

Rotary International

Alaska/Yukon
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DISTRICT 5010 BULLETIN

DISTRICT 5010

IN THIS ISSUE

Sue Foley's
column 1

The Loss of a
Leader—a tribute
to Sue Foley 1

Pediatrician/
author to ad-
dress District
Conference 3

Pilot projects im-
prove member-
ship 4

New members
list 6

Upcoming events 6

Greg's Groaner 6

Club projects
around the
District 7

Club internation-
al projects 12

Sue Foley
Obituary 15

Mike's Musings 17



"The Rotarian" goes digital and mobile by Sue Foley

Last month we celebrated litera-
cy. This month we put our reading
skills to the test. Everything in our
lives depends on consistent, accu-
rate and constant communica-
tion. We receive Rotary communi-
cations regularly through our week-
ly meetings, club e-mails, club web-
site, district website and Rotary In-
ternational.

As part of your membership in Ro-
tary, you receive the monthly maga-
zine, *The Rotarian*. This publication
offers many insightful stories about
Rotary projects and clubs through-
out the world.

The new digital edition of *The Ro-
tarian* brings you the same print
content you've enjoyed for years --
in paperless form. As a digital sub-
scriber, you will receive a link to
the new issue in your e-mail inbox
each month from Zinio, the world's
largest digital newsstand. You may
also download the Zinio app on
(Foley column cont'd p. 2)

The Loss of a Leader

*Our District Governor Sue Fo-
ley died the other day.*

*We were stunned to learn she
had passed away.*

*She was such a life force it's
hard to comprehend*

*That she came to such a prema-
ture end.*

*She was our leader, a devoted
Rotarian*

*Who epitomized the tenets of a
humanitarian.*

*Service Above Self was the
mantra she believed*

*And she gave much more than
she ever received.*

*She's gone now, but her legacy
remains:*

*Support Rotary and the pro-
grams it sustains.*

*And though her voice is forever
hushed,*

*The words she spoke still echo
with us.*

**Tribute to Sue Foley by Mike Fer-
guson, Rotary Club of Fairbanks**

(Sue Foley's column, cont'd from p.1)

Samsung Galaxy to take *The Rotarian* digital magazine with you wherever you go.

Please take the time each month to read through your issue. I'm confident you will be impressed with the many activities our fellow Rotarians are involved in, as well as how we are able to assist people who do not have the same resources we have available. If we want to promote Rotary to others, we need to be well informed!

Have a great story about the activities in your club? Send it along with action packed photos to *The Rotarian*. Let others around the world know about the great work your club is engaged in. Be sure to include your contact information for interested readers to follow up with you if they have questions.

***April 11 Celebration of Life
scheduled for Sue Foley***

A celebration of the life of District Governor Sue Foley has been scheduled for 1:30 p.m. Friday, April 11, at the Hotel Captain Cook in Anchorage. Sue died in a Las Vegas hospital Thursday morning, March 6, with her husband, Harold, at her side.

The couple was taking a break from club visits and other Rotary duties at their home in Las Vegas and expecting to return to Alaska re-energized for the upcoming District 5010 Conference.

Sue Foley will also be commemorated, along with other Rotarians who passed away during this past year, at the Sunday morning, May 18, ecumenical service during the District 5010 Conference at the Hotel Captain Cook in Anchorage.

If you wish to send a note or a card to Harold Foley, his address is: 2725 S. Nellis, Unit 2069, Las Vegas, NV 89121

***PDG Peggy Pollen to serve as
Acting Governor***

Past District Governor Peggy Pollen of the Rotary Club of Fairbanks has agreed to serve as District 5010 Acting Governor for the remaining months of Sue Foley's term.



The immensely capable and widely experienced Pollen was 2012-13 District 5010 Governor, 2011 PETS Instructor, Assistant Governor of the Northern Region 2008-2011, 2008 Leadership Academy Graduate 2008, President of the Rotary Club of Fairbanks 2006-07, District Conference Valdez Chair, 2006, and Preserve Planet Earth Chair, 1999-2000. She also served in numerous positions with RYLA from 1998-2000 and she and her husband, Mike, served as a Youth Exchange Host Family. In 2002 her home club named her Rotarian of the Year.

Pollen is also a member of: the Rotary International Bequest Society, the Paul Harris Society, The Rotary Fellowship of Past District Governors, and the Rotary Fellowship of Scuba Divers.

