# District Focus

# **Monthly Journal of Rotary District 5390**







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# Foundation Update at Conference

Members of the various new District Foundation sub-committees will provide updates and progress reports. Some of the areas covered will be district grants, scholarship grants and stewardship. As of July 1st, a new system will be in place for the disbursement of Foundation money given to the district. This will be an excellent opportunity for those who did not attend the November Foundation seminar to learn about the changes.  $\Omega$ 

District Governor 2012-13 Daryl and Juanita Hansen Rotary Club of Livingston

# CELEBRATING ROTARY IN MONTANA

Our District Conference is 17 days away as I am writing this. It is so hard to believe that this Rotary year is coming to an end it has been a very exciting year for me. I have been able to travel our great state and witness all the wonderful projects that the 40 clubs in Montana accomplish. I started this year by talking about our Rotary theme for 2012-2013 of PEACE THROUGH SERVICE and how, to me, it meant every time we do a project or program that helps someone have a better life, we give someone peace in their hearts. This

may be by providing food baskets, warm clothing, clean water, dictionaries and other books, or even just a helping hand or words of encouragement. Here in District 5390 you have all done a good job of making the world a better more peaceful place. Rotarians across the state bought into this idea and I believe RI President Tanaka would be proud of all we have done.

As we come to the end of this year, please try to invite as many potential members as possible to come to your meetings and help with your projects. Then, ask them to join Rotary. We need more members in order to thrive at the club level, the District and International level. My goal was to end the year at 20% up from last year's membership numbers and we are not quite there. It can still be done, if enough new members are brought into our clubs.

The medical supplies are finally headed to Kenya, Africa after over 1.5 years of working to raise the money. Many thanks go to Arlene Weber who never gave up and managed to get it done. A huge thank you the members of Rotary in Missoula for donating several hours to load the container. We will be anxiously waiting for reports of how the supplies are being used.

I was privileged to attend a chartering meeting for a new Rotaract Club at Rocky Mountain College. Many thanks to Kristie Asay and her club for working on this. The students enjoyed the pizza and soda and her presentation was super. These young adults are excited and I think we will be officially chartered by the end of this school year or first thing next fall.

We have added some new Interact clubs this year and may be able to add two more next year. These young people want to work to make their world a better place so make sure that when your high school asks about it your club has volunteers to help organize it. These youngsters will change your life while you help change theirs.

I hope to see many of you in Livingston at our year-end District conference. Please come and meet our newest member of the Governor team, Dr. Bill Spath from the Rotary Club of Butte. **DARYL HANSEN,** DG 2012-13

#### WHY I AM A ROTARIAN AFTER ALL THESE YEARS

## A Perspective Compiled by a Helena Rotarian

(edited from an article by Ellen Feaver, March 2013)

Our reasons to join and maintain membership in Rotary may be different at different stages of our lives and careers. Some reasons stay the same. Many of us joined Rotary to network and develop business contacts. Some had very specific reasons. Many of us were and continue to be attracted to Rotary's international peace and understanding efforts—study exchanges, graduate scholarships abroad, high school student exchanges, and projects to help citizens in underdeveloped countries. Business and community leaders belong to Rotary. Programs are interesting and keep us informed about our community.

Some of our members agreed to help me explain why some of us have maintained our commitment to Rotary for a long time.

□ Rotary is a good way to meet a variety of professional people in Helena and a good way to mix with those you may not run into or meet other ways. Rotary offers a way to participate in a meaningful public project, Clothes for Kids, and to make a difference locally.

