

Big Sky Rotary News



Montana Rotary District 5390 Newsletter April/May 2016

District Governor Bill's Message to Rotarians

I would first like to thank the Rotary Club of Butte for their support and assistance for the District 5390 Conference!!! Thanks to all the clubs that brought items for the District Showcase Display. It looked great!

The conference started with a welcome by John Brower, the President of the Rotary Club of Butte, which was the host club for the conference. The City and County of Butte-Silver Bow Chief Executive Matt Vincent also welcomed all of the Rotarians and guests. We conducted a memorial for ten Rotarians who passed away in the last year.

We had a number of informative and entertaining speakers during the conference, both at the Friday Plenary Sessions and during the Lunch and Dinner. Corbin Ball of Corbin Ball Associates provided two excellent talks, *Technology for the SO-HO (small office/home office)* and *Top Technology Trends Transforming Business and Society*. Everyone raved about everything that they learned from these two sessions. Michael Sanderson of Sanderson Stewart described how his company became an award winning firm. In his talk, *Core Values for Success of a Company or Rotary Club* he described the company's philosophy and suggested that these values could be used to make our clubs better. Jeff Mow, Superintendent of Glacier National Park, provided an overview of plans for the celebration of the 100th Anniversary of the National Park System, and of an international workshop he has scheduled to coincide with the Waterton/Glacier Peace Park Assembly. His workshop is titled "Hands across Borders," and will bring in participants from around the world to talk about transboundary biosphere conservation. These international participants will also be speakers at the Peace Park Assembly on the weekend.

The Rotary International President's Representative Mike Forney provided an entertaining and informative talk at the dinner Friday night. Mike has



Bill Spath
District Governor
2015 — 2016
Rotary Club of Butte

Events

[RYLA](#): July 12 – 16

District Training
Assembly: Aug. 5—6

[Peace Park Assembly](#):
Sept. 16 – 18

PETS 2017: Feb 24—
Feb 26, 2017

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Special Thanks
to RI President's Representative Mike Forney. He worked hard for us during

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Ecuador Earthquake Relief: Walter's Fund

As you know, Ecuador was recently impacted by a devastating earthquake. Ecuador is one of the countries Montana Rotary Youth Exchange partners with for our Youth Exchange students. We have past Youth Exchange students from Ecuador and currently have an inbound Youth Exchange Student from Ecuador and an outbound Youth Exchange student living in Ecuador. The area most impacted by the recent earthquake in Ecuador is the Portoviejo area. Our inbound student is Pedro, currently in Missoula. His family is safe, but suffering severe financial difficulties since neither of his parents can work due to the devastation. The city where they live was one of the hardest hit cities in Ecuador. Our outbound student who is in Ecuador Jordon from Missoula. She is safe and has decided to stay in Ecuador to complete her exchange year.

Walter was an exchange student from Ecuador who spent his exchange year in Libby. The Rotary Club of Kootenai Valley has worked with our District Foundation to accept donations for earthquake relief in Ecuador. If you want to help this is the very best way to do so because all money received will be given directly to the Portoviejo/ San Gregorio Rotary Club in the area most impacted by the 7.8 magnitude earthquake and the ongoing after-shocks. We're calling it "Walter's fund" because last year the Rotary Club of Kootenai Valley

***Please consider
donating to
Walter's Fund***

hosted a Youth Exchange student from Ecuador, Walter. He lives in Portoviejo and has been sharing his experience with us via social media. This area is already poverty stricken and now they are experiencing loss of life, lack of adequate food, lack of clean water and housing, and severe strains on the area's already meager infrastructure. Our donations will allow those who are on the ground experiencing this tragedy day in and day out to make decisions on how best to help in their community. This will have a tremendous impact for Walter's family and so many others affected! The Rotary Club of Kootenai Valley has established a relationship with the Portoviejo/ San Gregorio Rotary Club President, Stalin Delgado who is a physician. Stalin has been very responsive, accommodating and has asked that expressed his fervent thanks for our efforts to help his club help their community!

