



Kansas Sertoma District

Governor's Newsletter

April/May, 2007

www.sertomakansas.org



Message from the Governor

New District Governor

Sorry for the delayed newsletter – it's been a busy month! First, I want to thank those who made the journey to Regional Convention – what a great time! The food, fun and friendship were wonderful – although we could have done with a little less rain! At the convention, we held our election for the 2007-2008 Kansas District Governor. After an inspiring nominating speech by Dan Hejtmanek, the District unanimously elected Terry Cuthbertson, a member of the Topeka Evening and Leavenworth clubs and a Gold Honor President as the new District Governor. I have known Terry for several years and I know he will do a phenomenal job. If you'd like to know more about Terry, read the attached entry for the Kansas Sertoman of the Year – which Terry won!



Congratulations Terry!

John Cassida

Kansas District Governor

Regional Convention – Awards Recap

A major function of conventions is to recognize clubs and individual members through the Sertoma awards program. During our Regional Convention, the following awards were presented.

- ★ Attendance: Topeka Evening -19%
- ★ Club Newsletters:
 - 1st place, Topeka Heartland
 - 2nd place, Johnson County
- ★ National Heritage: Johnson County
- ★ Club Exhibit:
 - 1st place, Topeka Heartland
 - 2nd place, Emporia
- ★ Club Excellence: Topeka Heartland (by just 5 pts!)
- ★ Kansas Service to Mankind: Rogers Strickland, nominated by Overland Park.
- ★ Kansas Sertoman of the Year: Terry Cuthbertson, nominated by the Topeka Evening Club.

The quality of the submissions were superb! Thanks to all the clubs for their hard work and wonderful entries. (See page 3 for the winning entries and the district web site for photos).

Other Convention News

New Heart of America International Director

Please join me in congratulating Carolyn Collette from the Port Arthur, TX club as our 2007-2008 International Director.

2008 Regional Convention Location

Mark you calendars now, April 12, 2008 for our Regional Convention in Tulsa, Oklahoma.

Regional Convention Talent Show

As part of the regional convention, each district was asked to provide a short "skit" for entertainment. The *Kansas Players* presented their 5 minute version of The Wizard of Oz. We had music, backgrounds, props and even costume changes (oh my)! The audience loved the performance and I know all in involved had a great time. Overall, the judges awarded our production 2nd place (1st place went to North Texas and their Hee Haw Skit). Obviously I'm biased on this but I thought our production was 1st place all the way! All districts that participated received the same prize, Sertoma bumper stickers and a package of drink coasters.



I want to thank the Kansas Players for their all their hard work: *Terry Beck, Lee Belter, Rita, Kate and Calvin Cassida, Celia and Terry Cuthbertson, Frank Fuller, Dan and Julie Hejtmanek and Lonnie and Jean Paquette.*

District Leadership Conference June 16

Attention in coming club leaders – The District Leadership Conference is a MUST for all Presidents, Secretaries, Treasurers, Officers, Board Members and incoming leaders, but all club members are welcome! In order to start your year off right, please plan to attend! Mark you calendar now and complete the attached registration form.

District Calendar

April 25 **Lenexa 4th Annual Golf Tournament** – For details check the Lenexa website: www.lenexasertoma.org

June 16 **Kansas District Leadership Conference:** Topeka at the Jayhawk Towers (same location as last year). See attached registration form.

Aug. 2-5 International Convention, Norfolk, VA.

Oct 5-6 **Fall District Conference** – Great Wolf Lodge in Kansas City

Kansas District Membership Report as of 4/1/2007

| Club | 7/06 | 4/07 | +/- |
|------------------------------------|-----------|-----------|----------|
| Atchison Sertoma Club | 10 | 5 | -5 |
| Emporia Sertoma Club | 49 | 48 | -1 |
| Golden City Sertoma Club | 22 | 19 | -3 |
| Johnson County Sertoma Club | 33 | 29 | -4 |
| Junction City Sertoma Club | 19 | 17 | -2 |
| Leavenworth County | 26 | 28 | 2 |
| Lawrence Sertoma Club | 40 | 37 | -3 |
| Lenexa Sertoma Club | 22 | 20 | -2 |
| Manhattan Evening Sertoma Club | 35 | 34 | -1 |
| Miami County Sertoma Club | 15 | 15 | 0 |
| Overland Park Sertoma Club | 12 | 14 | 2 |
| Sertoma Luncheon Club | 29 | 23 | -6 |
| Topeka Evening Sertoma Club | 42 | 44 | 2 |
| Topeka Heartland Sertoma | 33 | 33 | 0 |
| Totals | 387 | 366 | -21 |

