



Telluride Rotary Club

December 2020 Year In Review

Who's Who for the 2020-21 Club Fiscal Year

- Club President:** Nancy Kerr
- President-Elect:** Sarah Lavender Smith
- Secretary:** Mark Hauswald
- Treasurer:** Garrett Brafford
- Additional Board members:**
Brian Watson, Madeline Allen
- District Trainer:** Bonnie Watson
- Youth Committee Co-Chairs:**
Patricia Kiernan and Nancy Kerr
- RYE Officer:** Patricia Kiernan
- RYE Counselors:**
Anneliese Riebel, Mark Hauswald & Nancy Kerr
- Community Services Committee Co-Chairs:** Madeline Allen and Sarah Lavender Smith
- Rotary Interact Club Leader:**
Alex Rudback
- Environmental Sustainability Officer:** Madeline Allen
- International Service Committee Chair:** Mark Hauswald
- Rotary Foundation for Rotary International Chair:** William McKee
- Assistant Governor for District 5470:**
Susan Lisak
- Red Ball fundraiser organizers for 2021:**
Brian Watson and Marilyn Branch



Highlights from An Unforgettable Year

Telluride Rotary's 75th year was like no other. During this unprecedented time of pandemic restrictions that put regular meetings on hiatus, Telluride Rotary managed to keep connecting its members.

We held our first in-person meeting since the pandemic, socially distanced in Town Park, on June 17. We then began meeting over the summer over dinner at Rustico's, with spaced-out seating, masks and other Covid-19 precautions. When a new wave of the pandemic restricted indoor gatherings, we switched to meeting online via Zoom, so at least we could hear and see each other on the computer screen.

Telluride Rotary responded to Covid-19's impact on the community by giving grants to Telluride Distillery to make hand sanitizer, to the Telluride Medical Center to support its employees, to the Pinhead Institute to make and distribute face shields and hand sanitizer dispensers, and to Telluride School District to purchase a smart video conference camera to use in classrooms so that students who are attending class remotely at home can be visually and audibly connected to the teacher and students in the classroom. More recently, the club donated to the school district for "gym bags" with activities and equipment to go to elementary and intermediate students for at-home PE.

Over the summer, the club really "got high" with some outdoor adventure. On August 22, we held the highest-ever meeting in North America at the summit of Imogene Pass. Twenty-three members and guests took part, riding in vehicles provided by Telluride Outside, thanks to Rotarian Roger Young. At the summit, President Nancy Kerr welcomed everyone and shared a plaque given by District 5470 in honor of the club's 75 years. Rotarian William McKee, the club's Chair

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Rotary International

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Penne & William McKee on Imogene



Paul Harris Fellow awards on Imogene



Telluride Rotarians on the Via Ferrata



Halima Behroz & Danika Gilbert

for the Rotary Foundation of Rotary International, gave remarks on the history of Rotary and the meaning of the Paul Harris Fellowship. He and Membership Chair Doug Avery presented Paul Harris Fellowships for recognition of Service Above Self and volunteering for the club to Penne McKee and Sarah Lavender Smith.

About a month later, in late September, seven intrepid club members (Garrett Brafford, Mark Hauswald, Patricia Kiernan, Brian Watson, Betsy Thompson, Hill Hastings and Sarah Lavender Smith) “hung out” together by traversing the Via Ferrata!

Thanks to the leadership of Madeline Allen, Telluride Rotary also embraced Rotary International’s seventh and newest priority, the environment (the other six being: promoting peace, fighting disease, clean water and sanitation, maternal and child health, supporting education and literacy, and economic development). Working with representatives from Wilkinson Public Library, Madeline applied for and received a grant from the American Library Association to create a new community climate education and action series through the library, which will launch in the coming year. Madeline also serves on the steering committee of Rotary International’s Environmental Sustainability Rotarian Action Group.

This month, the club donated \$500 to Angel Baskets for food and gift-card packages to those in need, and encouraged individual members to donate as well. Thanks to everyone for their generosity.

