



Be a gift to the world

Denver Mile High Rotary

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Denver Mile High Rotary where commitment and service rise above the mountain tops

President's Column:

January 5, 2015

HELP NEEDED!

Now that I have your attention, let's get to work! It's a new year and time to dust off the cobwebs. Rotary is about service and that means rolling up our sleeves and going to work. Let's resolve to jump in and make our Club a force for good - both locally and globally.

So what exactly can **YOU** do to help out? Make no mistake - what we do as a Club is the result of individuals stepping up to make things happen. We have opportunities to serve on a number of fronts - Local Community, World Community and finally Club Service. So let's break it down:

We need volunteers **THIS FRIDAY** to pack weekend food bags at Harrington Elementary. And the Friday after, and the Friday after that. The holidays are over but the need remains. We have a lot more that we could do to help the kids at this school and their community. Please see Greg Thielen about opportunities at Harrington.

Next - We need long term volunteers to help with out with the Interact Club at CEC High School. We do not currently have a dedicated Advisor for an Interact Club that DMHR officially sponsors. The Interact kids meet Thursdays at 3 PM. Just go to one of their meetings and then decide if you can help out. Currently Pat Gorman Barry, Sarah Hite and I are covering bases and can tell you more about what we can do to support this great group of kids.

How about something new? We need a "Project Leader" for a quick project in February. The Flower Power 2016 project takes surplus potted flowers from the Home & Garden Show and donates them to area nursing homes. This entire project will happen on the evening of Sunday, February 21st and the following morning, February 22nd. Short, sweet but something to brighten the lives of our neighbors who find themselves in long term care. Please see me to volunteer - this will only take a few people to do!

World Community Service has just committed to an ambitious set of projects in Zimbabwe, Nepal and Nicaragua. Volunteers are needed to help with fund raising and grant writing. Ultimately, we will be looking for members to visit these projects in their respective countries. There is still time to attend the District Grant Qualification seminar on January 16th. Please see Chuck Rudolph to find out more.

Last but certainly not least, Club Service. Over the next few weeks President Elect Melanie will be filling Board vacancies. Club Officers and Committee Chairs all need to be identified for the upcoming year. Please consider how you can help to make Denver Mile High a stronger Rotary Club. Support Melanie by helping out with the running of our Club!

Undoubtedly I have overlooked something and we are always open to new projects. Just tell us what you want to do! Now truly is the time to **Be a Gift to the World!**

Happy New Year!

Bob Kemp
President
Denver Mile High Rotary
2015-2016



WHAT WOULD IT TAKE TO **CHANGE THE WORLD?**

ROTARY'S 1.2 MILLION MEMBERS
BELIEVE IT **STARTS WITH A COMMITMENT**

SERVICE ABOVE SELF

Denver Mile High Rotary Upcoming

Programs

January 6th - Annie Levinsky, Executive Director of Historic Denver will be our guest speaker. Denver has a very rich and fascinating history. Historic Denver works to protect and promote that history through preserving Denver's historic places. For almost four decades now Historic Denver has advocated for Denver's identity as a city that remembers and respects its past as it plans for the future.

January 13th - Joel Russman will be our featured speaker. As an attorney who provides legal services for business and medical marijuana clients, he has a unique view of the developing marijuana industry in Colorado. Since the initial vote to legalize marijuana in Colorado much has changed. Our meeting is a chance to learn about those changes from a local expert. This will be a great opportunity to bring potential Rotarians and other guests.

January 20th - Some of remember when you could see thousands of stars from Denver on a typical night. With the increased population the stars are disappearing from our sight. Our guest speaker, Robert Stencel, will talk about what has happened to our "dark skies." Professor Stencel is an astronomy professor at the University of Denver and the Director of the University's Chamberlin Observatory in University Park and the Meyer-Womble Observatory atop Mt. Evans. Professor Stencel is an interesting and engaging speaker which will make for a terrific learning experience for all of us

Here are some creative ways to use it your King Soopers Card:

- Buy it as a gift: College kids, newlyweds and new parents appreciate groceries!
- Use it to buy supplies for special events; like bbq, mini-dinners or fundraisers.
- Purchase two, one for you and your spouse so that you always have it handy.
- Leave it in your car next to your re-usable bags, so you can grab both on the way out!



