**Mountain Empire Rotary Club Year in Review 2015/16**

**August** – we started meeting again after a summer break – we welcomed Tessa – our District Governors Visited, and we attended the District Membership training.

**September** – Had our First Patagonia HS Student of the Month, a great start to the year at the school. We worked at the Sonoita Fair School day and we “Bought” a pig at the 4H auction and we attended the District Conference in Tucson.

**October** – Inge had a great social and we enjoyed her very special mustard soup

**November** – Enjoyed a successful Casino Night, handed out Dictionaries to the Patagonia 3rd Graders, attended the District Foundation Dinner at the Rio Rico Golf Resort, and our “Little Free Library” was installed at the crossroads.

**December** – Keif had lots of health issues so we met at the Vineyards and thanks to Jon and Jennifer for great food! Participated in Christmas Shoe Box Project, Supported the Sonoita Christmas Party, and Jim rejoined the club

**January** – Folks traveled to Hermosillo MX to visit the Micro Credit Project we support and we sent 6 local students to RYLA,

**February** – We helped out at a Mata Ortiz Pottery sale.

**March** – Supported the Circle of Peace Bike Ride, inducted Randy into the “family” of Rotary. The initial Park Project presentation given to the Fairgrounds. Don Webster Passed away.

**April** – A successful 11th annual Golf Tournament, handed out Dictionary’s to the Elgin School, Folks attended the District Assembly, worked hard at the Chili Cook-off and announced this year’s scholarship winners.

**May** – Fairgrounds approved the initial forming of a joint park planning committee, volunteered at the Races, awarded the annual middle school awards, a BBQ for Tessa and her visiting family at Susan’s’ and participated in the Rotary Zone Teleconference. The last of this year’s Birthday Books were handed out at the Patagonia School, we provided over 150 books this year, Welcomed our New president Gama and his team. Welcomed Frank into the Club

**June** – Good bye Tessa and Welcome Home Calvin!

**Great speakers** - Vietnam era photographer, the Rotary Foundation Presentation, our current college scholarship recipients, Santa Cruz County Fairgrounds Board, Tessa, Calvin, the Patagonia Museum, PTR, New Opera House, learned more about club members, RYLA Youth, FFA Youth, Elgin and Patagonia Schools.

**Supported the following through our Foundation**

* Patagonia Youth Center
* Birthday Books
* Little League
* 4 College Scholarships
* 9 High School Student of the Month awards
* 7 Middle School Annual Awards
* Patagonia Senior Center
* Patagonia Arts Camp Summer Scholarships
* Sonoita Christmas Party
* 4H
* Santa Cruz Country Fair and Rodeo Events
* Rotary Microcredit Project in Sonora Mexico and Africa
* Scholarship for Burundi Orphanage

**A Great Rotary Year, Thank You MER!**