Guest Speakers Make Telluride Rotary a Hub for Exchanging Information & Ideas

The club invited and heard from a long line of inspiring guest speakers this year. In the coming year, we will ask more club members to talk about their businesses and livelihoods, in order to enhance the club’s networking. Thanks to Sarah Lavender Smith, Nancy Kerr and Linda Avery for volunteering to arrange guest speakers.

Here are some of the speakers who spoke to Telluride Rotary in person or via Zoom since spring:

- Telluride Foundation President Paul Major and Rotarian Bonnie Watson of the Telluride Venture Fund spoke on how the region is responding to the economic challenges and humanitarian needs of the pandemic.
- Ridgway resident Danika Gilbert, who leads Ascend: Leadership Through Athletics, a nonprofit working to empower women in Afghanistan through mountaineering and sports, and Halima Behroz, a young woman from Kabul who is mentored by Gilbert and who was seeking tuition assistance to attend Colorado Mesa



Sheriff Bill Masters



Nancy Kerr & Mayor DeLanie Young



Mark Kozak & Emma Walker-Silverman



A Zoom meeting with Tri-County Health Network guest speakers

University, spoke about the challenges women face for equity and justice in Afghanistan.

- Sheriff Bill Masters spoke about his four decades of serving San Miguel County and his views on the current climate of law enforcement, and how his approach to peace-keeping bucks the national trend.
- Telluride Mayor DeLanie Young joined the club for a Q&A and to talk about her priorities and concerns.
- Mark Kozak, executive director of the Telluride Science Research Center, described some of the amazing things going on at the center, including how they're helping the community respond to the covid threat.
- Fellow Rotarian and former Mayor, the Hon. Sean Murphy, spoke about his new role as San Miguel County Court Judge and the day-to-day cases and challenges the county judges face.
- Joshua Feliz Martinez and Ross Valdez, of the Tri-County Health Network's Multi-Cultural Advocacy Team, spoke about the outreach they do to create more access to services, equity and cross-cultural understanding in the community.
- School superintendent and new Telluride Rotary member John Pandolfo described how faculty and students managed the fall semester under the pandemic's new hybrid (partly remote, partly in classroom) learning model.
- Emma Gerona, executive director of EcoAction Partners in Telluride and a former Rotary Youth Exchange student, talked about her nonprofit's work on sustainability issues.
- Chad Horning and Jeff Proteau of Telski talked and took questions about how the ski resort is managing this covid-cautious season and what their outlook for the season is.

We'll continue holding meetings via Zoom on the 1st and 3rd Tuesdays of the month at 5:30pm, with more engaging speakers. We hope as many members as possible will participate.



First in-person meeting in Town Park after the spring shutdown.



Nancy delivering a baby in Haiti in 2010 following their devastating earthquake.



Mark and Nancy



Nancy, Mark, RYE student Arthur, and Betsy Thompson



Nancy and Mark with the District Governor receiving a certificate celebrating Telluride Rotary's 75th year.

Member Spotlight: Club President Nancy Kerr

If you follow Telluride Rotary on Facebook or Instagram, you'll see that we occasionally post "member spotlights" with Q&As. The following was published online over the summer to profile our 2020-21 club president.

How long have you been in Rotary? "I joined Rotary approximately ten years ago, when Mark and I were working in Malaysia. When we returned to Telluride, we joined the Telluride Rotary Club."

What do you do? "I have retired from clinical practice as an obstetrician gynecologist after delivering about 10,000 babies. I'm now focused on global health research and clinical projects in Papua New Guinea and Nepal to prevent women from dying in childbirth and to improve access to modern ultrasound equipment and skills for primary care and OB/GYN practitioners. I also do occasional volunteer teaching of medical students at University of New Mexico. Of course, I ski and hike and attend festivals. I also travel internationally with my husband [Telluride Rotary board member Mark Hauswald] when he is working on National Geographic/Lindblad adventure ships."

How long have you been in Telluride? "I became a full-time resident of Telluride in 2006 but purchased a small condo here in 1986 as an investment/rental and occasional respite from work in Albuquerque. We now have 'pseudo-retired' to that same condo in the middle of town, a block from the library. I am originally from Ohio but moved west to the University of New Mexico in Albuquerque."