Every little bit adds up to funds that our club can use to treat guests or have events.

Thanks for your support!

Contact Sarah Hite at schite2000@yahoo.com or

Heidi Restarits at Heidi.rr@gmail.com

Weekly Inspirators, Greeters & Hosts

January 6th -

Inspiration - Pat Gorman Barry

Greeters - Preston Dickey and Kurt Bartley

Host - Brandon Blankenship

Rotary Minute - Tom Cella

January 13th -

Inspiration - Elizabeth Daigle

Greeters - Audry Leavitt and Kevin Galloway

Host - Kim Gardner

Rotary Minute - Don Garretson

January 20th -

Inspiration - Melanie Gentz

Greeters - Tom Giordano and Lawrence Mundy

Host - Tom Gregory

Rotary Minute - Susan Henderson

January 27th -

Inspiration - Ted Hendryx

Greeters - Alex Orkow and Dan Himelspace

Host - Sarah Hite

Rotary Minute - Noreen Keleshian



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Continental Breakfast

The continental breakfast will be served every 2nd Wednesday of the month.

Denver Mile High Rotary Calendar

January 9th - Presidents Dinner

January 16th - Grants Qualification Training

February 6th - Rotary Leadership Institute

March 11th - 13th - PETS

April 2nd - Rotary Leadership Institute

April 22nd - 24th - District Conference

May 28th - June 1st - International Convention - Seoul, Korea



January 18th - Paul Anderson

January 18th - Ted Hendryx

Rotary Club of Denver Mile High

Focus on World Community Service

The Rotary Club of Denver Mile High was chartered in May of 1989. Almost immediately, Club members began to identify projects to meet community needs around the world. In the 26 years since the Club began, Club members have initiated projects in five continents and an impressive range of countries:

- **Central America**
 - Dominican Republic
 - Guatemala
 - Nicaragua
 - Belize
 - Mexico
- **Asia**
 - Philippines
 - China
 - Kazakhstan
 - India
 - Mongolia
 - Nepal
- **Africa**
 - Kenya
 - Zimbabwe
 - Tanzania
 - Swaziland
- **South America**
 - Peru
 - Brazil
- **Europe**
 - Czechoslovakia
 - Russia
 - Ukraine

Highlights of the Club's humanitarian projects include:

- ◆ Delivering an ambulance to a hospital in Azua City, Dominican Republic in 1991. This was our first international project and was assisted by Chuck Rudolph's son, who was serving in the Peace Corps in Dominica at the time.
- ◆ Creating a water system for Thulo Parsel, a small town in the mountains of Nepal. This project took place in 1996 and its inception was due to a trek to Nepal by Patricia Fiske. The project was completed by Ernie Hemphill.
- ◆ Delivering computers to 28 schools in Mongolia in 2001-2002.
- ◆ Providing wheelchairs for the mobility impaired in Mongolia in 2005. Chuck Rudolph initiated this project and went to Mongolia to help deliver the wheelchairs.
- ◆ Initiating a 10-year relationship with the Highlands Rotary Club in Harare Zimbabwe to fund three matching grants to train community members in leadership and AIDS awareness. This series of grants was implemented from 2005-2008 and managed by Carolyn Schrader.
- ◆ Visiting a number of different hospitals to provide open heart surgeries and training local surgeons in the technique. Locations included Kazakhstan, Tanzania, Mongolia and India. Dr. Don Elliott was the catalyst for these trips, usually through the

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organizing entity, Project Open Hearts, lead by Rita Lenz. The Club also funded the delivery of medical, recreational and support equipment to orphanages at a number of Project Open Heart site cities.

