



Where North and South Meets East and West

# The Salina Rotator

May, 2022

A Publication for the Salina Noon Rotary Club—Organized 1917



SERVE TO CHANGE LIVES

*Together, we see a world where people unite and take action to create lasting change — across the globe, in our communities, and in ourselves.*

Meets Every Monday Noon  
Tony's Pizza Events Center  
Heritage Hall

## Member Spotlight

*This month's featured member is Alan Jilka. His diverse life experiences and talents are intriguing. May is the 'month of merriment'. Bloom where you are by inviting someone you know to join or "come back" to Rotary!*  
— Brenda O'Gorman, Membership Chair

I was born and raised in Salina. My most influential mentor at Sacred Heart High School was Jo Reed, my English teacher who turned me into a voracious reader, a habit I have carried with me throughout life. Following high school graduation I spent two years at the University of Kansas and then transferred to the University of Notre Dame where I sang in the Glee Club and graduated with a BA in history.

As a college senior I took beginning Spanish and nearly flunked it. Simultaneously I was taking an Introduction to Latin America class. The class so fired my imagination that I persisted with my Spanish and moved to Guadalajara, Mexico upon graduation. There I spent one of the best years of my life as I became fluent in Spanish and made lifelong friends. Following that year I moved to Rio de Janeiro, Brazil, and spent a year learning Portuguese. Later on I returned to Latin America for two years while in grad school and studied at both Pontifical Catholic University in Rio de Janeiro and the University of Buenos Aires in the capital of Argentina.



Ken Guest

After fifteen years away I returned to Salina around Christmas of 1995 and joined my parents in the family furniture store, Jilka Furniture. In 1997 I ran for and won a seat on the Salina City Commission. I spent the following twelve years on the commission and served three terms as mayor of Salina.

During my first campaign for the commission I met the then-superintendent of St. John's Military School, Skip McAlexander. During lunch with Skip we discovered that in our past lives we had both studied at the same university in Rio de Janeiro. Skip invited me to Rotary saying that he particularly enjoyed the international focus of the organization. I was immediately hooked and joined shortly thereafter. In my early years I assisted with many Group Study Exchange groups, exchange students and the State Department-funded visit of a group of Russian businessmen in the late 1990s.

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**NOON ROTARY TABLE PRAYER**  
Be present at our table Lord  
Be here as everywhere adored  
These mercies bless and grant that we  
May feast eternally with Thee. AMEN



Is it the truth?  
Is it fair to all concerned?  
Will it build goodwill and better fellowships?  
Will it be beneficial to all concerned?



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**PRESIDENT, ROTARY INTERNATIONAL**

Shekhar Mehta

**GOVERNOR, DISTRICT #5680**

Fred Heismeyer

**GOVERNOR ELECT, DISTRICT #5680**

Ivanhoe Love

**SALINA ROTARY CLUB OFFICERS**

President: Jenell Hulse

President-Elect: Sean Ryan

Secretary: Jeni Adams

Treasurer: Doug Alt

Immediate Past President: Michelle Peck

**BOARD OF DIRECTORS**

All Club Officers excluding Treasurer

International Service: Mitch Robinson

Community Service: Amy Cole

Membership: Brenda O'Gorman

The Rotary Foundation: John Ryberg

Public Image: Mary Landes

2019 Elected Member: Brenda O'Gorman

2020 Elected Member: Kyle Smith

2021 Elected Member Terry Burger

**COMMITTEE / CHAIRPERSON**

Sergeant at Arms: Kyle Smith

Club Service / Family: Katy England

Club Historian: Jeff Koksall

Scholarship: Aaron Morrison &

Daran Neuschafer

The Rotator: Michelle Peck & Mary Landes

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

## Birthdays

Name	Day
Jim Waters	5/4
Norm Yenkey	5/8
Jessica Martin	5/12
Bruce Wyatt	5/12
Miranda Faber	5/12
Mike Payne	5/19
Barton Bycroft	5/24
Michael Bowers	5/26
Alan Hale	5/28

## President's Message

Happy Youth Service Month, Rotarians!

In May, Rotary focuses on the many forms of youth service. Throughout the year, in Salina alone, we award numerous scholarships, sponsor youth sports teams, adopt a tremendous amount of children for Christmas, include nearly one hundred student to be our lunch guests, donate additional funds to organizations that support youth directly and indirectly, as they in turn serve their community. These are some of the many ways we support the future leaders of our community.

Yours in Rotary,  
Jenell B. Hulse

## Member Spotlight *continued from page 1*

In 2013 I changed careers and became an investment advisor at United Capital Management here in Salina. Along the way I have finished a second Master's degree, in Personal Financial Planning and achieved my Certified Financial Planner (C.F.P.) designation. In 2015 my language skills came in handy when I took in a Honduran foster son who ended up living with me for four years. Nowadays, Luis lives in Valencia, Spain and we stay in touch.

I have made a lot of life-long friends in Rotary. In addition to serving as program chair I have enjoyed participating in the musical activities of the club ranging from being a frequent member of the weekly quartet, to song leader and playing the guitar and singing for our annual Christmas programs. I have also had the opportunity over the years to attend Rotary Meetings in both Peru and Namibia. Organizations with the international breadth of Rotary are crucial to solving so many of the societal challenges we face.

## Speakers Program Chair: Alan Jilka

**May 2**



Stan and Michele Von Strohe, Smoky Hill Distillery: Marquette, Kansas

Tony's Event Center

**May 9**



Dr. Meredith Drees and Professor Alex Botz, Kansas Wesleyan: Athens (Greece) Conference on Discourse

Tony's Event Center

**May 16**



Francis Givens, Kansas Sentencing Commission

Tony's Event Center

**May 23**



Chris Wiseman, Senior Director of Manufacturing for the Schwan's Global Supply Chain Salina Campus

Tony's Event Center