



# CROSS CURRENTS

DISTRICT 5580  
GOVERNOR, DEBRA WARNER 2017-2018



October 2017

## Hello and a happy fall to all of you!

Ed and I have had a wonderful time traveling in the District this month! We have visited 31 clubs thus far and continue to be amazed at the dedication and commitment that Rotarians in our District have in making a difference in the world! Thank you for all that each of you do in your community and around the world. We visited many parks that our clubs have helped to provide for the community and enjoyed our time as we traveled to the far Western clubs! I like to visit clubs when I



can for special events and I had so much fun at the Kings Feast fundraiser that the Rotary Club of Brainerd sponsored! A special thank you to Ruthie Gmeinder for providing me and

many others the fantastic costumes for this event. District Governor Nominee Rick Bricker has submitted an article in the newsletter regarding this event.



**Rotary International's theme for the month of October is Economic and Community Development** which is one of the six Areas of Focus in Rotary. Nearly 800 million people live on less than \$1.90 a day. Rotarians around the world are passionate about helping get people out of poverty. Rotary has many resources to help clubs if they are interested in helping to grow both local and international economies. The Rotary Foundation enables Rotarians to invest in people by creating sustainable, measurable and long term economic improvements in their communities and their livelihoods. In the following link, you will find a guide that

explains how you and your club can get involved:

[file:///C:/Users/owner/Downloads/619\\_economic\\_community\\_development\\_project\\_strategies\\_en.pdf](file:///C:/Users/owner/Downloads/619_economic_community_development_project_strategies_en.pdf)

When Ed and I travel to Rotary International Conventions, we are always drawn to the Economic Development strategy of Micro Loans. Micro loans are given to people, mostly women, who will pay the loan back with a small interest in a timely manner. The money is loaned out again to the same borrower or another to help develop the community. This is possibly the biggest anti-poverty tool that we have in Rotary. Training is key so the recipients know how to run all the facets of their business. We agree with the premise that by awarding loans we are empowering people and not creating dependency; it is not charity. These loans are given out to motivated, focused individuals who want to work hard to uplift their life and the life of

their family. There is a Rotary Action Group for this concept. A Rotary Action Group is an autonomous group of Rotarians who are experts in a field and share this expertise by

collaborating with clubs and districts. The link for this action group is: <http://ragm.org/p/home.asp>. You will find many great ideas on this site and may be motivated to have your club work on a project! Please see the article submitted by Kathy Adams, wife of Rotarian Rick Adams, regarding a micro loan program in Haiti that was made possible by Rotarian Lynn Hunt. If you or your club would like to learn more about this program and how you might get involved, please contact Rick at [rickad@uslink.net](mailto:rickad@uslink.net).

I am asking all clubs to hold an event to recognize World Polio Day on October 24<sup>th</sup>, 2017. Please see the information our Executive Secretary Gloria has provided in this newsletter regarding hosting an event. Past District Governor Craig Loughery has submitted an article on how his club in Ely, MN held a successful event. Also, please see the article that Past District Governor Gary Nolte and Zone End Polio Now Coordinator and District Polio Plus Chair Cindy Nolte have submitted regarding an update on polio.

Please register for the One Rotary Summit which will be held in Fargo, ND on October 21<sup>st</sup>, 2017. This is an exciting program where you will return home with ways to implement Rotary's People of Action campaign, while gaining a better understanding of how membership, foundation and public image work together to enhance your club. You will return to your club with a renewed vibrancy for Rotary!

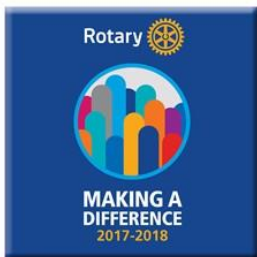
Have a fantastic October and Ed and I look forward to meeting with several of you this month during our club visits!

Yours in Rotary Service,

*Debra K. Warner*

Debra Warner  
District 5580 Governor 2017-2018





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**Gloria Mink**  
**Executive Secretary**  
**Rotary District 5580**

Some of you have learned that I enjoy adventure; Tough Mudder Events, Extreme 5ks, jumping from heights, and

more. The Tough Mudder Full is an 11-mile event with 20 obstacles and the best part is that it must be completed as a team. My first few months as Executive Secretary for District 5580 has been an adventure as well. I have enjoyed getting to know District Leadership and can't wait for every new experience this role offers. We have an incredible team in our District! Here are some upcoming events.