What makes you passionate about Rotary, and what are your goals as club president? "How can you not love a service organization that is based upon a 4-way test that includes truth, fairness, goodwill and better friendships, and being beneficial to all concerned? Also, this club is international and is neither religious nor political. My goals as president this year: (1) connect club service to building a strong and healthy community for all, including the west end; (2) add environmental projects to the agenda, since Rotary International has added the climate and environment as its seventh area of focus; (3) have fun and fellowship!"

Thank you, Nancy, for your leadership!



Arthur with host family the Kanows



Lylah Martin in Brazil



Maile Silva in Czech Republic-Slovakia



Maile's photo of a RYE gathering

Youth Exchange Update

Telluride Rotary's one inbound Rotary Youth Exchange student for 2019-20, Arthur Silveira, had to return prematurely in late March to Brazil due to the covid shutdown, but he had a very satisfying and special experience in Telluride during his nine months here thanks to the host families the Kanows and Thomases, the guidance of Youth Exchange Officer Patricia Kiernan, and additional oversight and hosting by Mark Hauswald and Nancy Kerr.

Two Telluride outbound students likewise had enriching experiences abroad before coming home in March. Lylah Martin spoke about her RYE experience in Brazil, and Maile Silva spoke about her experience in the Czech Republic and Slovakia, at club meetings this fall.

For 2021-22 the club will endeavor to support and sponsor two Telluride outbound students if allowed during the pandemic's restrictions, but we will take a break from hosting inbound students due to the pandemic and a lack of host families. We will work to relaunch the program for the 2022-23 school year by recruiting more host families and more club members willing to support the program.

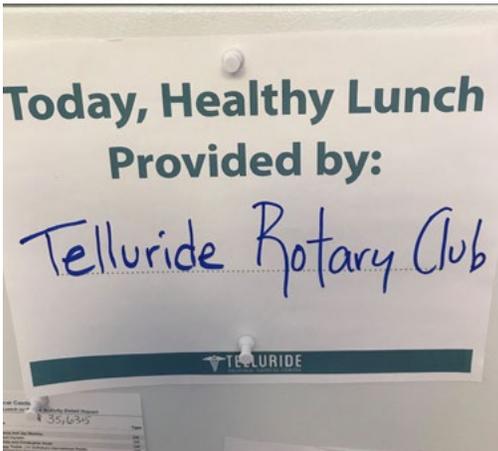
18th Year of Dictionary Donations



Nancy Kerr, Mark Hauswald, Karen Byrom & Marilyn Branch distributed dozens of new dictionaries to third-graders in December. The dictionary giveaway is made possible through the generosity of Community Banks of Colorado and branch manager Karen Byrom. The students delighted in receiving their own reference book, which contains pictures and encyclopedic facts as well as dictionary entries. The students also received coloring books that showcased the Four Way Test for promoting truth, fairness, friendship and the common good.



Meeting at Rustico's



A sign in the Telluride Medical Center



Linda & Doug Avery

Connect Online



Rotary International

Welcome New Members

Recent additions to Telluride Rotary Club include:

- Sadie Farrington, owner of Tomboy Butcher
- Hill Hastings, retired orthopedic surgeon
- John Pandolfo, Telluride School District superintendent
- Anneliese Riebel, president of Alpine Title
- Susanne Wood, Realtor and managing director at Coldwell Banker Distinctive Properties

We have additional interested new members whose membership is in the works.

Sadly, we said goodbye to two stalwart Telluride Rotary members, Doug and Linda Avery, who moved from Norwood to Panama to enjoy a new chapter in life. We thank them deeply for all their service to Telluride Rotary and District 5470!

Connecting Online

Follow the club's Facebook (facebook.com/telluriderotary) and Instagram (instagram.com/telluriderotary), and log onto Telluride Rotary Club's website portal.clubrunner.ca/3291 for more info and to access the club directory. Check out District 5470's site rotary5470.org for info & resources.

You can also use My Rotary (my.rotary.org/en/) for news about Rotary International. Create a login that matches your Club Runner login (the login for the Telluride Rotary Club site). Under your login/profile, there is a tab for Donations, and there you'll find a Donor History Report. This is where you can track donations you make to the Rotary International Foundation.

This newsletter was created by Morgan Smith and Sarah Lavender Smith