Practitioners:** Our work fighting disease, providing clean water and sanitation, improving the health of mothers and children, supporting education, and growing local economies directly builds the optimal conditions for peaceful societies.
- **Educators:** Our Rotary Peace Centers have trained more than 1,700 peace fellows to become effective catalysts for peace through careers in government, education, and international organizations.
- **Mediators:** Our members have negotiated humanitarian ceasefires in areas of conflict to allow polio vaccinators to reach children who are at risk.
- **Advocates:** Our members have an integral role as respected, impartial participants during peace processes and in post-conflict reconstruction. We focus on creating communities and convening groups that are connected, inclusive, and resilient.



### We support peace

The [Rotary Action Group for Peace](#) gives Rotary members resources and support to advance peace efforts and turn ambitious ideas into life-changing realities.

## Club Hub - February 2024

### "The Club Hub"

District 6110 Rotarians are *People of Action!*



The **Nevada Rotary Club** retired the old "blue wheel" logo and adds the gold Mark of Excellence" to the "Organization board." They received \$100 from the District to help!



Assistant District Governor Wally Bloss (right) presented **Aurora Rotary Club** President Carrie Howlett with a \$250 award as the district's winner for new members in the small/medium club category





**Parsons Rotary Club** members Ann Charles (left), Ron Holsteen (right) hold a \$75,000 check from Blue Cross and Blue Shield Kansas, for work on the walking trail system in Parsons. Jim Zaleski, economic development director for Parsons, and Lauren Coover, Blue Cross Blue Shield coordinator, are also pictured. The club has raised \$125,000 toward connecting and improving the walking/jogging trails in Parsons.



**The Rotary Club of McAlester** honored their Students of the Week, McAlester High School Seniors Madison Ayers (left) and Hailey Martin. Ayers has not only demonstrated her prowess on the field but has also displayed outstanding leadership and character, while Martin excels in sports and academics.



The **Rotary Club of Van Buren** has had a blast distributing dictionaries to every 3rd grader in the school district.



The **Wagoner Rotary Club** has opened registration for the Wagoner Rotary 5K Color Run on March 30 during Easter weekend. More info [HERE](#)



**The Assistant Governors** for next Rotary year met recently to engage in some learning. District Governor Elect Warren Lovinger led a great session to prepare the AGs to help clubs succeed.



District 6110 Rotary club members from the **Nevada, Carthage, Mt Vernon, and Joplin Rotary Clubs** are collecting "Shoes for Orphan Souls" to join with the other Missouri Rotary districts 6040, 6060, and 6080.



Aubrey Ringleb and Rebekah Doyle help their young shopper wrap gifts chosen for family members.



### **The Miami Rotary Club's**

Shamrock Bash is set for March 14 and featured a happy hour, dinner, dancing, auction, and an all around great time! Support the many projects of the club and attend!



### **The Broken Arrow Rotary Club**

helped local youngsters purchase holiday gifts for their family members in December. Walmart provided a checkout area and wrapping supplies. Aubrey Ringleb and Rebakah Doyle helped a shopper wrap up.



The **University of Arkansas-Fort Smith Rotaract Club** enjoyed visiting with District Governor Pam recently. Their President, Itzel Espinosa, signed Pam's banner.



The **Henryetta Rotary Club** is preparing for its annual Disc Golf tournament at Nichols Park. It boasts 36 holes and helps fund their projects.



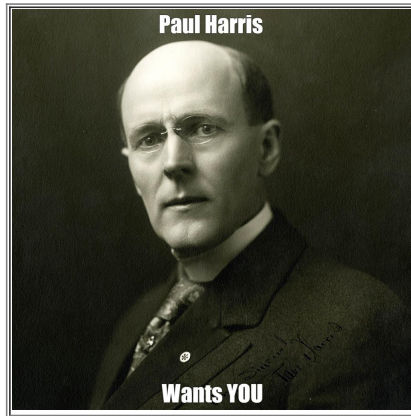
The **Rotary Club of Southeast Tulsa** completed its dictionary distribution at the Rosa Parks Elementary School.

The **Rotary Club of Pittsburg Sunrise** selected the Morning Sun newspaper as its business of the month. Wonder if this made front page news?

