



THE COG



A Monthly Publication of the Brookings Rotary Club

MARCH 2019

March Programs

Erich Olson - Program Coordinator for March

Mar 5....Captain Carey Bretsch.....Sailing in the British Virgin Islands
 Mar 12....Dr. Christine Stewart.....2019 Great Plains Writers Conference
 Mar 19.... Caitlyn Runia.....The Big Event (SDSU volunteer day)
 Mar 26....City Councilor Mary Kidwiler.....State of the City of Brookings

MARCH BIRTHDAYS

- 1 Nadim Hassoun
- 8 Cathrene Voelzke
- 14 Susanne Bielfeldt
- 17 Mitch Steinhoff
- 22 Larry Fjeldos
- 23 Gary Gramm
- 28 Rod Schaeffer

March Sergeant at Arms is 50 year Rotarian Lewayne Erickson, Esq.

Service Above Self / One profits most who serves best

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE FOR MARCH

Our theme for this month is Water and Sanitation. As I think about this topic, there is no doubt that this is an area that I certainly take for granted in my life. I just assume that when I turn on the faucet or get a glass of water to drink, that it will be clean and sanitary. But, in many parts of the world, that cannot be assumed. Even in parts of the US, there can be concerns about the quality of our water. It was not that long ago that Flint, MI was in the news because of problems with their water system and the quality and cleanliness of the water.

Rotary has an objective to be able to have everyone have access to clean, safe water by 2030 no matter where in the world they live. The Rotary Foundation refers to these projects as WASH (Water, Sanitation and Hygiene) Projects. Despite the fact that we talk about “safe” water, having “safe” water leads to being able to provide improved sanitation and hygiene for all areas of the world. Since 2013 our Foundation has invested in more than 1,000 WASH projects in more than 100 countries around the world. This has included things like water purification systems, hygiene education, latrine construction and waste management systems.

As important as “clean” water is, it is not the only aspect of WASH projects that is necessary. Hygiene education is just as important in helping populations understand the importance of this concept in disease prevention and overall health to improve life. Students learn better through better hygiene because their overall general health is improved which allows them to be more effective students. These education projects have been very effective in Belize, Guatemala, Honduras, India and Kenya.

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BROOKINGS ROTARY CLUB TO MEET THE MEMBERSHIP CHALLENGE

Clubs in District 5610 have been given a Governor's Membership Challenge thru June 30. For the first time since 2014-15 our District 5610 has a realistic chance to increase our membership. However, to get over the finish line we need help from every club in the district. Our District Membership Chair has talked about this more eloquently than I, but every one of our clubs can identify one or two folks in your community who would be easy to recruit into Rotary. We just need to ask them!

Yours in Rotary,

[Dave Lorenz](#)

Rotary District 5610 Governor

Bring a guest to Rotary as a potential member. Let's share Rotary.

March Service Anniversaries



3-28-61	Robert Fishback	58 yrs	3-28-05	Jackie Lanning	14 yrs
3-23-77	Fred Rittershaus	42 yrs	3-04-08	Jesse Ronning	11 yrs
3-13-84	Vern Voelzke	35 yrs	3-19-13	Erich Olson	6 yrs
3-09-93	Duane Sander	26 yrs	3-25-14	Roger DeGroot	5 yrs
			3-14-17	Jason Croat	2 yr

Presidents-Elect Training (PET) is April 4-6 in Mitchell. All club officers, and especially the Club Secretary, are invited to attend. Contact President Steve Carnes (605-996-3509) or President Elect Jennifer Soma or go to the District 5610 website for more information. (sign up on line at Rotary 5610 website) District 5610 Executive Assistant Nicole Rawden will moderate the training and will cover important topics such as ClubRunner, Rotary International Club Administration, Rotary Club Central and “Lead Your Club”, a manual for club secretaries with a month to month calendar. We encourage all club secretaries and others to hop in the car with their president elects and join your fellow club secretaries and others in Mitchell on April 6. There is no cost for attending and delicious food will be available. **NOTE: Rotary International stresses that the current president of any club whose president-elect fails to attend PETS must continue as president in the coming year.*

Willie Mac Basketball at Boys and Girls Cub Saturday March 23. Rotary will help provide staff so we need you to volunteer. Save the date!! Sign up sheets will be coming around at the meetings or call Reva Johnson (562-201-3059) to get on the roster.

(President’s message continued)

Sometimes I think that the reason we take water for granted is because so much of the surface of the world is covered in water. It is estimated that 71 percent of the surface of the earth is covered by water. That is a huge amount of water with 96.5% of the water contained in the oceans. Only 2.5% of all the water is fresh water and then just 1% of our fresh water is easily accessible. The remainder is trapped in glaciers and snowfields. So yes, there is a great deal of water in the world, but very little of it is fresh water and even less of it is clean. Half of the freshwater is located in six countries. It is estimated that there are a billion people that live without access to clean, safe water.

To say that water is a “precious” resource would certainly be an understatement, but it is also a very fragile resource. Our clean, safe water can be contaminated very easily, and our lives would change drastically without clean water. Let’s not take this resource for granted and let’s help others in the world see the benefits and blessing of having water that is clean and safe.

Steve



Wedding Anniversaries for March

- Mar 6.....Nicole & Jammy Rawden
- Mar 17.....Doug & Mary Malo
- Mar 19.....Dan & Pat Little
- Mar 22.....Alan Gregg & Carol Rettkowski
- Mar 23.....Carey & Lisa Bretsch

The following Rotarians had perfect attendance in February

Steve Carnes	Marcia Janssen	Erich Olson
Isaiah Crevier	Del Johnson	Nicole Rawden
Lewayne Erickson	Millie Juel	Fred Rittershaus
Jim Gilkerson	Bruce Lushbough	Dick Smith
Alan Gregg	Doug Malo	Jennifer Soma
Lisa Hager	Doug Miller	Rick Wahlstrom
Larry Janssen	Jeni Norwood	

March Meal Schedule (HyVee)

- Mar 5.....Soup & Sandwich
- Mar 12.....Fried Chicken
- Mar 19.....Taco Bar
- Mar 26.....Lasagna