Attention enthusiastic Rotarians! **ONE ROTARY SUMMIT** joins together Rotary leaders to exchange ideas on energizing and boosting your club for growth, service and public interaction. Rotarians are Leaders! Engage fresh new thinking and take home hands-on tools to strengthen membership, public image and involvement in Foundation programs. Join us on October 21, 2017 at Holiday Inn – Fargo from 9:00 a.m. to 12:00 noon. [Register today!](#)



The next deadline for submission of applications for **District Grants and World Community Service (WCS) Grants** will be October 31, 2017. You can visit the [Grants 2017-2018 Site Page](#) for more information. If you have any questions about the Grants process please contact our District Grants Chair, [Dave Long](#).

**Proposed Bylaw Amendments** are due in the District Office by November 1, 2017. You can access a copy of the current Bylaws from the District Website on the [Bylaws Site Page](#). For questions regarding proposed Amendments or regarding the existing Bylaws, please contact D5580 Bylaws Chair, [Robert Russell](#).

I recently sent out an email announcing that the annual **District 5580 4-Way Test Essay Contest** is now underway. Please note that the deadline for submission of the Four-Way Test Essay Contest has been changed this year. The new deadline is **December 31, 2017**. You can download all the following materials from the [4-WAY ESSAY SITE PAGE](#). Materials for download include: club guidelines, student Guidelines, sample news release, poster, and a previous Winning Essay.

Please send your club's 4-Way Test Essay entry to [Rozanne Casey](#) at the address below.

Rozanne Casey  
1502 1st Ave SW  
Grand Rapids, MN 55744

## UPCOMING DEADLINES

SUBMISSIONS DUE

GRANT APPLICATIONS

OCTOBER 31, 2017

PROPOSED BYLAW AMENDMENTS

NOVEMBER 1, 2017

4-WAY TEST ESSAYS

DECEMBER 31, 2017

## SAVE THE DATE:

ROTARY ALUMNI RECONNECT WEEK

OCTOBER 2-8, 2017



OCTOBER 21, 2017

ROTARY'S WORLD POLIO DAY LIVESTREAM EVENT

OCTOBER 24, 2017

WORLD INTERACT WEEK

OCTOBER 30, 2017 - NOVEMBER 5, 2017

GRANTS MANAGEMENT SEMINAR

NOVEMBER 18, 2017

Where are we in the fight to end polio? What are our successes and challenges? Find out during a live event on **World Polio Day, October 24<sup>th</sup>, 2017**. You won't want to miss [Rotary's World Polio Day Livestream Event!](#) You can [Download Sample Social Media Messages](#), [find an event](#) near you, or [register your event](#) at <https://www.endpolio.org/world-polio-day>







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## HOW WILL YOU CELEBRATE WORLD POLIO DAY ON 24 OCTOBER?

### Join the celebration

and host an event in your community. Hundreds of clubs around the world have already registered their World Polio Day events at [endpolio.org](http://endpolio.org).

In Bangladesh, the Rotary Club of Dhaka Mavericks is organizing vaccination campaigns at 10 maternity hospitals.

In England, the Rotary Club of Thorpe Bay will host a concert by Alex Mendham and His Orchestra to raise funds for polio eradication.

Rotary's decades of advocacy, fundraising, education, and immunizations have reduced worldwide polio cases by more than 99.9 percent. But the world's children aren't safe from this disease until it's 100 percent gone. Join the fight.

PLAN YOUR EVENT

REGISTER YOUR EVENT

### Polio: Now we're counting on you!

Polio cases:

Year to date: 10 cases. 2016 year to date: 24 cases. 2015: 74 total cases. 2014: 359 cases. These are the hard numbers in our polio eradication effort. Here are some other numbers- Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation: US \$450 million. Pakistan: \$154 million. Rotary International: \$150 million. Nigeria: \$134 million. United Kingdom: \$130 million. European Commission: \$61 million. And most recently, New Zealand: \$9.6 million. Plus many other partners have contributed to this effort.

Now, as Rotarians, it is our turn. You could write a check, sponsor a fund raiser,

and educate your community and Rotary club about this important endeavor. Two years ago, our District 5580 was number one in our Zone for donations to eradicate polio. Last year we were number six out of twelve. We can do better.

As we approach the end game we are using the inject able vaccine to supplement the oral vaccine drops. A new formulation of the drops will eliminate type 2 polio vaccine. This type 2 has not been found in the wild since 1999, and is the reason for vaccine-derived polio outbreaks. The inject able vaccine is more expensive to produce and administer.