**WHAT'S THIS ALL ABOUT? Is YOUR club doing service to its community? Is it telling its story? Are you "People of Action?" Let us know with "just the facts" to: Wally Bloss, District Public Image Chair: [Wbloss@Gmail.com](mailto:Wbloss@Gmail.com)**

## Paul Harris Society Needs YOU

By Michele Gann



As we all know, Rotary started from the vision of one man, Paul Harris. His idea was to form an organization for local professionals where ideas could be shared, and meaningful friendships could be made. February 23, 1905, saw the first meeting of this fledgling group – a meeting that included only 4 men.

To honor our founder and promote his legacy, the Paul Harris Fellowship program was established in 1957 to show appreciation and recognition to those who contribute \$1000 total in cash or "points" to the Foundation Annual Fund or other approved funds.

The **Paul Harris Society** recognizes Rotary members and friends of the Rotary Foundation who elect to contribute \$1000 (or more) **each year**. The Society was promoted/administered by individual Rotary Districts until it

became an official Rotary Foundation recognition program in July 2013. Currently, the Society has expanded to include more than 30,000 members in 152 countries. Our District 6110 has 182 members, or more than 5% of all District 6110 Rotarians. I would love for you to help make that number grow by considering membership in the Paul Harris Society. In recognition of your dedication and support, PHS members receive a chevron to place on their Paul Harris pin.

A Paul Harris Society brochure and sign-up form are available on [rotary.org](http://rotary.org) and also are attached to the Newsletter email. Also available on the Rotary website (and attached) is the sign-up form for Rotary Direct – probably the easiest way to achieve your annual commitment. Please contact me at [mg36799@gmail.com](mailto:mg36799@gmail.com) if you have any questions.



## MAPETS - Learn how to prepare for a successful year as Club President!

- **Connecting with a cohort in the discussion and idea sharing sessions, I plan to stay in touch with ongoing.** â€” Sharon Moreland, Rotary Club of Iola
- **Great interactions in the breakout sessions with small groups. The chance to hear from and share with similar size clubs was invaluable. Made some really good connections.** â€” Jeff Hairston, Rotary Club of Rogers
- **Reinvigorated.** â€” Charles Mowrey, Rotary Club of Eureka Springs

Rotary  
Mid-America PETS

**Save the Date**  
**MID-AMERICA PETS**

**PRESIDENTS-ELECT**

**March 21-23, 2024**

WYNDHAM HOTEL & FORT  
SMITH CONVENTION CENTER  
FORT SMITH, ARKANSAS

[MIDAMERICAPETS.ORG](https://MIDAMERICAPETS.ORG)

WHAT'S THIS ALL ABOUT? PETS (President-Elect Training Seminar) provides the incoming club President with the tools needed to be successful. It is **REQUIRED** for the PE and suggested for the President-Nominee!

AND: Did you know you can be a sponsor at PETS? Get your company/name/event in front of the incoming club leaders! Contact [MJRobinson2014@Outlook.com](mailto:MJRobinson2014@Outlook.com) for more info.

## My Rotary Moment: Stanley Church

*Many of us can point to a time when we "got it" and became a Rotarian...not just someone who goes to club meetings. Please share your experience and send your "Rotary Moment" to DPIC Wally Bloss [wbloss@gmail.com](mailto:wbloss@gmail.com)*



My Rotary moment happened before I became a Rotarian. In 2003, my pastor invited me to join him on a trip to Liberia, Africa, which had been in 17 years of civil war. Needless to say, there was much poverty, destruction, and homelessness, but the situation there has since improved. Around the capital city of Monrovia there were 5 crowded displacement camps with 40 to 50 thousand people each. In one of those camps, we went to an orphanage. We stepped out of the vehicle and the children gathered around. One the girls, who had witnessed both her parents murdered by rebels, came to where my pastor knelt on one knee. She sat on his knee and asked him three questions;

Do you love me?

Will you take me home with you?

Will you come back for me?

Obviously those questions shook us to our core. After we got back home, I could hear the same questions still being asked. It wasn't being asked by the Liberian orphan girl but I could see it in the eyes of veteran with PTSD as he still fought the war in his mind, as he wondered, "does anybody care?" I could hear it in the voice of the second grader as we handed him his first book of his very own. As heard the question being asked in the town square of Saltillo, Mexico as the crippled man dragged his legs which could no longer hold his body. I could see it in his eyes as he was asking, "Does anyone love me?"

That is why I joined Rotary, so I could tell as many as I can, "YES, somebody does love you and will do everything we can to make your life better".