- ◆ Maintaining a multiyear relationship with Tumaini Orphanage in Kenya, providing medicines and school materials for the children, culminating in a water project in 2007-2008.
- ◆ Creating and implementing a 4-year 3H (Health, Hunger, and Humanity) Grant in 2009 in Harare Zimbabwe, delivering over 6,000 trainings in economic and computer skills. The project was lead by Carolyn Schrader with significant support from more than 10 Club members.
- ◆ Organizing economic and leadership training to a group of women in Parbat, Nepal, organized by Linda Sue Shirkey.
- ◆ Delivering a water system in Changu and Bhalakhala communities in Nepal, a project sponsored by Chuck Rudolph in 2012-13
- ◆ Developing and implementing two Rotary Grants for water and sanitation projects in three villages in Nicaragua working with a local non-profit El Porvenir. Tom Giordano was the primary sponsor of these grants in 2011 and 2014-15.
- ◆ Supporting a girls' orphanage in Kashmir, through delivering books, clothes and sewing materials and other items. Linda Sue Shirkey was the sponsor and promoter of our relationship with the orphanage.
- ◆ Providing advanced training in economic and computer skills to women and youth in Harare Zimbabwe who had participated in the earlier 3H Grant. This project was funded under Rotary's New Grants Model that emphasized larger and more sustainable projects. The club also implemented other grants to provide dictionaries to primary schools and renovation of a community clinic in a rural area nearby. Carolyn Schrader continues to be the champion of the Zimbabwe projects.
- ◆ In development are new Rotary Grants in Zimbabwe, Nepal and Nicaragua that will be implemented in 2016.
- ◆ To illustrate the impact of the Club's initiatives, Denver Mile High has sponsored 21 grants since 1991. The total contribution of the Club has been \$61,686. With support from other Clubs and matching funds from Rotary International, the total size of the projects is \$870,477. That is a return on the Club's investment of 1286%. An amazing statistic and a tribute to the power of Rotary and the commitment of the Club's members.

The Club was also been involved in international service in a number of other ways:

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- ◆ **Iraqi fellowship.** In 2007, the Club met four Iraqis who were members of the Baghdad City Council, visiting Denver to learn about city governance. Inspired by their commitment to their country and their desire to engage with Rotary, Jack Houser and other Club members:
 - Interceded with the Rotary International president on the Iraqis' behalf to charter a Rotary Club in Iraq.
 - When that was not successful, Denver Mile High initiated the four Iraqis as honorary members of our Club.
 - The Club sponsored the refugee family of one of the original four Iraqis that had become an honorary member of the Club. We worked with them for more than a year.
 - The Club also sponsored another Iraqi family in 2008 and continue to stay in touch with the family. The father of this family became an member of the Denver Mile High Club and initiated his own project of providing working computers to immigrating families.

- ◆ **Rotary Scholars.** Over the years the Club has sponsored a number of Ambassadorial Scholars who studied throughout the world. We now have two former scholars as very active members of the Club:
 - Melanie Gentz, who will be Club president in 2016-17
 - Heidi Resetarits, chair of the District Alumni Group and an active member of the Club.

- ◆ **World Community Service District Award.** In 1994, in line with the strong commitment to international service, the Club initiated the first World Community Service Award for a international project that contributed to world peace and understanding. It is named for the Club's founding "Father" Loy Dickinson and continues to be awarded each year.

- ◆ **Group Study Exchange (GSE) Team.** In 2007, Patricia Fiske lead a general GSE team to China. Participating was Melanie Gentz before she had joined Rotary. The trip was the impetus for the China Health Fairs that Patricia and her Rotarian host in Shanghai developed and implemented in 2009-10.

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370 17TH STREET
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Phone: (303) 446-5692
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M. Anthony Vaida, Attorney at Law

M. ANTHONY VAIDA, P.C.

Law Offices
899 Logan Street, Suite 208
Denver, CO 80203
(303) 832-2100 Telephone
(303) 861-3759 FAX
(303) 204-1710 Cell
manthonyvaidapc@vaida.net



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