Sertoma International Membership Report

| 7/06 | 4/07 | +/- |
|--------|--------|-------------|
| 17,238 | 16,668 | -589 |

Recruitment Efforts

The Topeka Heartland Club held their now annual recruitment luncheon and once again with tremendous success! Thirteen attended and four signed on the spot! Congratulations to the Leavenworth County, Overland Park, Topeka Evening and Topeka Heartland clubs for their dedication to growth and the future of Sertoma!

Traveling Scroll

Just an update, the traveling scroll was last seen in Lawrence.

District Leadership

Kansas District Governor

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Kansas District Governor-Elect

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Kansas District Secretary/Treasurer

Rita Cassida
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Foundation District Representative

Dan Hejtmanek
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Lieutenant Governor – Interclub Relations

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International Leadership

2006/07 International Director

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Sertoma International

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SERTOMA KANSAS DISTRICT LEADERSHIP CONFERENCE

When: Saturday, June 16 9:00 am – 3:00 pm (registration starts at 8:30)

Where: Jayhawk Towers, 700 SW Jackson St, Topeka , KS.

****Please note:** This conference is a **MUST** for all Presidents, Secretaries, Treasurers, Officers, Board Members and in-coming leaders, but all club members are welcome! In order to start your year off right, please plan to attend! Some of the awards you will be earning this year will require attendance at these conferences. Let's get off to a good start by sending AT LEAST 5 members from each club. ******

!!!!!! NOTE !!!!!

- **Each Club is asked to bring “samples” of your club brochure, newsletter, membership materials, fund raising info coming up, and other such things you'd like to share.**

Registration Form

Sertoman's Name: _____

Club Name: _____

Your Club Office for 2007-08: _____

Any past club offices held by you: _____

When did you join Sertoma? _____

Number of members you have brought into Sertoma: _____

Number of District Leadership Conferences you have attended: _____

Number of Regional Conventions you have attended: _____

Number of Fall District Conferences you have attended: _____

Are you a Foundation member of Sertoma? _____

.....
Registration fee is \$18.00 per member. ****If your club sends 5 or more members, registration is \$15.00 per member!!** Make check payable to: **Sertoma Kansas District, mail to: Terry Cuthbertson, KS. District Governor Elect, 4222 South West Moundview Dr, Topeka, KS 66610, by Saturday, June 2th, 2007.** Coffee, donuts, Lunch & drinks are included in your registration. If you have any questions, please call Terry Cuthbertson at (785) 267-6016.



2006

Service to Mankind Award

Recipient

Rogers Strickland

Weston, Missouri

Submitted by

Overland Park Sertoma Club

Contact

Ed O'Malley, Club President

913-383-3950

omalleyeg@aol.com

Rogers Strickland came from humble and faith-filled roots – from a family that instilled values to live by the Sertoma golden rule to “Help your Fellowman.” From those early days to today, Rogers has been motivated by a desire to make life better and a little easier for the young, the elderly, the underserved and underprivileged. Rogers is a very successful business owner of Strickland Construction Company. However he did not start his adult life as a contractor. He was an active minister for a Christian Church and is still an elder in his church.

In 1998, he was asked to donate building materials for a local group that wanted to build a community center for a Mayan community in Guatemala. Because of this life-changing experience, Strickland heeded the call to be of Service to Mankind and founded Side-by-Side International. Because of this needs request, Rogers knew that he was called to explore this need and to find out if there as an ongoing need that could he could fill. Rogers knew there was, and he founded Side-by-Side International to fulfill this need.