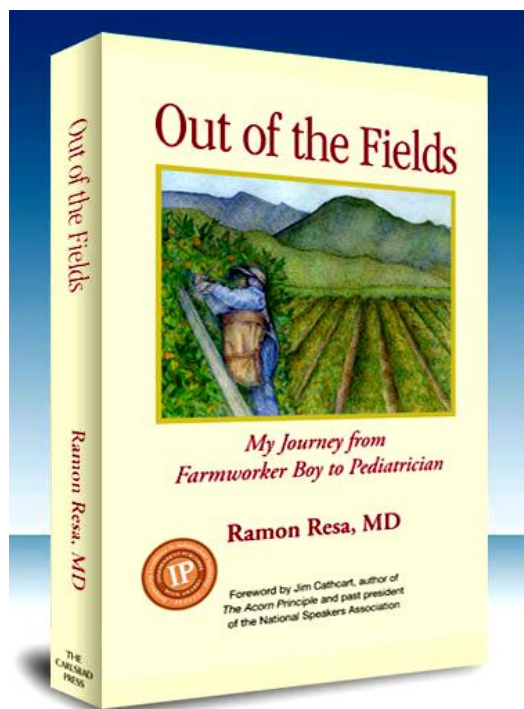
District Governor-Elect Dick Sutliff will step into the new position of District 5010 Vice Governor. Sutliff, an Anchorage attorney and member of the Anchorage



"Downtown" Rotary Club, is slated to become District Governor on July 1, the beginning of the new Rotary year. Until then, as Vice District Governor, he would assume the responsibilities of Acting District Governor should she become unable to carry out

her duties. This line of succession was approved at the Monday morning, March 17, meeting of the Board of District Governors and is being recommended to Rotary International.

Pediatrician/author Dr. Ramon Resa to speak Saturday noon at District Conference in Anchorage



At age three, Ramon Resa was put to work picking cotton, oranges and grapes in California's Central Valley. Abandoned by his single mother, who had five children before she was 20, his world was one of poverty, neglect, abuse and total disregard for education.

"....his teacher squatted down in front of him one day and told him he should think about going to 'college.'"

A little Mexican "farmworker boy" in a family of 15, he never imagined becoming a doctor. But when he was in second grade, his teacher squatted down in front of him one day and told him he should think about going to "college." He didn't know what the word meant — but his eyes were opened to the idea of education.

It wasn't easy. He had to overcome low self-esteem, a speech impediment, recurring depression, prejudice and even opposition from his grand-

parents, who wanted him to get a factory job so he could pay them back for taking him in when no one else wanted him. Still, armed only with a stubborn belief in himself, the refusal to admit that the odds were stacked against him and the love and support of his college sweetheart (now his wife of more than 30 years), Ramon persisted.

"My mission," he says, "is to be a role model who cares for their minds and spirits as well as their bodies."

After finishing medical school, Resa returned to the same rural area where he grew up. For the past 20 years, he's been a pediatrician whose practice includes many poor and underserved children like the child he was.

Now you can hear Dr. Resa's message, "Personal Empowerment and Resilience in the Face of Obstacles," at the Saturday noon luncheon of the Rotary International District 5010 Conference at the Hotel Captain Cook in Anchorage May 16-18.

Register for the conference by going to the Rotary District 5010 website and clicking on the big blue button in the upper right hand corner, OR go directly to:

Rotary5010conference.com





Pilot projects improve membership

by PDG Bill Hopper, District 5010 Membership Chair

Pilot projects show promise as a way to strengthen clubs:

More than 630 Rotary clubs worldwide continue to test flexible meeting frequency and new types of membership and operations in an effort to create stronger clubs. The results are encouraging.

Retention of new members is higher across all four pilots compared with worldwide performance.

Participating clubs have achieved greater gender diversity and con-

tinue to attract more female members. Clubs participating in the associate member, flexible and innovative and satellite pilots have increased their percentage of members under the age of 30.

As a result, the Rotary International Board of Directors met October 28-31, 2013 and approved a two-year transition plan for participants in the meeting frequency pilots, extended all other pilots (associate member, corporate membership, flexible and innovative club and satellite club) through June 30, 2017 and agreed that all Rotary clubs can sponsor satellite clubs.

District 5010 membership up

Our own District is now up 17 members for the year according to the February report from Rotary International. This is up five mem-

bers from last month. Those clubs who increased membership—good job—those of you who lost members, make sure you find out why the members left and if they can suggest replacements.

We have a ways to go to meet the District's goal of 52 new members for the year. Presidents, review your goals and your plan make it happen. I know you can do it, but we have to work at it. For all the clubs that inducted members this last month, make sure you make them feel welcome and get them involved.