Bill and Melinda Gates have pledged to match our donations to this effort at the rate of two to one. Rotary International and our partners are confident that this goal of eradication can be achieved. Speakers are available to present at your club. With all of us helping, we can make this happen!

Yours in Rotary,

Gary (Zone 28 end polio now coordinator) and Cindy (District 5580 end polio now coordinator) Nolte.

[NOL951@aol.com](mailto:NOL951@aol.com)



### October 24th...World Polio Day

Need an idea for your club? How about this...

Purple Pinky Day....

Create awareness about the struggle to finally eliminate Polio...

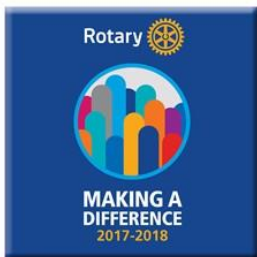
Get members involved with a hands-on project...get out and be seen by your local community...and raise funds for Polio, using this simple, easy-to-do project...

Numerous clubs, including several in this District, have done this in recent years...Here's How...

- 1.) get permission from your local grocery store, mall, or other center of shopping traffic;
- 2.) Set up a table near the entrance/exit, and staff it with one or two Rotarians. It is good that they wear Rotary clothing or identifications.
- 3.) have Polio literature available, along with a purple marker and a few clear glass jars with a few dollar bills showing.
- 4.) As shoppers pass by, many will ask what you are collecting for. This is your opportunity to create awareness about Polio, Rotary, and your club specifically
- 5.) Explain how once children in poor countries are vaccinated, their fingers are painted purple to show they have received their protection.
- 6.) Offer to paint the little finger of the shopper- or their child (kids love this) purple for a small donation.

It is truly amazing how eager to help most people will be. Always say "Please" and "Thank You." This is also a good opportunity to hand out info about your local club. Try it!





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#### 2018 DISTRICT 5580 CONFERENCE "BUILDING BRIDGES – GOODWILL & FRIENDSHIP" APRIL 26 – 28 THUNDER BAY, ONTARIO

Our District Conference in 2018 will be in Thunder Bay hosted by the four Canadian Clubs in our District – Nipigon Rotary, Fort William Rotary, Port Arthur Rotary, and Lakehead Rotary. Members of the 4 Clubs are contributing to the planning of the Conference under the chairmanship of Wayne Robinson, President of the Lakehead Club for 2017/18. The Conference Committee has been meeting and working on the Conference for months guided by our District Governor, Debra Warner, and with help and advice from the leadership of the 2017 Conference in Tower, MN.

The theme for our Conference has been chosen – "Building Bridges... Goodwill & Friendship" - acknowledging Rotary International and the capacity of Rotary, Rotary Clubs and Rotarians around the world to "make a difference" through goodwill and friendship...and the application of human and financial resources when needed. One can see the results of Rotary's "bridge-building work" in many ways:

Building Bridges to End Polio  
Building Bridges for...

Peace and conflict prevention/resolution  
Disease prevention and treatment  
Water and sanitation  
Maternal and child health  
Basic education and literacy  
Economic and community development  
and  
Building Bridges from Yesterday to  
Tomorrow

We also acknowledge in our theme a real bridge constructed in our early years – the "Outlaw Bridge" – that crossed the Pigeon River.

**The Outlaw Bridge:** *Despite the increasing popularity of the automobile, their increasing reliability and the fact that Duluth was only two hundred miles away, it was not possible in 1916 to drive from the Lakehead cities to Duluth. There was a road through the Township of Neebing as far as Pigeon River, and, on the Minnesota side, there was a road through Cook County as far as the other bank of the River, but no bridge joining them. Anxious to extend their Rotary fellowship into the international sphere, Rotarians from the Fort William-Port Arthur Rotary Club, and the Duluth Club, decided that they would get the bridge built themselves. Americans and Canadians made that happen and made a difference. The 100<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the Outlaw Bridge was celebrated on August 18, 2017. We hope to tell more of the story of the Outlaw Bridge at our District Conference in Thunder Bay.*

Our Conference Committee recently settled on a Conference logo to go along with the theme. It features the 2017/18 Rotary theme bound by the hands of friendship to our world and all the people living on it.



As for the Conference, we are finalizing arrangements with our keynote and break-out speakers and putting finishing touches on plans for an entertaining Ice Breaker, but more on that later. We plan to provide area Rotarians with monthly stories and updates on our Conference through our District newsletter. Stay tuned.