I like the people in Rotary. I like that the projects Rotary undertakes involve direct member involvement, not just the donation of money or the raising of money. Clothes for Kids is a good example. Not only do we raise the money, we go shopping with the families. It is not just a check or a box of clothing; it is an actual person who is successful in the community spending time with a child and their family. Polio eradication is another, global example. Rotarians raise money, but around the world Rotarians were the gateway to governments and to local communities to get health care workers into places to give the immunizations to villagers.
On a functional level, Rotary makes it easy to stay active. When I retired, I spent a year in Havre, then a second year in Dodge City, Kansas. I was able to be in Rotary during those years and still maintain a relationship with the Helena club, then return to Helena smoothly. During the 20 years or so I spent the winter months in Arizona, I was classified as a "sojourner" (a winter visitor) at the Sun City West Rotary Club, listed on the club roster, given a club badge, and treated as a full member, while still in the Helena Club. Of course, other service clubs can provide similar access. But Rotary has done this for me.

Many of my contemporaries have left Rotary. I cannot fault anyone for this. People must be free to make their own decisions in such matters. But I wish more had stayed active. There is value in longevity, and what longer-tenured persons can teach newer ones. Rotary has, of course, changed markedly. So has everything else in our world. It is no longer the "center of community power" it once was, or thought itself to be. It is also less status-conscious and in some ways more genuine and human. People are now in Rotary because they want to be, rather than because they feel they have to do it for business reasons. The expansion of membership to women is the best thing to happen to Rotary in my time.

□ My 25 or so years in Rotary has been shared between two clubs. They share the same traditions and rituals but because of the different membership sizes and communities, the scope of their community projects and outreach are much different. I joined the Minneapolis club because I was starting a law practice and wanted to meet and work with community leaders. It was difficult then to get membership in that club because it was somewhat prestigious but was community oriented. The club had some 350-400 members and most major Minnesota corporations had representatives in that club.

I had a gap in membership for a few years until I moved here and joined our club. During that gap, I not only missed the Rotary friendships I had made, but importantly I missed not being a part of a humanitarian organization recognized and respected throughout the world. You get the flavor of this when you make up meetings in foreign countries and experience the same Rotary spirit, traditions and format.

 $\Box$  At this age and stage, my wife and I don't get out a lot to do things in the community. Rotary programs are usually very good—informative and interesting. They keep me in touch with what's going on in our community.

 $\Box$  I like coming to Rotary because I enjoy the camaraderie. I enjoy the social aspect of Rotary at a time in my life when I don't get out a lot. Rotary has good people. Interesting people. I enjoy the meetings.

□ The central attraction for me of Rotary is the commitment to world understanding and peace, especially as manifested in the programs of youth exchange, student programs, scholar-ships, and Group Study Exchange activities.

I have had the opportunity through the years to visit many Rotary clubs around the country, and even in a range of other countries around the world. That showed me the international emphasis of Rotary and the reality of its commitment to world peace and under - (cont. p. 3)



#### ROTARY FOUNDATION NEWS

Two opportunities to attend a webinar on Rotary Packaged Grants are available: Tuesday, April 30th and Thursday, May 2nd.

Packaged grants offer a unique opportunity to work with the Foundation's strategic partners on predesigned projects that are fully funded by the Foundation and the strategic partner. Join a one-hour webinar to learn more about these grants and how to apply for them, and about Rotary's four strategic partners. Also, Rotarians will share their experiences with successful packaged grant projects, and Rotarians and RI staff will be available to answer questions.

To sign up for one of the webinars, go to this address:

https://attendee.gotowebinar.com/ rt/5706717484792216064

Thanks to Matching Grants from our district, several water projects have been completed in Pakistan. District Governor Anthony Richards visited several of the projects. Rotarian Khalid Haider has kept our district informed about the progress of the water projects. The plaque below recognizes the Montana clubs that made the projects possible.





The **Rotary Club of Hamilton** gave a visiting Rotarian the honor of not only speaking to the club; but, helping to induct three new members. Ron Bryski, AG from District 6630 in Ohio (Rotary Club of Parma) helped to welcome (L to R) Brit Britnall, Mark Jergens, and Darla Coleman.

# THE ROTARY FAMILY ALBUM



(L-R) Briana Bienusa; Non-Rotary German Exchange Student, Wiebke Dirksen; Megan Brouwer; and, Breanne Luedecke were recent **Corvallis Interact** representatives to a Hamilton Rotary.