**WE ARE ROTARY, AND WE ARE CHANGING THE WORLD !!!**

**Stanley Church, Siloam Springs Rotary Club President**

WHAT'S THIS ALL ABOUT? What's your Rotary Moment? Send it to the Newsletter Editor, [Wally Bloss EMAIL](mailto:Wally Bloss EMAIL) and share your experience!



## The Rotary International Convention: Creating unforgettable moments and enduring friendships

By John Rains



The Rotary International Convention: Creating unforgettable moments and enduring friendships.

I have had the privilege of attending several RI Conventions around the world, from San Antonio to Atlanta in the US, to Toronto Canada and Seoul, South Korea abroad. Each one was special, unique, inspiring, and, for me, eye-opening to the enormity of Rotary.

My experiences at International Conventions have taken my Rotary journey to a higher level through the understanding that I am a part of the greatest collection of like-minded people "dedicated to creating and sharing hope through acts of service locally and around the world."

Join your fellow District 6110 Rotarians and those from around the globe at this year's Rotary International Convention and create your own Rotary experiences!

Download the convention promotional video [here](#).

Register today at <https://convention.rotary.org/>

John Rains  
Member of the Rotary Club of Tulsa  
District Governor Nominee

## Welcome New Rotarians February 2024

Have you welcomed a prospect to your Rotary club?

Begin 2024 by soliciting new members! Some clubs really work at it - they may ask a prospect to help deliver dictionaries, or pick up trash, or help with whichever action project your club does. Get their hands dirty and they'll be interested!



The **Rotary Satellite Club of Bentonville** welcomed Samantha Dinnis (right) as its newest member.



The **Mount Vernon Rotary Club's** newest member is Justin Bellis, (left)

## Rotary District 6110 New Membership Listing

New Members From: **Jan-12-2024** To: **Feb-12-2024**

Member Name	Start Date	Club	Sponsor
Adams, Joseph Barry (BARRY)	1/15/2024	Bentonville	
Bellis, Justin	1/16/2024	Mt. Vernon	Lynda Hull
Curtis, Richard L (RIC)	1/17/2024	Sapulpa	Christopher John Townsend
Dalton, Sarah Pursell (SARAH)	1/17/2024	Cassville	Debbie Gerleve
DeLay, Jenna L	2/12/2024	Mt. Vernon	Marsha Jones
Emery, Kevin	2/1/2024	Carthage	
Evans, Erica	1/26/2024	Joplin Daybreak	Michael Jason Wischmeyer
Evetts, Brenda	2/6/2024	Wagoner	
Freeman, Joan E.	1/24/2024	Tulsa Sunrise	Larua Kin
French, Tracy	1/22/2024	Bentonville	
Gebetsberger, Charles J	1/23/2024	Sapulpa	Catherine A Gebetsberger
Gilcrease, Marissa	2/8/2024	Fayetteville	Emily Mizell
Hays, Kay	1/23/2024	Tulsa Sunrise	Mike Bibb
Hund, Jaime	2/8/2024	Joplin	Robert Reaves
Jeffress, Bud	1/17/2024	Grove	Mary Richardson
Jones, Brogan	1/29/2024	Neodesha	
Keever, Amy	1/15/2024	Bentonville	
Kneer, Kimberly A	1/15/2024	Bentonville	
Kohler, Evan	2/1/2024	Fort Smith	Kenneth C. Colley, Brett Abbot
Lacayo, William	1/17/2024	Grove	Robert Brogdon
Moore, Mark	2/6/2024	Pittsburg	Santos Manrique
Munoz, Maury J	1/15/2024	Bentonville	
Patrick, John H.	1/18/2024	Carthage	Max E. Hill
Payne, Alex	1/24/2024	Nevada	Jeremy Fast
Reeder, Carolyn	2/8/2024	Bartlesville	Karen Lowe-Alton
Smith, John W	2/6/2024	Rogers	Dick Trammel
Spence, Matt	2/5/2024	Bartlesville	
Sunday, Kylar	1/22/2024	Bixby	
Tyson, Laura N	2/5/2024	Broken Arrow	Jane A Green
Wallace, Jacob	1/17/2024	Grove	Autumn Wilhelm
Wheeler, Doug	2/12/2024	Downtown Rogers	Jennifer Edwards
Wimsett, Samuel (SAM)	1/26/2024	Joplin Daybreak	Michael Jason Wischmeyer

Note: For members to appear on this list, their start date must be entered.

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