Active Rotary Clubs in District 5010 - Membership as of 2-28-2014

<u>Club Name</u>	<u>June 1, 2013</u>	<u>Net Change</u>	<u>% + -</u>	<u>Member Count</u>
Anchorage	247	4	2%	251
Anchorage East	123	10	8%	133
Anchorage Gateway	21	2	10%	23
Anchorage Hillside	30		0%	30
Anchorage International	74	2	3%	76
Anchorage Mid Town	16		0%	16
Anchorage Russian Jack	19	3	16%	22
Anchorage South	81	2	2%	83
Barrow (Nuvuk)	17	2	12%	19
College	44	-1	-2%	43

(Membership chart cont'd p. 5)

Active Rotary Clubs in District 5010 - Membership as of 2-28-2014 (Cont'd from p. 4)

<u>Club Name</u>	<u>June 1, 2013</u>	<u>Net Change</u>	<u>% + -</u>	<u>Member Count</u>
Eagle River Area	38	6	16%	44
Fairbanks	157		0%	157
Fairbanks Golden Heart	9	3	33%	12
Fairbanks Sunrisers	56	-5	-9%	51
Girdwood	23	-1	-4%	22
Homer Downtown	15	-2	-13%	13
Homer-Kachemak Bay	55	-6	-11%	49
Juneau	72	-1	-1%	71
Juneau-Gastineau	54	3	6%	57
Juneau-Glacier Valley	59	-4	-7%	55
Kenai	21	6	29%	27
Kenai River-Soldotna	16		0%	16
Ketchikan	27	-1	-4%	26
Ketchikan (The First City)	36	6	17%	42
Kodiak	36	-5	-14%	31
Kodiak Morning	23	1	4%	24
Nome	26		0%	26
North Pole	12	2	17%	14
Palmer	24	2	8%	26
Petersburg	29	-6	-21%	23
Seward	23		0%	23
Sitka	30	2	7%	32
Soldotna	64	3	5%	67
Susitna	27	-1	-4%	26
Wasilla	40	-8	-20%	32
Wasilla Sunrise	35		0%	35
Whitehorse	29	-2	-7%	27
Whitehorse Midnight Sun	11	-2	-18%	9
Whitehorse-Rendezvous	15	3	20%	18
Totals	1734	17	1%	1751
2013-2014 3% net gain goal				52

Welcome new Rotarians!*

<u>Name</u>	<u>Club</u>
Farris, Julia	Nome
Goff, Dan	Wasilla Sunrise
Greenburg, Rachel	Palmer
Janssen, Tiffany	Sitka
Jenkins, Alessandra	Anchorage South
Paramo, Deena	Wasilla Sunrise
Ryser, David	Nome
Smith, Faren	Nome
Walters, Lance	Juneau

**During February 2014*

District 5010 Conference volunteer opportunities

The Dinner in the Home Committee is still looking for volunteers in the Anchorage area to host visiting Rotarians the evening of Friday, May 16. Contact Kathleen Madden.

kathmadden1@juno.com

If you would like to help with the conference theme decorations and special Saturday night dinner and dance, contact Alice Federenko.

afederenko@yahoo.com

District 5010 Bulletin

The Rotary District 5010 Bulletin is a monthly publication of Rotary International District 5010, which encompasses Alaska and the Canadian Yukon. It is e-mailed mid-month to all members who have supplied e-mail addresses. Members can also access the bulletin through the District website. Jan Ingram is editor. Greg Solomon is Assistant Editor. Send your club bulletins, news items, photos, info about cool service projects and brilliant ideas to: impact@ak.net or to 836 M Street #109, Anchorage, AK 99501.

Upcoming events

Presidential Citation forms due

March 31

Completed form due to DG Peggy Pollen
peggy.pollen@gmail.com

Recognition of Membership Development Initiatives

April 15– Completed forms due to DG Peggy Pollen and Awards Chair Kim Erickson

peggy.pollen@gmail.com

kim.erickson@greatlandlaser.com

Rotary Youth Leadership Awards (RYLA)

April 24-27, 2014

King's Lake Camp, Wasilla, AK

Rotary District 5010 Assembly and Conference

May 15-18, 2014

Hotel Captain Cook, Anchorage

To register: Rotary5010conference.com
or go to the District 5010 web site and
click on the registration link

Rotary International Convention

June 1-4, 2014 Sydney Olympic Park,
Sydney, Australia

To register: Rotary2014.com

Greg's Groaner



What do you call a dinosaur with an extensive vocabulary? A thesaurus



Ketchikan Interact "Daddy Daughter Dance" raises money for Philippine Relief Fund

The Kayhi Rotary Interact Club held an early February Daddy Daughter Dance at the Waterfront Restaurant in Ketchikan. The event netted more than \$1000. Tickets were \$25 per Daddy-Daughter and five dollars for each additional daughter. The post-dance dinner at the Waterfront was 10 percent off with reservations. Safeway Floral offered corsages for "your princess" at a 10 percent discount.