Megan Brouwer announced the Interact Club's Annual "Pig Kissing" Contest, and asked the club to vote for their favorite Rotarian (at a dollar a vote) to be the club's candidate. New club member Chris Edwards won!

The **Rotary Club of Great Falls** is holding their 2nd Annual Speak Easy Social for members, family, and friends on April 19th. Prizes will be given with the first place winner receiving a \$500 shopping spree at Van's IGA. The second place winner will be able to take 7 other people to Camp Rotary for a weekend and the third place winner will receive a \$100 downtown gift certificate.

The club received a generous donation last year from long-time member Ian Davidson and his wife Nancy to construct a much needed new lodge at Camp Rotary. Sletten Construction received the contract for building the new facility. The official dedication of the lodge will take place on May 19th. If you have never been to Camp Rotary, this would be a good reason to make the beautiful drive over and take a tour.

The **Rotary Club of Anaconda** sponsored another successful concert in their community, this time with the Copper Mountain Band. The club has held this type of fundraiser for the past few years, much to the enjoyment of music lovers.

#### NEW PHFs IN MISSOULA



Two of the newest **Paul Harris Fellows** in Missoula are Kalene and Nico thanks to be nominated by the Rotary Club of Hamilton. Nico is a former president of the Missoula U of M Rotaract Club.

#### Why I Am Still A Rotarian, continued from page 2

standing in a way one may not get from a local club experience only. I also once had the opportunity to attend a workshop at Rotary International Headquarters in Evanston, Illinois. This was an enlightening experience, and dramatized Rotary's international character for me as nothing else had. I truly appreciate the value Rotary has had in my life, and intend to continue active membership as long as circumstances permit.

□ Rotary offers interesting and educational programs to learn new things and to be up to date on new happenings. Rotary offers a way to participate in international projects through the Rotary Foundation and to make international friends through our exchange students. My family has lifelong friends and extended "sons and daughters" through our exchange experiences.

□ Rotary changed the life of one of our daughters. Through our family's exposure to the international programs in Rotary, one of our daughters decided to spend at least a part of her life working in other countries. She now lives and works in Brazil. After growing up in Helena, she is a citizen of the world. I have tried to play a significant part in every Group Study Exchange our club has hosted. Lessons learned from GSE participants have been invaluable. There is no better way to appreciate how much more similar than different we are as citizens of various countries. I value being part of an organization that works in so many ways for World Peace and Understanding. The strength we have in numbers throughout the world gives us the power to do things like eradicate polio and to provide clean water to communities in underdeveloped nations.

□ Rotarians as leaders take the long view. While it is important (and gets big press coverage) to respond to immediate needs, such as disaster relief, it is just as important to build for the future. I am particularly impressed with Rotary's work with students. Whether it is a high school exchange student, a college graduate working on an advanced degree abroad, the peace scholars program or the young RYLA kids, Rotary is investing in the future. And while we'd like for all these students to join Rotary someday, Rotary extends the study opportunities with no strings attached as far as joining Rotary. All we ask of the students is that they take advantage of the opportunity and make the most of it. We are willing to take the chance that they will and in return they will be a better person.

Members of the Rotary Club of Helena who contributed their thoughts include Rollie Graham, Frank Kerins, Nancy Nicholson, Dick Porte, Skiff Sheehy, Dennis Taylor, and Bob Throssell.  $\Omega$ 



# **UPCOMING EVENTS** DISTRICT CONFERENCE, 2013

**May 3-5, 2013** Celebrate the 2012-13 Rotary year in Livingston with District Governor Daryl Hansen. The Livingston Rotarians are planning a fun and informative event for our district. Registration is open on the district web site.