To help, please send donations to the Rotary Club of Kootenai Valley. The contact person is Tracy McNew, Secretary, Rotary Club of Kootenai Valley (Tracy@libbyasbestos.org). Donations can also be mailed to Rotary Club of Kootenai Valley, PO box 555, Libby, MT 59923. If sending a check please make it out to District 5390 Foundation: Walter's Fund so that it goes to the right place. All money collected will be forwarded to the Montana Rotary Foundation and then transferred to Walter's local rotary club from there so that they can direct their own relief efforts.



Building Collapse in Portoviejo

Corvallis High School Interact Club Road

Corvallis High School Interact Club and Hamilton Rotarian Highway Cleanup Crew picked up litter on the Eastside Highway through Corvallis. Wednesday, April 27, 2016



Billings 100 Year Celebration



Mayor Tom Hanel read the Proclamation celebrating our



The evening ended with champagne toast, read by President Sandy Wong



Main Speaker, Rotary International Vice President Greg Podd

Hamilton Rotarians Repair Park Roads

Hamilton Rotarians spread a truckload of gravel on the roads at “**Blodgett Rotary Park**” to fill in potholes. Many thanks to Mike Massa for lending his company’s truck and providing the gravel.



Rotary Ride Across America

The Rotary Club of Kootenai Valley is joining the Polio Plus campaign by supporting the Rotary Ride Across America. Bicycle “spokes” are purchased for \$30 each and added to the display when purchased. Thus far, members have contributed \$630 and added 21 spokes to the display. The campaign will continue until June 1.



Chris Savage, PE (left) and George Gerard,

Strengthen Montana Rotary's Public Image

Patrick Plantenberg, MT District 5390 Public Image Coordinator from the Rotary Club of Townsend needs your help. Please send him links to any articles in print, on Facebook, or other forms of social media that appear about your Rotary Club activities. His email address is m2andp2@mt.net.

He will be sending in quarterly reports to Mike Forney our RI Zone Public Image Coordinator. Mike is trying to ensure that Rotary is getting the word out about the many great things Rotary does in Montana. Rick Moore will also be using some of this Montana Club information on our District Newsletter. You can always send him articles of interest to District5390.Newsleter@gmail.com.

Is Your Club Using the New Rotary Logo?

It's now easier than ever to strengthen Rotary's image in your community with the materials and resources available in the Rotary Brand Center. Launched earlier this year, the Brand Center offers a simple and intuitive way to customize your club logo, create a marketing brochure, or give your newsletter a fresh look.

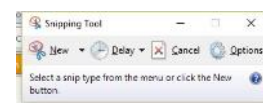
The new Rotary Logo pulls out the word "Rotary" to provide better recognition of Rotary to those who don't know about the "Rotary Wheel."

You'll also find guidelines and answers to frequently asked questions as well as information about why telling our story is important. The Brand Center enables everybody to play an active role in promoting Rotary to the world," says Alan Buddendeck, general manager and chief communication officer for Rotary International. The Strengthening Rotary initiative helps us tell Rotary's story in a clear and compelling way. By providing a consistent image of what Rotary stands for and how we differ from other charitable organizations, we can engage members, prospective members, donors, and volunteers in our work to improve communities around the world.

You can download Rotary's logo – or create your own club or district logo. Plus you'll find editable templates for brochures, newsletters, PowerPoint presentations, fliers, and more. You must sign-in to www.rotary.org to access [Brand Center](#).



If you chose to create a custom logo with your club's name, the file you save will have a lot of white space around the logo. If you want to eliminate the white space, just open the logo in a document, and use the Windows "Snipping Tool" to "snip out" the logo, creat-



Stop Worrying and Love Social Media

By Evan Burrell

Did you know Baby Boomers are the fastest growing demographic on Facebook? This doesn't surprise me at all! I think there's this myth that anyone over 50 is technically inept, but I'm not buying it. Perhaps some "seniors" might not be as technically savvy as the younger generation. But I don't think all of them are clueless when it comes to new technology or social media.

Facebook and other social networks have enabled Boomers to get in touch with long-lost friends and relatives, as well as see pictures of their grandchildren. If they can use social media for a few family happy snaps, it's not that far a stretch to get your older members over their initial fear or discomfort with social media, and to start thinking about using the tools in an even more beneficial way for your club.