Photo left to right: Interact Treasurer Beau Albertson, Vice President Carly Blair, First City Rotary Club President Rosie Roppel, First City Rotary Interact Advisor Cathy Gucker.

Story and photos provided by Rosie Roppel, President Rotary Club of Ketchikan First City

Sunday, February 9 • 4-6:30pm
Waterfront Dining
 1245 Tongass Ave.

DANCING • PRIZES • PHOTOS

Daddy Daughter DANCE

TICKET: \$25 per Daddy-Daughter
 \$5 for each additional daughter
 Available at Kayhi • State Farm Ins.
 KPU in The Plaza • The Local Paper

DINNER: available after dance at the Waterfront 10% Off
 with reservations 225-5400

DADDY: show your ticket
 and get your princess a
 corsage for 10% off at
 Safeway Floral

ROTARY INTERACT CLUB

For more info call: Carly 254-9612 or Carly 254-2323

College Rotary Club completes food for homeless youth project

The Rotary Club of College has completed its final report for its "Food for Homeless Youth" project. It says, "The day (Street Outreach Advocacy Program) and overnight (Fairbanks Youth Advocates) shelters provide meals and beverages to homeless youth in Fairbanks, Alaska. We contributed food and beverages to these organizations in June of 2013 and in January and February of 2014.

Hunter Elementary School serves disadvantaged students, some of whom are homeless and hungry. We provided nutritious snacks for the nurse and the teachers to have available for these children. Rotarians met with the organizations, developed shopping lists, purchased and delivered food and beverages."



Above photo: College Rotary Club President Patty Merritt, holding Olympic torch and Olympic Gold Medal shooter, Pat Pitney

College Rotarians hear Olympic Gold Medalist

Members of the College Rotary Club were thrilled to hear Olympic Gold Medalist Pat Pitney speak at their February 10 meeting. Pitney represented the United States in the October Olympic Torch Run to the North Pole and she brought her torch along to show.

Pitney is currently Vice Chancellor for Administrative Services at the University of Alaska Fairbanks. She is also Vice President for Finance for the University of the Arctic, a network of universities and organizations in the eight Arctic Nations which provides collaborative international educational and research opportunities.

Originally from Montana, Pitney competed as a member of the U.S. Shooting Team, winning an Olympic gold medal in women's air rifle at the 1984 Olympics in Los Angeles. Last year, she was inducted into the USA Shooting Hall of Fame and selected to represent the United States in the 2014 Sochi Winter Olympic Games torch run to the North Pole. The torch run promoted the Olympic spirit and highlighted Arctic nation cooperation.



Above photo: Food delivered to Hunter Elementary School in Fairbanks

Total project expenditures totaled \$4,500, with half of the funds provided by a District Simplified Grant and half coming from the College Rotary Club. Fifty some youth were served by the project.

Stories and photos on this page provided by Patty Merritt, President, Rotary Club of College

Anchorage Rotaract is sleeping out so Anchorage's homeless youth don't have to!



***by Heather Karwowski, Past President
Anchorage Rotaract Club***

Rotaractors, Rotarians and friends, please help support Anchorage Rotaract's March service activity with a contribution. Spread the word by inviting young professionals you may know to participate! Help us raise funds and awareness for the plight of Anchorage's Homeless Youth by joining the team or by donating to Covenant House's First Ever Sleep Out, Young Professional's Edition.

Spend Friday night, March 21, from 7:00 p.m. to 7:00 a.m. at Covenant House Alaska. Hear homeless youth's stories, see the new facility and spend time sleeping in the courtyard to show your support.

Come experience Covenant House and its programs. This is a very unique opportunity to see a front-line service, non-profit from the inside while meeting other young professionals and engaging in a worthwhile cause. If you can't participate yourself, please help spread the word and put it into

your personal and professional networks for people age 18-40 to participate.

You can raise any amount. The goal is to have 50 young professionals and hopefully raise \$50,000, but beyond the funds, Covenant House is looking to increase awareness and engagement with young professionals and their programming. We are the generation that will be next to carry forward these vital services and help our local youth.