Clint Kuschak, Conference Committee

#### WOMEN'S ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT/REVOLVING LOAN FUND (submitted by Kathy Adams)

With a medical clinic, sanitation, clean water, a school, a community center, a rice mill and 100 new homes being built in the village through the collaborative work of multiple organizations, economic development is a primary focus. Thirty women have received business training and business loans to establish small businesses and we are praying about how to further develop the program to benefit existing business women in Garde Saline as well as women in the surrounding area.

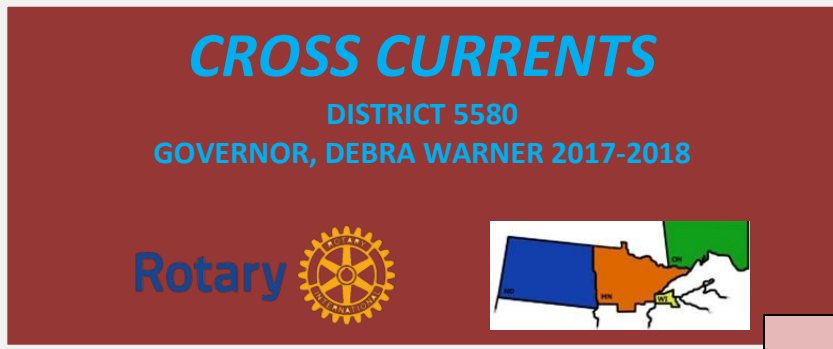
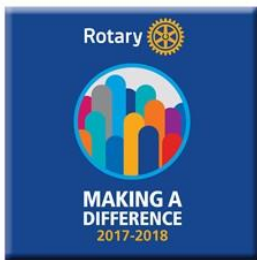
In May, we learned that five of the first program participants have left the village, some moving to the Dominican Republic, where they believe they will have greater opportunity. While all of the women have repaid their loans, or are in the process of doing so. Because they are the new 2017 participants in the program, success is not solely measured in financial terms.

As we interview the women, they are grateful for this opportunity. They tell us that people see them differently; now, they see that they are working to support their families, they are leaders and



mentors for younger girls and men respect them for the contributions they make to their families and the village. This is perhaps the greatest measure for them as in Haiti women are often marginalized, even though they work tirelessly.





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Rosemarie Predestin, is an example of one of these women. She serves on the Leadership council, is learning how to sew from classes offered at the community



center, operates a business from the Women's Economic Development Program and works as an Assistant in the medical clinic. Thanks to the financial support of a donor couple to *The Faith Project*, she will enroll this fall as an LPN student. She tells us that with income from her business, she is able to send her children to school, pay for food and she was able to buy four goats. Unfortunately, the goats were lost to the torrential rains in early 2017, but she continues to be optimistic about what the future holds. "There are opportunities here, now and there didn't use to be. God is blessing us all." Thanks to Hope for Haitians and their housing construction in 2016/17, she will get a new home this year! (Her home has been one of the poorest in the village).

As we asked the women to evaluate the economic development program and provide input into how it might be strengthened for greater impact, they continue to tell us that larger loans are needed to expand their product lines, inflation is difficult in this country and that having to travel such great distance to purchase product is costly. We are in the process of redesigning the program, spending time in prayer, researching other programs in developing countries and discussing it with the village Leadership Council.

#### District 5580 Foundation and Grants

District Grants Subcommittee Chair (DGSC) Dave Long and District Rotary Foundation Chair (DRFC) Keith Brokke will be working on deleting outdated and updating information on the **District 5580**

**website.** If you or your club have input or suggestions, please contact either of them.

The **Grants Management Seminars (GMS)** normally held in late January and early February will be held on November 18, 2017 this year for D5580 Rotarians. We strongly encourage all President Elects and those writing grants to attend. The GMS is a requirement if a club is planning to apply for any of the D5580 grants offered. There will also be a **webinar based GMS** for those Rotarians who've attended a face-to-face GMS in past years. All GMS classes will be limited to 2 ½ hours this year as per instructions of Rotary International. Once the webinar based GMS has been developed, an email will be forthcoming from Executive Secretary Gloria Mink.

#### PDG Herb Schmidt has been appointed D5580 International Service Chair.

Herb will review and vet all requests for International projects and assist D5580 Rotary Clubs in completing Global Grants and in their search for financial partners.