Evan Burrell is a member of the Rotary Club of Turramurra, New South Wales, Australia, and a former member of Rotaract. Read Evan's blog at [Rotary Voices](#).

Best District Website in the Zone!

At the District Conference, RI President's Representative Mike Forney, who is also RI Zone 27 Public Image Coordinator, presented our Web Master Arlene Weber with the Public Image Award for *Best District Web Site* in our Zone. Mike shared the criteria that the selection committee used in making this selection. The criteria include:

RI Visual Identity	Rotary News
Presidential Theme	District Stories
Welcome Message	Calendar of Events
District Location	Organizational Chart
District Governor Contact/photo	Committee List
Club List	Webmaster Contact



How does your club's web site measure up against these criteria? They provide a good outline of what you should include on your web site with a little modification. Most will apply directly. Items that should added include your club's meeting time and location, club officers, and upcoming speakers. You should also include a link to your club's Face Book

Conference? Assembly? What is the Difference?

By Rick Moore, Editor

With the District Conference behind us, I reminded some Rotarians about the District Assembly to be held in Butte in August. As has frequently occurred in the past, I was asked, "What is the difference between the District Conference and the District Assembly?" I have always answered this question, "The District Conference is a celebration of our accomplishments over the past year, and the Assembly is an opportunity to exchange ideas, plan for the future, and learn about Rotary."

I decided to ask past and incoming District Governors how they view the difference. DG Malinda shared from her DG manual, "District Conferences are held each year to inspire and motivate Rotarians. Celebrate the achievements of the past Rotary year and build confidence to achieve the goals for the upcoming year. The district conference should be designed to appeal to all Rotarians in the District." Past District Governor Arlene Weber agrees with describing the District Conference as a celebration of the **current** Rotary year in our district.

She went on to add that the District **Training** Assembly is just that, an opportunity for club officers, committee chairs, and regular members to learn more about Rotary and how things operate in our District and clubs. The training usually includes club administration, fundraising ideas and successes, event ideas and successes and current information on The Rotary Foundation and how to apply for and keep track of funding for local and international grants. Arlene noted that this year she will provide an update at the Assembly of the changes in the Rotary Constitution and By-Laws that came about during the Council on Legislation held in Chicago April 10-15th. "It is important for all of our clubs and their members to know about these changes and how it will affect Rotary here in Montana and around the world," says Arlene.

So mark your calendars for the District Training Assembly in Butte on August 5th and 6th. Registration for the Assembly will open in early June on the District Web Page.

Conference Highlights



DG Bill was presented with a mouse pad highlighting his Rotary year!



Corbin Ball presented two excellent talks on Friday afternoon.



The "Townsend Table" successfully bid both nights for first in line for dinner.



Tasmanian PDE Team



PDG Arlene Weber and RI President's Rep Mike Fourney visiting at dinner.



RI "Service Above Self" award recipient Joop Thiessen and his



Butte Interact Club raised \$1,000



DG Elect Joe McBride and Mike Fourney reliving their high school football rivalry!



DG Malinda with her District Governor Home Club Banner.



Mary Lou and Bill Spath get ready to draw the winning ticket for the RYLA Quilt Raffle.



Toast to new District Governor Malinda Shafman!

A w a r d s

President's Citations

Billings
Bozeman Sunrise

Small, Medium & Large Clubs of the Year

Billings
Bozeman Sunrise
Big Fork

District 5390 Rotarian of Year

Sue Carstens of the Whitefish Club



RI President's Citations



Best Small, Medium & Large
Clubs of the Year

Governor's Citation

Billings
Big Sky
Big Fork
Bozeman Sunrise
Helena Sunrise

Membership

Small Club Net Growth: Helena Sunrise 5
Medium Club Net Growth: Big Sky 6
Large Club Net Growth: Billings 7
Largest % Increase: Missoula Centennial 157%
Largest Net Growth: Billings net of 7

T h e R o t a r y F o u n d a t i o n A w a r d s

Every Rotarian Every Year:

Big Fork
Evergreen
Bozeman
Hamilton
Columbia Falls
Kalispell Daybreak

Per Capita Giving

Missoula Centennial Highest Per Capita giving
Kootenai Valley 2nd Highest Per Capita giving
Billings 3rd Highest Per Capita giving

Total Giving

Billings 1st in total giving
Kalispell 2nd in total giving
Bozeman Sunrise 3rd in total giving

Thanks to the Corporate Sponsors Who Helped Make the Conference a Success!

