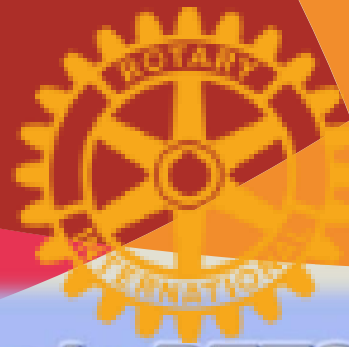


Rotary



Land of Lincoln PETS

Rotary Districts 6490, 6510, 6560 and 6580



ROTARY LAND OF LINCOLN PRESIDENT-ELECT TRAINING EFFINGHAM, IL MARCH 16-17, 2019

Register NOW by clicking on the Wheel

The purpose of the presidents-elect training seminar (PETS) is to develop club presidents who have the necessary skills, knowledge, and motivation to lead an effective club. Club Presidents-Nominees have a special session as well and are encouraged to attend.

Helping you achieve your club goals

RIDE Floyd Lancia will inspire you to lead your club to new heights.

Floyd was invited to join Rotary while serving as Superintendent of Schools in Van Buren, Maine. While a member of the Van Buren Rotary Club he served in various positions including club president.

At the 6540 District level Floyd served as District Governor in 2009-10, where he aided in the transition from Zone 28 to Zone 30. In his continued district level service he served on numerous boards and committees.

Floyd and his wife Betty Lou have three grown children and six grand children and serve the community by supporting various non-profit organizations and share the passion of the work being done through The Rotary Foundation by being Arch Klumph and Bequest Society Members

At the Zone 30 level Floyd has served as Assistant Regional Rotary Foundation Coordinator, Endowment Major Gift Advisor, governor trainer for two institutes and on two institute executive committees. Floyd is now serving as Regional Rotary Foundation Coordinator.

Some say that being Club President is the best job in Rotary. Whether it's your first time or if you have served as Club President in the past the experience is a memorable one. As Club President, you will be the "key". The key who leads the club's activities, projects, grants, membership etc. Even though it sounds a bit daunting, the opportunity to create a lasting effect on your community and in places around the world is a special one. Your year will be one where you will lead while enjoying fellowship and having fun. It's been said that "If it's not FUN, it's not Rotary".



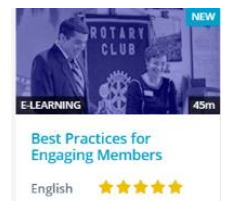
ROTARY INTERNATIONAL
DIRECTOR-ELECT 2019-2021
FLOYD LANCIA
ANTHONY WAYNE ROTARY CLUB,
FORT WAYNE, IN

Assignment 2 – Best Practices for Engaging Members

Each newsletter will contain one brief assignment for the presidents-elect. These are designed to introduce you to the course topics so you will be prepared to optimize your training at PETS. All courses are on the Rotary Learning Center found at www.rotary.org > MyRotary > Learning and Reference > Learning Center > Best Practices for Engaging Members

This course will help you develop strategies for engaging people at all stages of membership. You'll learn how to energize the club experience, make members happy, and keep your club from becoming stale.

Please submit your completed course certificate to your District Governor Elect
No later than 01/15/2019





Bethany Lerch will share "How Rotary Changes the World."

Born and raised in Oshkosh, Lerch is a former Fulbright scholar and Rotary Foundation scholar. She has BA in German and International Studies from UW Oshkosh and a Master of Letters in Terrorism Studies from the University of Saint Andrews in Scotland.

Her professional experience includes Assistant Lecturer of American Studies at the University of Leipzig in Germany, volunteer teacher in Palestine, and military trainer in Kabul, Afghanistan.

Since her return to the United States in 2016, Bethany has resumed graduate school, this time in Clinical Mental Health Counseling. Someday, she hopes to more meaningfully help vulnerable minorities and assault victims.

“Changing the World IS Possible” Through Rotary ”

BETHANY LERCH

Bethany Lerch, former Rotary Ambassadorial Scholar, 2010-2011

I knew little about Rotary eight years ago when my former high school counselor encouraged me to apply for an Ambassadorial Scholarship. He was retired, but still active in Rotary, and knew a master’s was my next step. At the time, I had just graduated from the University of Wisconsin Oshkosh and knew I needed to go to graduate school. But where and how?

Less than a week later, I received the call that I had been selected. What if, I wondered, my acceptance had to do with wanting to “change the world” someday?

The University of Saint Andrews was my graduate school home. I pursued Terrorism Studies in hopes of better understanding the phenomenon that was killing so many, so often. In spring, two faculty members took me and a dozen classmates to the Middle East to see the context of that particular enduring conflict for ourselves. It was crushing.

I zeroed in on Afghanistan with my research, marveling at the country and investigating its history of, and tendency toward, violence as a means to an end. If ever there was a country that baffled historians and social scientists, Afghanistan is it. From the Anglo-Afghan wars to the Taliban to Al Qaeda, Afghanistan remains a bit mysterious.

It took four years of independent work and international travel before I finally made it to Afghanistan as a trainer on Gender Integration and Resource Management with the U.S. government. My job was to meet incoming Coalition personnel and teach them about the overall mission, as well as the country’s political and cultural terrain.

I arrived believing in making a change, forging ahead with equal rights for women, and telling others about doing the same. Less than a month later, a young Afghan woman named Farkhunda was brutally killed by a mob in downtown Kabul. Big questions set in. Mostly I wondered if we had the right approach: What if it was all too much, too soon?

My second job in Kabul took me from NATO headquarters into the city, where I worked with Afghan consultants to help their countrymen in the Ministries of Defense and Interior. Our team included strong Afghan women. Zahra was one of them. She demonstrated competence, courage, and commitment to rebuilding her country.

Zahra explained that she hoped to attend graduate school abroad. Like my guidance counselor before me, I told her about Rotary scholarships. Unfortunately, when we turned to Afghanistan-based Rotary groups, we found them unable to facilitate the global grant application.

As an alternative, I turned back to my hometown Rotary clubs in Oshkosh, Wisconsin, USA. Would they be willing to help Zahra? They were.

The Afghan Education Project kicked off with a small group: representatives from two Oshkosh Rotary clubs, folks from the University of Wisconsin campus in Oshkosh, and I (in Kabul). The university waived out-of-state tuition; a Rotary club provided the sponsor letter to the U.S. Embassy in Kabul; and Rotarians donated to fund the cost of Zahra’s in-state tuition for a graduate degree in Educational Leadership and Policy.

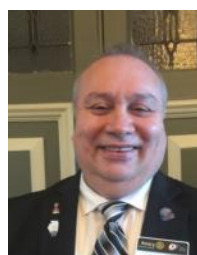
Now in her second semester, Zahra has achieved all A’s. She is gainfully employed on-campus, for which she receives free room and board and meals. She is researching more about women’s access to education in Afghanistan, specifically how ethnicity and regional cultural norms impact their access. Upon her return to Afghanistan, she plans to work in educational policy. She’d like to integrate more literacy components, diversity lessons, and tolerance best-practices into the national curriculum.

I’ve always suspected that changing the world is possible. Rotary helped change my world, then did the same for Zahra. Just as Rotary makes a difference through its global organization and local presence, so, too, will Zahra’s future leadership in Afghan education make a difference for countless young students in Kabul and beyond.

Bethany Lerch is the founding President of Rotaract Oshkosh, graduate of the University of Saint Andrews, and former Coalition Military Advisor in Kabul, Afghanistan. For more information on the Afghan Education Project, including how to support it, visit www.able-to.org.



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Register NOW by clicking on the Wheel