Encourage young professionals to join the March 21 Covenant House Sleep Out

To REGISTER or DONATE go to Anchorage Rotaract's Team Page:

http://covhou.convio.net/site/TR/SO_YoungProfessional/SleepOutYoungProfessional?px=1813511&pg=personal&fr_id=1250

Please let me know if you have any questions and if you can participate. It is bound to be a great night with great people for an even greater cause.

Anchoragerotaract@gmail.com



The new Covenant House for homeless youth in Anchorage

Photos from Covenant House website

Fairbanks Rotary “Stellar Spellers” win spelling bee

Congratulations to the Stellar Spellers of the Rotary Club of Fairbanks. The team beat out 17 other teams in the Fairbanks Literacy Council’s 22nd annual Biz Bee on February 9 at the Westmark Gold Room. Their winning word? Wharfinger—the operator or manager of a commercial wharf.



The Rotary Club of Fairbanks club is the longest, continuous sponsor of the annual fundraiser for the Literacy Council and has fielded a team for this adult spelling bee for many years. This year’s event raised more than \$22,000 for the Literacy Council. The winning team was composed of Brenda Riley, Dan Bergeron and Roger Smith.



Information provided by Jo Kuchle, President, Rotary Club of Fairbanks. The photo is from the club’s Facebook page.

Ketchikan 2000 Rotary Club Sponsors New Interact Club

The Ketchikan 2000 Rotary Club recently sponsored a new Interact Club at Schoenbar Middle School.



Schoenbar “Be the Change” Interact Club meets every other Friday during the school’s lunch period. The club has 22 charter members and they already have ideas for some great projects and events, such as a trash-a-thon, a food drive, and a school lock-in. Rotary 2000 is very impressed with these young students and is excited to have them join the Rotary family.



Ketchikan 2000 Rotary President Marc Guevarra presents the Rotary International Certificate of Organization to Interact Treasurer Piper Cooper and Interact Vice President Drew Pihlman

Story and photo provided by Marc Guevarra, President, Ketchikan 2000 Rotary Club

Would you like to help expand Dictionary Projects in our District? Contact Jan O'Meara

Like so many of our Rotary Clubs in District 5010, in our country and maybe around the world, our club, the Rotary Club of Homer Downtown has been distributing dictionaries to all the third graders in our area every year since our inception in 2006. We thought we were doing a pretty good job of helping literacy in our area— and, in conjunction with other district clubs, around Alaska.

But this year I've been made aware of how much more needs to be done. Through a shipping error, our club got a double shipment of dictionaries for 2013-2014. The folks at the Dictionary Project said, don't send them back, don't pay for the extras, just distribute them around. So that's what we've been doing. We sent dictionaries to the relatively small number of third graders in the Copper River School District, to the Aleutians and Aleutians East School Districts, and to kids in Chenega Bay, Tatitlek, and Whittier. But we still had about 60 dictionaries left. So I contacted the Lower Kuskokwim School District, and left messages with the Lower Yukon and Bristol Bay School Districts, anticipating a repeat of small numbers per school.

I heard from the Lower Kuskokwim School District first. The numbers were astounding! In just the village schools alone, there are 217 third graders who need dictionaries. Add the Bethel schools and that brings the total to 314 kids! I now anticipate that the two school districts who have not yet responded to my query will report similar numbers. That's an amazing number of kids who don't get dictionaries. And I haven't even attempted calls to Northern or Interior Alaska school districts that may not be served by Fairbanks, Barrow or Nome Rotary Clubs, so the total number may be much greater still.

Isn't there some way that clubs throughout the district can cooperate to fill this gap annually? We are a small club (13 members as I write) but we would be willing to increase the number of dictionaries we order each year to contribute to a collaborative effort to place dictionaries in the hands of *all* third graders in Alaska. What a stroke that would be for statewide literacy!

Anyone out there willing to work on this with us?



***Jan O'Meara, Secretary, President-Elect
and Dictionary Project Coordinator,
Rotary Club of Homer Downtown
Telephone 907-399-1226
janomeara@horizonsatellite.com***

Why Wheelchairs? Education, Economic Development and Community Building from Alaska to Mexico

By Paige McKinney



On February 16, 2014, Rotarians representing District 5010 converged on a small village in Mexico at the base of an active volcano. From there they set out to change lives.

Through a Rotary Foundation Matching Grant, the clubs raised funds to purchase 260 all-terrain wheelchairs for young people and adults from the Canadian Wheelchair Foundation. Partnering with District 4150 in Mexico, the chairs were ordered from a Mexican manufacturer and distributed to recipients at four events co-organized by Rotary clubs in Colima, Mexico.