Anderson ZurMuehlen & Co.
Fairmont Hot Springs
Glacier Bank
Insty Prints – Butte
Liberty Tax Service
Lisac's Tire

(DG Bill's Message Continued from page 1)

been appointed by RI President "Ravi" Ravindran to serve as Regional Public Image Coordinator for Zone 27 for three years beginning in July, 2015. Mike "went off script" and talked about his ties to Montana. He was born and raised in Montana and became an Eagle Scout when he turned 13. He left his home in Livingston the day of his high school graduation (1959) to continue an eight-year career in radio broadcasting in Montana and Washington State that began when he was 15 years old. He and District Governor Elect Joe McBride had a lively discussion about high school football from when they met for the first time in a Livingston versus Butte football game!

Each evening before the buffet line opened, Patrick Plantenberg from Townsend placed a bid for his table to be the first table to go through buffet line. The Townsend table won the bid on Friday night with a bid of \$200.00. On Saturday night, the Townsend Club again challenged other clubs to bid on which table would be first through the buffet line. Robbie Mathiason representing the Evergreen Club table bid aggressively, but once again the Townsend Club had the winning bid of \$200.00. The Evergreen table agreed to pay for second in line with their second place bid of \$180.00. Through this fun process, the District raised \$580 to donate to End Polio Now. But since contributions to End Polio Now are matched two to one by the Bill and Malinda Gates Foundation, this actually amounts to \$1,740 to fight polio!

In a moving ceremony, Past District Governor Roy Beckman presented the Rotary International *Service Above Self* award to Joop Thiesen, 88, of the Kalispell Rotary Club. Rotary International only awards a maximum of 150 Service Above Self awards each year, so this was truly a special honor. Joop's two daughters from Holland had traveled here to be with him for the presentation.

Mike Forney presented Arlene Weber with the RI Zone 27 Public Image Award for Best District Web Site. Please see the article later in this issue for the criteria used to make this selection.

Interact clubs Butte, Bigfork, Bozeman, and Townsend joined us at the conference for the first time this year. They have designed a new logo, shown here, for Montana Interact. During an afternoon session, each club in attendance described projects that they have completed in their community. The Interact Club of Butte has donated \$1,000 to Shelter Box USA to provide shelter boxes to areas devastated by earthquakes. At their own breakout sessions, they had team building exercises and brainstorming sessions for projects. They decided on a statewide project of providing benches at key locations in their cities and towns. Each Interact Club will design their own benches, to provide unique benches in each community. Working together, they explored ideas for fundraising for the project. When they explained the project to attendees Saturday night, we "passed the hat" and collected \$420 to get them started with their bench project.

I thanked all Rotarians and 40 clubs for participating in the District Literacy program. Clubs have donated 1520 books and \$935 to Bill and Mary Lou Spath's Literacy Program. They have also donated \$997 to International Literacy project. George Gerard and Kootenai Valley club will deliver school supplies to Guatemala this summer.

Participation at the conference by a five-member Professional Development Exchange Team from Tasmania, Australia and six high school exchange students gave an international flavor to the event. The Tasmanian Team has been hosted by Rotarians as they travel across Montana for a month to exchange professional ideas and friendship.



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(DG Bill's Message Continued from page 8)

Presentations by Professional Development Exchange Team from Tasmania were very informative. The team consists of Team Leader Rotarian Ross Carlyle, Allira Bartush (police officer), Sarah Lillico (pharmacist), Zac Morgan (paramedic), and Simone Hackett (fly fishing guide). Each team member provided background on themselves and something about Tasmania. It was a fascinating presentation. The team brought Tasmanian Devil oven mitts, which they sold at the conference to raise money to help protect the threatened Tasmanian Devil and for Polio Plus. They presented the District with \$400 for the District to donate to End Polio Now. Ross Carlyle presented me with a kangaroo Rotary pin, inducted me into the "Order of the Rotaroo."