THE LIVINGSTON

DEPOT CENTER SITE OF THE 2013

**DISTRICT CONFERENCE.** 

## ROTARY INTERNATIONAL CONVENTION AND GROUP TRAVEL PACKAGE

**NOTE:** un-booked plane seats were released on March 15th. Package price may be higher due to airfare. June 23-26, 2013 The Rotary International Convention will be held in Lisbon, Portugal. A special travel package is available for Rotarians, friends and family with departures from Billings, Denver, and Dallas. Last date to reserve is April 30th. For more information, visit the District website and look under District Events.

# RYLA CAMP 2013

Club reservation forms were due to the district on March 15th. After this date, camper spots will be awarded on an as requested basis. Interviews for students need to be completed by early May and all paperwork and payments turned in to Ellen Robison by May 15th.

## **DISTRICT ASSEMBLY 2013**

The 2013 District Assembly will be held at the Big Horn Resort in Billings, Montana on <u>August 2-3</u>. This is a great opportunity for new club presidents to refresh what they learned at PETS, learn new information; and, for other club officers and members to learn more about Rotary, effectively running a club, service project ideas, and network with other Montana Rotarians.

# The 4-Way Test

Of the things we Think, Do, or Say:

Is It the Truth? Is It Fair to All Concerned? Will It Build Goodwill and Better Friendships? Will It Be Beneficial to All Concerned?

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# Rotary District 5390

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For more information on Rotary, visit the International web site at www.rotary.org.

#### **PETS 2014**

If you will be club President beginning July 1, 2014, remember that attendance at PETS February 28 through March 2, 2014 in Denver is required. MARCH 2013, End of Month Attendance/Membership Report (as reported on April 15th) & Foundation Giving as of March 30, 2013—Total Annual Program Giving: \$90, 498.26 Total Giving to all Funds: \$213,908.82 In three years, 50% of money given only to the Annual Programs Fund (APF) will be returned to our district.

CLUB	Reported	# Members	% Attend	# Meetings	APF Foundation Goal	% Achieved YTD
Anaconda	YES	20	64	4	\$1100	34%
Big Sandy	YES	17	61	3	0	0
Big Sky	No				\$2375	22%
Bigfork	No				\$3500	3%
Billings Noon	YES	206	60	4	\$20, 500	79%
Billings West	YES	78	42	4	\$8000	94%
Bozeman Noon	No				\$7000	37%
Bozeman Sunrise	YES	93	71	5	\$9600	68%
Butte	No				0	\$250 given
Columbia Falls	YES	16	80	?	\$1900	74%
Deer Lodge	No				\$250	84%
Dillon	YES	17	54	4	\$1500	9%
Evergreen	YES	17	96	4	\$2000	98%
Glendive	No				\$1950	100%
Great Falls	No				\$7875	109%
Hamilton	YES	29	69	4	\$3000	19%
Havre	YES	28	45	3	0	0
Helena	YES	64	51	4	\$1950	119%
Helena Sunrise	No				0	0
Kalispell	No				\$13,000	67%
Kalispell Daybreak	YES	69	86	4	\$4500	172%
Kootenai Valley, Libby/Troy	YES	41	54	3	\$4500	48%
Laurel	YES	22	73	4	\$2400	0
Lewistown	No				\$2500	0
Livingston	YES	32	61	4	\$3000	44%
Malta	No				\$350	0
Manhattan	YES	22	38	3	\$1150	28%
Miles City	No				\$2400	58%
Missoula	YES	132	40	4	\$13,900	48%
Missoula Centennial	No				\$1500	127%
Missoula Sunrise	YES	43	65	4	\$4700	45%
Philipsburg	No				\$600	50%
Polson	No				\$7000	18%
Red Lodge	YES	36	62	4	\$3200	46%
Roundup	No				0	0
Townsend	YES	47	33	4	\$3080	33%
Twin Bridges	YES	16	83	4	\$500	80%
White Sulphur Springs	No				0	0
Whitefish	YES	60	53	4	\$7700	28%
Whitehall	YES	20	80	3	\$2000	24%