Through this organization, 27 buildings in various communities have been constructed throughout Central America over the past six years. These facilities are being used for churches, schools, medical clinics, orphanages and work cooperatives. The number of people served is in the thousands. Rogers invites his staff to help build these buildings in third world countries and pays all expenses including salaries. Rogers pays family members’ expenses to travel and work along side of the employee.

Through the years, Rogers has invited other companies to partner with Side-by-Side International in constructing these facilities. Some of the local companies include:

- Transformational Journeys
- Butler Manufacturing Company
- Adventist Development and Relief Agency International
- Heart to Heart International
- Mission Grants Training
- Subcontractors and Suppliers for Strickland Construction
- Colleges, Universities and High School

In Guatemala, the international partners include:

- San Lucas Parish and the Rev. Greg Schaeffer
- San Andreas Itzapa Orphanage and Madre Madrino
- Association of Christian Schools International

Partners in Brazil are:

- Projecto Emanuel Orphanage
- Church of Living Water
- Favela Ministry

Partners in the Dominican Republic and in Sri Lanka are:

- Association of Christian Schools International
- The Parish of Paraiso
- Concerned Community Society in Sri Lanka

Side-by Side International has given over \$1 million to provide basic support structures to impoverished nations since its founding eight years ago. Side-by-Side International under Rogers's leadership exists not only to construct buildings but to show by example faith, hope, acceptance and personal empowerment to those who have experienced hardship and rejection by breaking down the deep-rooted shackles of poverty. Since the organization returns to these communities, relationship building can continue year-after-year.

Rogers loves baseball and he uses baseball to fulfill another need in his community. Taking a cue from one of his favorite movie "Field of Dreams," he took part of his farm land in Weston, Mo., and constructed a baseball field, including dugouts and a booth to broadcast games. Next he created a baseball tournament of local Kansas City celebrities to take on Strickland's All-Stars. He brought a "Field of Dream" team from Iowa to play his All-Stars. This tournament has generated more that \$300,000 over the last six years. These dollars are used to allow more than 3,000 children to attend a week of camp at Camp Wood YMCA, located in Elmdale, Kan. Without this financial assistance, these underprivileged children and those at risk have found respite from the daily hardships and stresses of youth and have rediscovered the joy of making new friendships and experiencing summer camp activities. These children come from Lawrence, Topeka, Manhattan, Kansas City, McPherson, Hutchison, Wichita and other communities in Kansas.

From the dusty baseball fields of Kansas City to the back unpaved roads of Third World countries, Rogers Strickland's desire to be of service to others has no boundaries. His mission has spanned multiple continents, countries and vastly different cultures. But the need has been no less in any community. Rogers always answers the call to be of Service to Mankind.

Club Endorsement

The Sertoma Club of Overland Park knows of no other more deserving of this award than Rogers Strickland. He embodies the truth and the mission of Sertoma International to be of Service to Mankind. Because of his humble desire to live a purpose-filled life, Strickland has reached thousands of young, at-risk, elderly and forgotten people around the world. Through Strickland, people have been given a glimpse of a joy-filled life and the empowerment and knowing that despite their personal hardships, it doesn't define who they are. Strickland saw a need and stepped into action as does Sertoma International.



Sertoman of the Year Award 2006

Presented to:

Mr. Terry Cuthbertson

Topeka Evening Sertoma Club
Topeka, Kansas

Club President: Mr. Bill Riphahn
785/235-1335

Each year the Topeka Evening Sertoma club's Sertoman of the Year committee sets out to decide which of its exceptional members should be bestowed with one of the highest honors a Sertoman can receive from his or her club. But this year one specific member stood out among all the rest. One member among more than 40 people lived and breathed the ideals and mission of the nearly 95 year-old service club known as Sertoma.

The Topeka Evening Sertoma Club is proud to present the 2006 Sertoman of the Year award to Terry Cuthbertson! Put simply, Terry is an extraordinary individual! In 12 very quick months, he was the president of the Topeka Evening Club, co-chaired the second most successful Sertoma Great Topeka Duck race in the event's history, chartered a new Sertoma Club and recruited members to the Topeka Evening Club.