Why Wheelchairs?

In the US, we may take it for granted that anyone who needs a wheelchair or other mobility aid is able to obtain one, but in Mexico this is not the case, and the social and economic impacts are severe. As the grant application explains:

Children and adults may be unable to walk as a result of birth injuries; diseases like diabetes, infections, or polio; industrial accidents; and pedestrian-vehicular accidents. They cannot afford wheelchairs, and family members struggle to help them around the house and to medical appointments.

Children are unable to attend school. Adults are reduced to crawling for lack of a wheelchair. Adults who are unable to use their upper bodies are confined to bed or to sitting in a chair because family members can't help them move.

As Christiana Flessner, Executive Director of the Canadian Wheelchair Foundation, explained at a wheelchair distribution event in Ciudad Guzman, Jalisco, "Many of the people you're seeing here have left their houses today for the first time in weeks, or maybe longer. It's also a huge economic impact on the family when the children can't attend school."

People who arrived that afternoon in Ciudad Guzman carried in the arms of family members, riding in adapted bicycle carts, or bumping over the cobblestone streets on children's toy carts left in new wheelchairs with mountain-bike tires designed to travel uneven terrain.

Supporting Education

In addition to distributing wheelchairs, the Rotary volunteers were able to glimpse a side of life in Mexico that a typical tourist would never see. Through a partnership with Project Amigo, a non-profit organization that sponsors students through scholarships, tutoring, and other aid in an effort to raise families out of poverty, the Rotarians distributed over 600 books to two elementary schools. While there they visited with the children and read stories together in Spanish. Luckily, the books had pictures. Luckily, the books had pictures!



(Wheelchairs—cont'd on p. 13)

(Wheelchairs— cont'd from p. 12)



At the migrant sugar cane workers' camp in Queseria, Colima, the volunteers delivered food, children's clothing, school supplies, soccer balls and small toys to children who live in poverty but are able to attend school thanks to the dedication of their teachers and support from Rotarians and Project Amigo. At this camp, each family shares an 8'x10' cinder block room with no electricity; cooking is done over a fire. Clean drinking water is now available at the camp through an earlier Rotary project.

Project Amigo's efforts to keep children in school are crucial in sugar cane camps like these because, as Cindy Newell from Project Amigo explains, "When a boy is old enough to hold a machete (around 10 or 11 years) he'll be sent out to work in the fields, where he will remain for the rest of his life, never earning more than a subsistence wage for back-breaking labor. Kids who stay in school have a chance at rising out of poverty."

Building Community

This project brought together not only Rotary clubs in Alaska, Canada, and Mexico, but organizations like the Canadian Wheelchair Foundation and Project Amigo for the benefit of the underprivileged. As George Elgee of the Juneau Glacier Valley Rotary Club said at a wheelchair distribution event in Pihuamo, Colima, "We're very honored to be here and we thank everyone involved for their support and help in making this happen."

Rotary/ Project Amigo February 16-22, 2014

by the Numbers

260 Wheelchairs at Four Wheelchair Delivery sites

Colima
Comala
Pihuamo
Cuidad Guzman

Record Amount of Donations

USB drives
Smoke alarms
12 soccer balls
317 lbs of clothing
31 jackets for children
25 lbs of school supplies
Small toys for 75 goodie bags
41 lbs of English language course books
A large box of fun and useful miscellaneous

1 Laptop Delivery for the Cyber Bus

10 computers

1 migrant camp visit

31 jackets
4 soccer balls
1 painted bookcase
25 lbs of school supplies
75 goodie bags of small toys
3 classroom teaching presentations
75 food bags of rice, beans and oranges

2 Book Deliveries

626 books
1 library set of 100 books
306 Books of One's Own
11 teacher sets of 20 books
4 soccer balls
246 stickers
60 gliders
60 toothbrushes

Rotary Volunteer Group

Rotary Club of Juneau Glacier Valley: George Elgee, Jeremiah Beedle, Kris Sell, Michelle Strickler, Sheri Vidic. (Paige McKinney and James Elgee are daughter and son of George Elgee.) Dawson Creek Sunrise: Maxine Campbell; Dawson Creek Rotary: Dale Campbell

Photos and story provided by George Elgee

US Ambassador to Nepal praises Rotary

US Ambassador to Nepal, Peter Bodde, praised Rotary as a global organization that gets things done at a recent gifting ceremony in which a new autoclave for proper disposal of medical waste was handed over to the Nepal National Kidney Center (NKC) in Kathmandu, Nepal.



