

Elizabeth Usovicz, PDG
Rotary Public Image Coordinator, Zone 31



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Elizabeth Usovicz is a 20-year Rotarian and Past President of the Kansas City Plaza Rotary Club. She served as the 2008-2009 District Governor for Rotary International District 6040, Missouri. She currently serves as the Rotary Public Image Coordinator of Zone 31. She is a facilitator, trainer and speaker for Rotary programs and districts throughout the United States. She has served as a trainer for the Rotary International Assembly, and has served on the Training teams for several Zones 30 and 31 Institutes, including as Training Chair for the 2013 Zones 30 and 31 Institute in Lexington, Kentucky. She served as General Chair for the 2016 Zones 30 and 31 Institute in Cincinnati in 2016, was Program Chair for the 2015 Institute in Baton Rouge, Louisiana, and has also served on the Zones 30 and 31 Nominating Committee, as well as an RI President's representative.

Elizabeth served as Rotary District 6040 Grants Chair for six years, and is a recipient of The Rotary Foundation's Citation for Meritorious Service. In October 2014, Elizabeth was recognized at the White House as a Rotary Women of Action honoree, and is a 2011 and 2012 recipient of the United States President's Volunteer Service Award.

Elizabeth's personal tagline is, "The Power of We is Within Us All." Her passions in Rotary are supporting AIDs orphans and at-risk children in Malawi, Africa, and she has written eight Foundation grants in support of Malawi Children's Village, and in helping Rotarians and clubs to develop and promote successful service projects. In 2015, she was instrumental in forming the D6040 Waldo Brookside Rotary Club, which was chartered with 50 members. She supports the Rotary Foundation as a member of the Paul Harris Society, a Major Donor and a member of the Bequest Society. She has especially enjoyed opportunities to meet Rotarians from around the world at International Conventions, as has been a presenter at the Rotary Conventions in Montreal, New Orleans, Lisbon, Seoul, Atlanta and Toronto. In April 2016, Elizabeth led a Vocational Training Team to Malawi as part of a Rotary Foundation Global Grant project to encourage students, especially girls, to stay in school and complete their primary and secondary educations. Her youth service also includes 8 years as a Missouri RYLA counselor.

Professionally, Elizabeth is principal of her consulting practice, WhiteSpace Consulting, focused on sales coaching, business strategy, planning retreat facilitation and qualitative research. Prior to establishing Whitespace Consulting, Elizabeth worked for organizations such as Deloitte, Kellogg's, DST Systems and the Kennedy School of Government at Harvard University. She is fluent in Spanish and French, and spent nearly 10 years working, living and doing business in Europe, Asia and Latin America.

She is a frequent motivational speaker on service leadership, volunteer leadership and business development. She is active on social media platforms and writes for three online business magazines. She also publishes her own blog on business topics, as well as a blog on service leadership for Rotarians, called the **Thought Spot**. She publishes on LinkedIn, where her profile has been one of the top 10% most viewed profiles, as well as on Twitter and Facebook.

Elizabeth grew up in Salem Massachusetts and has a strong appreciation for American history and for her Lithuanian heritage. She and her husband, Dean Mathewson, live in Westwood, Kansas.