When most people retire from their profession, they take it easy for awhile! MOST people take an extended vacation. MOST people finally do home improvements they have been putting off. MOST people finally start a hobby they have been thinking about. Well, fortunately for Topeka, Terry Cuthbertson is NOT MOST people....and he showed that by co-chairing the 11th Annual Sertoma Great Topeka Duck Race.

Knowing there were big shoes to fill as a result of Dan and Julie Hejtmanek stepping down after 10 years as co-chairs of the race, Terry jumped right in to make sure the event continued on raising much needed funds for the Topeka's most vulnerable. His fingerprints could be seen on everything "duckie". From the steering committee meetings to duck balloon placement around the city of Topeka, Terry and his wife, Celia (also an Evening Club member), did what had to be done to make the 11th annual race happen ... and did an incredible job!

Terry can brag that the 11th annual race was the second most successful Sertoma Great Topeka Duck race in its history. More than 9,200 of the 10,000 cute little yellow fellas were adopted! In October, Big Brothers/Big Sisters of Topeka (the primary beneficiary of the race) was presented a check worth \$17,500 to be used to help them fulfill their mission. In addition to BBBS, other worthwhile charities in Topeka were given thousands of dollars to help them serve more people in need.

But anyone who knows Terry knows he will never say a word about what he has done to enrich the lives to Topekan and other Sertoman. Terry will never mention that he partnered with Leavenworth, Kansas, citizens to charter the Leavenworth Sertoma Club in the middle of planning for the 11th annual Duck race. The club, chartered in June, started with 26 members and, as of November 2006, has grown to 28 members. The new club's charter banquet attracted International President Sheila Reding, International Treasurer Dennis Lawler, International Director Julie Hejtmanek, and Sertoma International Executive Director Steve Murphy in addition to other Sertomans across the state of Kansas.

Terry will also never say a word about the bi-monthly meetings he ran as the Topeka Evening Sertoma Club President and the efforts he lead to increase the club's membership numbers. Under his leadership the Evening Club had a net growth of three members, which lead to the club to be recognized at the annual International Convention.

Terry has been a driving force in the Topeka Sertoma Clubs. If he saw something that needed to be taken care of, he was ready to take action. One particular event highlights his willingness to do what is needed. While planning the 11th annual Duck race, a local car dealer, Laird Noller Ford, donated the event's grand prize – a cherry red 1965 Ford Mustang! Unfortunately, the car was in North Carolina and the Duck Steering Committee had to figure out how to get it to Kansas! Terry said, "I'll rent a trailer, hook it to my truck and drive to North Carolina to get the car!" Fortunately, Laird Noller paid to have the car shipped to Topeka, but if they hadn't, there is no doubt that Terry would have done what he said.

Terry's generous spirit is not limited to Sertoma. He also gives freely of his time to the Boy Scouts of America and his church. Celia shared that he has served on almost every committee at the church and is currently working hard on the Fellowship committee. Both Terry and Celia have been Sertoman for six years.

Terry and Celia have been married for 38 years and have two grown children, Mark and Brian. They recently welcomed Brian's wife, Melanie, into the family on New Year's Day 2006. Terry was born and raised in Minnesota where he also went to college before being drafted into the Army. After being honorably discharged from the military he moved back to Minnesota to receive a bachelor degree in Chemistry. He eventually received a Masters in Public Health Administration and worked for numerous VA

hospitals in the country before coming to Topeka in 1982. Under Terry's leadership, his team developed the Bar Code Medication Administration Program which is now used in every VA hospital in the United States.

Terry retired two years ago from the Topeka VA hospital. In what little spare time he does have, he enjoys fishing, boating, water skiing, and horseshoe pitching. In fact, during the Sunflower State Games held in July 2006, Terry ranked second in the championship class of Men's Horseshoes!

Terry is truly deserving of the Sertoman of the Year award. He has a kind heart, strong will and unmatched determination. He has spent the last year dedicating his life to not only the Topeka Evening Club, but all three Topeka Sertoma Clubs and the Kansas Sertoma district.

Thank you Terry for dedicating so much of yourself and time to Serving Mankind! We are proud to know you and serve along side you!