Ambassador Bodde turns over the paperwork for the new autoclave to the Nepal National Kidney Center

Bodde was the Chief Guest at this special gifting ceremony. Also in attendance were Anchorage residents Linda “Jay” Jackson, Executive Director of Helping Hand for Nepal (HHN) and an Honorary Member of Anchorage East Rotary, and also Anchorage East Rotarians Jerry Winchester and Dianne Louise, who were in Nepal as HHN volunteers.



New autoclave

Bodde, himself a Rotarian, noted that Rotary, working with a nonprofit such as Helping Hand for Nepal, is an excellent way to increase communication and fund projects. Setting aside his prepared remarks for a moment, Ambassador Bodde took time to recognize Rotarian Linda

Jackson’s work in Nepal, calling her a “one-woman USAID” who makes his job as Ambassador a lot easier.

“The need for a new autoclave was critical.”

The need for a new autoclave was critical. It replaces an old one thrown away by the US Army 40 years ago and salvaged by HHN Advisory Board Member Mr. Santosh Gyawali.

The new autoclave was provided through a Rotary Matching Grant for \$25,000 total. Partners were Anchorage East and Kathmandu Rotary Clubs along with HHN. Also contributing were Rotary Clubs in Whitehorse, Ketchikan and Fairbanks.



Girls hug blankets donated by the Inner Wheel Club of the Rotary Club of Kantipur and HHN

Proper disposal of medical waste is imperative so disease does not enter the water system or food chain. With all of its many developing-country challenges, proper disposal of medical waste in Nepal remains a goal rather than a reality.

Thirteen years ago, the National Kidney Center performed 700 dialysis treatments a year; now it performs over 2000 per month. The Center is now not only able to clean its medical waste, but to recycle the autoclave-treated plastic and earn a little money for the Center.

Photos and story provided by Linda “Jay” Jackson, Anchorage East Rotary director@hhnepal.org

Sue Foley

By Lyn Whitley

“It was by ensuring all the details were covered that she sought and achieved feats of greatness.”

Long time community leader and banker Sue F. Foley died March 6, 2014 in Las Vegas, Nevada in the loving arms of her husband, Harold. She was born in Stockton, California and educated in southern California where she began what would become a nearly 50-year career as a banker and community leader.

Sue and Harold Foley moved to Alaska in 1976, where Sue began working as a teller, launching her 38-year career with First National Bank Alaska. When Sue retired in 2012 as Senior Vice President of the bank, she had mentored scores of Alaskans as she demonstrated how to work hard at the details to achieve big goals.

When given a task or a job, Sue looked upstream and downstream. She learned not only her own role backwards and forward, but also always gained a specific and detailed understanding of what others around her were doing.

Sue envisioned a world where no child would be hungry or without adequate housing, clothing, education or care. This is the world she strived to bring into being every day of her life.

Sue’s work to make life better for children in her community, her state and the world was done with little fanfare or self-aggrandizement. She preferred to work quietly, getting things done in an efficient and timely manner.

As a leader in the board room and in the community, Sue was always willing to try new things and accept new challenges, be it learning about different areas of the bank, her community or the world.

She demonstrated her strong personal commitment to the youth of her city, mainly through her involvement with Anchorage East Rotary Club and the Boys and Girls Club of Alaska.

As a board member of the Boys and Girls Club, Sue was a key figure in completing several of its projects, including the construction of the Mt. View Community Center/Boys and Girls Club, numerous successful Boys and Girls Club fundraising auctions and the JobReady program, designed to get teens ready to compete in the job marketplace.

As President Elect, President and Past President of Anchorage East Rotary, she spearheaded an effort to identify and develop projects that would have a lasting impact in the community. She sought club members’ ideas for projects and fully involved them as leaders in those projects.

As a result of this initiative, the Rotary/Food Bank of Alaska Mobile Food Pantry was born. Converted from a beer truck, the brightly painted Mobile Food Pantry serves six specific sites in Anchorage where packaged and fresh food is distributed each week to low-income families, regardless of the weather. Anchorage residents can often see the highly-visible Mobile Food Pantry driving to or parked in one of the six sites.

Since its inception, the Mobil Food Pantry has provided millions of pounds of produce, dairy products and other perishable foods to thousands of Alaskan families in need. It is Anchorage East Rotary’s largest ongoing annual volunteer project, involving hundreds of club and family members and other community volunteers. As a result of Sue’s vision and ability to inspire others, thousands of Anchorage residents now have a source of much needed food on a weekly basis.