PDG Daryl, Youth Services Chair and head of the District's Youth Exchange program, introduced the "inbound" and "outbound" Youth Exchange Student. Each student gave a short presentation about themselves and their home community. The six high school foreign exchange students are being hosted by Rotarians during their year of study: Taiwan (Livingston), France (Missoula), Brazil (Townsend), Austria (Lewistown), Ecuador (Missoula) and Taiwan (Helena). In August, five Montana high school students will embark on their year of study abroad: Helena (Taiwan), Bozeman (France), Livingston (Brazil), Billings (Italy) and Hardin (Austria).

We inducted the following new officers on Saturday night; Malinda Shafman of Evergreen to be your District Governor in 2016-2017, Joe McBride of Butte to be DG in 2017-18, and Rick Moore of Helena Sunrise to be DG for 2018-19. Mike Forney administered the Oath of Office to Malinda Shafman. We then toasted Malinda as our new District Governor.

Dave Kimball, President Elect Nominee for Billings Rotary Club (2017-2018) won the raffle for RYLA Quilt. The winning bids for the Silent Auction items totaled \$2,897.

The Saturday night festivities concluded with music by Ken Rich & Kevin Lafond.

The District Service Project was completed on Sunday morning. The Rotary Clubs of Butte and Evergreen partnered with Kellee Anderson, MSU Extension agent, to plant 126 trees at the World Museum of Mining on Sunday, April 24, 2016. The carefully chosen native trees - 50 Chokecherry, 50 Black Cottonwood and 26 Western White Pine - were planted along the fence line and around the buildings on the east side of the property.



Rotarians, Mountain Goats, and Bears .. Oh My

When is the last time you went to Glacier and *didn't* see wildlife? The International Peace Park Celebration may seem like a long way away, but the deadline to register is not! This is sure to be one of the most exciting Peace Parks yet, with a true international contingency of attendees, national entertainment scheduled, and the youth exchange students who are always invigorating to be around.

HOTEL: The block of rooms at Glacier Park Lodge in East Glacier will be held until June 15 or until they are gone. Please call 406-892-2525 and ask for the Group Code E16.

REGISTRATION: To register you and your guests to attend the celebration, please register by following the link on the District web site or [Click Here](#) to go directly to the registration site.

Be part of this once-in-a-lifetime opportunity to show off Montana and share this exciting event with our friends from around the world. Mark your calendars for September 16-18, and get your hotel reservation and registration now so you don't miss out. SPACE IS LIMITED!

Come to the International Peace Park Celebration in September and you're guaranteed to see wildlife... even if it is a bunch of crazy Rotarians!



The Rotarian's The 4-Way Test
of the things we think, say, or do:

Is it the Truth?

Is it Fair to all concerned?

Will it build Goodwill and better Friendship?

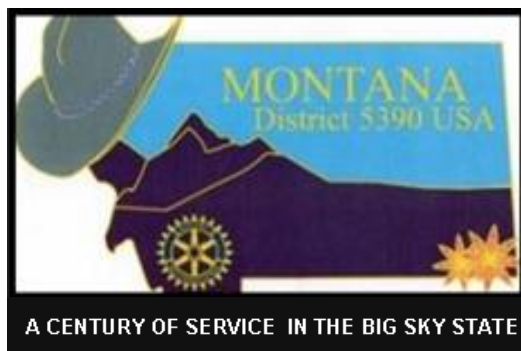
Will it be Beneficial to all concerned?

www.montanarotary.org

PO Box 1091

Billings, Montana 59103

Service above Self



May is Youth Service Month

May is Youth Service Month! Rotary International's Structured Programs for Youth Service are: Interact, Rotaract, Rotary Youth Leadership Awards, and Youth Exchange. The month of May is designated as "Youth Service Month" to focus on all Rotary activities that support the development of young people up to the age of 30.