#### Digital Literacy—An Essential Life Skill

The word "literacy" encompasses many areas of comprehension and communication. One of these areas that is vital in today's world is Digital Literacy. This includes the ability to use devices such as laptops, smart phones, the internet and social media. In his book entitled Digital Literacy, Paul Glistler defines digital literacy as "usage and comprehension of information in the digital age." He also emphasizes that digital technologies are an "essential life skill".

The Public Library Association has a free website, endorsed by the Minnesota Literacy Council, that includes self-directed tutorials and learning plan options for learners and also provides tools and resources for teachers and trainers. The website is [DigitalLearn.org](http://DigitalLearn.org).

Check it out for more information and ideas!

What is your Club doing to promote Literacy? I would be happy to share your efforts and successes through the Newsletter.

Marge McPeak  
District Literacy Chair  
[mcpeak@northlc.com](mailto:mcpeak@northlc.com)

#### Kings Feast

##### Brainerd Noon Rotary FUNdraiser

On the eight day of the ninth month in the year 2017 the Lords and Ladies of the land gathered at the castle of Parker Scout Camp for great food and merriment.

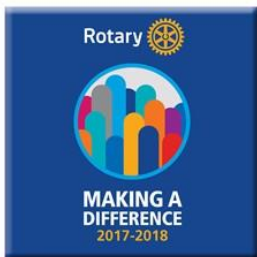


President King Peter the Great welcomed all, including Queen Warner from the



district 5580. Free wine and beer was had by all along with a feast of rib-eye steak, shrimp, corn on the cob, mushrooms and potatoes. Music was provided by the Rockin Hill band. The Lords and Ladies raised \$9000 for the Kings charities.





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## GRAND RAPIDS STUDENTS ARE MAKING AN IMPACT IN AFRICA

Members of the Grand Rapids High School (GRHS) Interact Club spent last school year working to make a difference for high school girls in Senegal, West Africa by partnering with the organization Days for Girls.



"After my trip to Senegal last year with Teachers for Global Classrooms, I heard about this wonderful organization that provides girls the opportunity to stay in school," explained GRHS social studies teacher Brielle Carlson. "In many developing countries around the world, girls don't have feminine products so they must miss days of school each month when they have their periods."

Research shows that girls who are educated wait longer to get pregnant, help stop the cycle of poverty, and help support their families and communities. That is why Days for Girls helps to provide reusable feminine hygiene products to girls across the world.

Having seen firsthand what girls can

experience without access to those products while in Kothiyari, Senegal, Carlson brought the idea to the Interact Club, a Rotary-sponsored club for high school students.

"Our students were excited to have a project that they knew would directly impact other students their age," said Carlson.

The project quickly drew the support of the community. Carlson created an Amazon Wishlist that anyone could purchase items from. Once the supplies were gathered, students met to prep those supplies. Students cut flannel, traced and cut patterns, and ironed the fabric.

After many after-school meetings to prep the kits, St. Joe's Quilting Group stepped in to complete the sewing.

"It was so wonderful to have their help since we did not have sewing experience in our group," said Carlson.

The quilting group worked for months to complete all the components of the hygiene kits. Later in the spring, the completed kits were assembled and shipped to Salamata Diao, a community leader and English teacher in Kothiyari.

"My community is fond of the kits and now some girls come to ask for more for their friends or sisters," said Diao. "Girls are telling me that they are proud and feel more clean and confident with the kits."

More information about Days for Girls is available at [www.daysforgirls.org](http://www.daysforgirls.org).

## Ribbon cutting of a new pavilion at Davidson Park Williston Rotary Club



Members of Williston City government, the Williston Area Chamber of Commerce, Rotary, the Noon Lions and the Korner Lions gathered Friday for the ribbon cutting of a new pavilion at Davidson Park. The pavilion was funded by Rotary and the city's two Lions clubs. After the ceremony, the groups held a cookout for the public and signed the pavilion over to the city.

## ROTARY BREATHES NEW LIFE INTO OLD CEMETARY

Members of the Rotary Club in Little Falls and family of Rotary club member Anna Tykwinski got down and dirty August 19<sup>th</sup>, clearing overgrown grave sites at St. Adalbert's Cemetery on Airport Road in Little Falls. St. Adalbert's church was in operation from 1896 to 1957. The cemetery is currently owned by St. Mary's Catholic Church. Jim Bircham uncovered the



headstone of 2-year-old Joseph Knoll, born in 195 and died in 1917. Please see the full article in this link:

<http://mcrecord.com/2017/08/25/rotary-breathes-new-life-into-old-cemetery/>