While serving her community and her state, Sue expanded her reach across national borders. There are still areas of the world where polio is a major threat to children. In 2000, Sue was chosen to travel to India to be part of Rotary’s Polio-Plus program. To recognize National Immunization Day and to help end the scourge of disease entirely preventable, Sue administered polio vaccine drops to thousands of Indian children.

(Sue Foley—cont’d p. 16)

Sue Foley (Cont'd from p. 15)

In 2004 she returned to India to deliver more polio vaccinations to poverty-stricken children.

Leveraging her role as a leader in the Rotary service club, Sue lead a group of four young business people and professionals under 40 years old on a Rotary Group Student Exchange (GSE) to India in 2002. The Rotary Foundations' Group Study Exchange program is a unique cultural and vocational exchange opportunity for business people and professionals between the ages of 25 and 40 who are in the early stages of their careers. Sue lead her team to India for several weeks to experience the host country's culture and institutions, observe how their vocations are practiced abroad, develop personal professional relationships and exchange ideas.

In 2006 she traveled on a volunteer project to Eagle's Nest Orphanage in Tomsk, Russia, where she taught quilting to the students.

Reaching out to her neighbors of all ages in Anchorage and the rest of Alaska, Sue served on the board of directors of the Blood Bank Alaska, donated time and resources to the Food Bank of Alaska, volunteered with the Alaska Chapter the National Down Syndrome Congress and donated her considerable skills as a quilter to non-profit fundraising efforts such as Abused Women's Aid in Crisis. (AWAIC)

At the time of her death, Sue was the District Governor of Rotary District 5010, challenging the thousands of her fellow Rotarians in Alaska and the Canadian Yukon to change lives by doing good in the community, both locally and internationally.

Sue is recognized as role model and mentor that others wish to emulate. She was frequently identified as such, not by her own wish, but by the desire of others. Those who worked closely with her know there was no task too small or menial for Sue to perform. It was by ensuring that all the details were covered that she sought and achieved feats of greatness. Her legacy will live on in her countless good deeds and the many lives she touched as she selflessly sought to improve the welfare of others here

in Alaska and around the world.

Sue was proud to share her time in service and travel with her husband, Harold Foley. She was preceded in death by her father, George Abourezk and two brothers. In addition to her husband, Harold, she is survived by her mother, Marian Cook of Idaho, as well as an aunt and cousin Montana, her brother and many nieces and nephews in California and Washington.

A Celebration of Life for Sue Foley will be held in Anchorage on April 13 at 1:30 p.m. in the Hotel Captain Cook.

Register now for the Rotary District 5010 Conference in Anchorage May 16-18

Go to the District 5010 web site and click on the registration link or go directly to Rotary5010conference.com

Problems using the web site?

Hitting some bumps while you're trying to use the conference web site to register? Contact friendly, capable, Rotary geek Micah Shilansky, who will be glad to walk you through the procedure:

micah.rotary@gmail.com

Registered but didn't pay?

Mail a check to dependable Russ Minkermann, 4300 B #308, Anchorage, AK 99503. He'll make sure your money gets into to the right account.



Mike's Musings

Well, it's February
and kudos to our Stellar
Spellers

Who left all the other teams in the
Spellers Cellar.

They won the Bizbee and brought home
the gold,
And didn't even use all their passes
we're told.

Now this month's Rotarian has a stellar
feature

About Kasey Watson, a one time art
teacher.

These days she's using her skills a new
way

To practice a dementia therapy called
Mneme.

It seems Dementia, including Alzhei-
mer's, has 150 strains

All of which block neuron circuits in our
brains.

Once blocked they can never be reinstat-
ed,

But new pathways can and should be
created.

Mneme therapy uses vision games
To find forgotten words and object
names.

The process of drawing, viewing and dis-
cussing art

Helps reconnect our brain's cognitive

Once blocked they can never be reinstated,
But new pathways can and should be created.

Of course it only postpones, it doesn't re-
scind,

The path to Dementia's inevitable end.

But what family wouldn't hope and pray
To postpone that end for even a day?

As for our Stellar Spellers, their memories
seem exact,

So their neuron pathways must still be in tact.
In fact, they sit before you with sheepish
smiles

Knowing they're the only ones here who can
spell Pterodactyl.

*Michael Ferguson is a member of the
Rotary Club of Fairbanks*



*Cartoon by Greg Solomon, Anchorage
East Rotary Club*