

The Charles N. Cadwallader Award

This award is presented in honor of the Great Rotarian, Charles N. Cadwallader, who served as President of Lincoln Rotary Club #14, as District Governor, as a Director of Rotary International, and who was the sponsor of eleven Rotary clubs in the district. The award is presented to a Rotarian in District 5650 who has made a monumental contribution in one or all of the avenues of service: Community International, Vocational, Club and Youth Service. The award has been endowed by a gift of Charles N. and Ruth Cadwallader. Past recipients:

1963	Elijah Leavitt	York
1964	William W. Cook, Sr.	Beatrice
1966	Al V. Sorensen	Omaha
1967	Paul W. Hyland	Lincoln Northeast
1968	Ervin J. Schneider	Auburn
1969	Dr. Ben H. Greenburg	York
	Dr. Donald J. Bucholz	Omaha West
1970	Robert L. Voss	Fremont
1971	Bernard J. Klasek	Wilbur
1972	Ken Wortman	Aurora
1973	J.D. Anderson	Omaha
1974	Elmer E. Magee	Lincoln #14
1975	E.J. "Pat" Keim	Fremont
1976	Vernon E. Fisher	Shenandoah
1977	Eugene J. Ely	Auburn
1978	Hugh L. Tinley	Omaha
1979	James M. Paxton	Omaha West
1980	David A. Lemen	Council Bluffs
1981	Everett R. Jones	Beatrice
1982	Earl T. Luff	Lincoln #14
1983	John Paustian	Lincoln Northeast
1984	Dr. Sol Kutler	Omaha Suburban
	Walter E. Truex	Norfolk
1985	I. Joseph Pemicone	Omaha
1986	Erwin H. Goldenstein	Lincoln #14
1987	Dr. Clarence Zimmer	Friend
1988	H.W. "Bud" Henricksen	Fremont
1989	Kermit R. Hansen	Omaha Suburban
	Wayne O. Tanderup	Seward
1990	Larry McNichols	Omaha Suburban
1991	Thomas E. Gouttierre	Omaha
1992	Dr. Donald W. Miller	Lincoln #14
1993	Paul F. Foster	Shenandoah
1994	Rudolph E. Tomek	Humboldt
1995	David C. Livingston	Lincoln #14
1996	William R. Mann	Nebraska City
1997	Robert L. Carlisle	Norfolk
1998	Dr. Ann Coyne	Omaha Suburban
1999	Roger R. Ludemann	Lincoln #14
2000	William E. Ramsey	Omaha
2001	Dr. George Lytton	Lincoln South
2002	Dan Rose	Wayne
2003	Lyle Sapp	Omaha Suburban
2004	Mary Linn Sonnemaker	Bellevue
2005	Nicolette S. "Nicki" Klein	Lincoln South
2006	William Schmeckle	Lincoln #14
2007	J. Robert Perrin	Omaha Suburban\
2008	Joseph K. Roberts	Lincoln South
2009	Joanne Peters	Omaha Suburban
2010	Robert Knox	Council Bluffs
2011	Harry Reyburn	Omaha Suburban
2012	Ozzie Gilbertson	Lincoln East
2013	Roxy Orr	Omaha Suburban
2014	Thomas Cardwell	Lincoln South
2015	Charles Erickson	Lincoln East
2016	Dorothy Zimmerman	Beatrice
2017	Curt Peters	Omaha Suburban
2018	Dr. John Herdman	Lincoln South
2019	Gretchen Bren	Omaha Downtown



Presents the 2020 Cadwallader Award



Clay Ehlers
Lincoln South Rotary Club

Rotary District Conference
July 25th, 2020

Clay Ehlers

Clay Ehlers is a mentor and an inspiration to many. He is a humble leader and a servant leader. He cares and is true to his word. When Clay takes on a project, you know it will be done. Clay is a man of character, and there is no higher praise than that. He is active in his church and in the school activities of his daughter. Clay's skills are vast and we have especially gained from his people skills, analysis, critical thinking and problem-solving talents. Clay was appointed to the Lincoln South Rotary Club Board to fill a vacancy and was chosen because of his leadership abilities. Clay says that Rotary has helped shape him as an adult. Anyone who meets Clay soon learns about Rotary and what it means to him. He is generous with his time and treasures and motivates us all to be better Rotarians and better people. He often is the first to see an upcoming need or to present an idea and then will be one of the first to step in to a leadership role

District Service: He has served as Assistant Governor 5 years and has agreed to serve in 1921-22. He is fully dedicated to the success of the Clubs he represents. He was among the District's Emerging Leaders attending Zone in the Fall of 2016.

Club Service: Clay was Club President from 2015-2016. When his successor was unexpectedly transferred out of the city three months into his Club Presidency, Clay stepped up and finished that term as President. He was awarded Outstanding Club President by the District Governor because of his effectiveness, not only for one term, but for two as Club President. During both terms, the Club was awarded 1) The Rotary Citation, 2) Number 1 Club in the District, and 3) In top 4 in Per Capita Giving to The Annual Fund. Additional awards during those two years were 1) Overall Project, 2) International Service Project, and 3) Conference Attendance Award. Individual awards earned by Clay include the District Outstanding Club president, Club Rotarian of the year, and the Club Sower Award designed to recognize consistent service for multiple years. Clay supports every fundraiser of the Club and the Club's Foundation and is currently serving as the Club's Foundation President. He has served as Assistant Governor 4 years and has agreed to serve in 1920-21. He was among the District's Emerging Leaders attending Zone in the Fall of 2016.

Vocational Service: Clay shares Rotary at work. He invites co-workers to attend events and meetings, sharing his passion for Rotary and for Service. Lincoln South Rotary has benefited from Clay's skills. We regularly rely on his ability to work with people when dealing with sensitive issues in the Club. Clay believes in the Four-Way Test, applies it in all that he does, and he shares it with others.

Community Service: Clay often shares that one of the reasons he joined Rotary was to give back to the community. He believes in hands-on service and is certain to recommend and support projects that provide that opportunity to our members. The 2014-15 Rotary Citation included a Rotary Days event which Clay coordinated with other Lincoln Clubs (only a handful of District Clubs held Rotary Days events). He regularly delivers Meals-On-Wheels and he recruits a partner among his co-workers and friends. He also takes his daughter and other family members along the route. Often this is his way of introducing others to the concept of service through Rotary.

International Service: Clay, along with his family, has hosted multiple Youth Exchange Students. He is certain to expose them to a variety of experiences as students but also as visitors to the United States ensuring they are immersed in our culture. Likewise, he includes them in Rotary events. Clay's family moved to India for a year as part of his wife's work assignments. Having Rotary as a background helped him adapt to the move. And, he shared their experience with our Rotary Club upon his return helping us all understand a new culture.

Youth Service: Under Clay's leadership, Lincoln South Rotary Club became a co-sponsor of the UNL Rotaract Club. He soon connected with Koko, a student from The Ivory Coast. Clay helped as the club developed the wheelchair project to help polio survivors. With Clay's help, we have regular visitors from the UNL Rotaract Club to our meetings, projects and events. An ongoing all-club event in Lincoln is the Dictionary Project and Clay has been our club chair for a number of years. He makes sure that we have volunteers to deliver dictionaries to every fourth-grade student in our city. His area of coverage can be as many as 15 schools across Lincoln. Clay is our club's Youth Service Chair ensuring that we have students to attend RYLA and helping redesign the scholarship selection process.