

The 5390 Roundup



Rotary Year 2009-10

December, 2009

Rotary Foundation Month

Rotary District 5390

DG MUSINGS FROM THE ROTARY TRAIL



Special points of interest:

- Cookbook recipe entry deadline.
- Annual Giving Update
- GSE Team Members Needed
- Youth Exchange Committee needs Rotarians



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What a wonderful holiday season is upon us!!!! We have some super white countryside to look at and the temperature is finally above zero today. Finally.... Let's all think about what this season is truly about and enjoy the reason for the season. Have some fun and set your Rotary game plan for next year. Very soon our current year will be going into the history books.

Well, let me see if I can update a few things that are on my plate if you will indulge me a minute. We have the \$10,000 PR grant going into effect very soon. We will use it to disseminate



**District Governor
Mark Finnicum
Rotary Club of
Great Falls**

Polio information to the general public and promote polio giving. The District web site is set up to receive donations and then give credit back to the zip code that it came from. That way, the club (or clubs) in the area will see the contribution on the club giving report. Starting in January, we have several Area As-

semblies taking shape and then of course PETS in February. There is a lot of work going into that event so president elects can learn and grow their understanding about the club structure and Rotary in general. Many people deserve hearty THANKS for their work that makes this a great learning weekend.

I and current club presidents are half way through our year at this point. While it has been a challenge, I hope you have had as much fun as I have. I have met soooo many wonderful Rotary people that I truly know this district is (cont. p. 6)

GSE APPLICATION DEADLINE EXTENDED TO 12/18

A GSE Exchange has been arranged with District 4310 in Brazil and we applicants for the team member positions. While several Rotarians applied to be team leader, no applications were received for team members. It is critical that a team

be selected as soon as possible in order for them to have sufficient time to receive recommended vaccinations and prepare their presentations for Rotary meetings while in their host district. Team members can not be Rotarians, the children,

parents, or grandchildren of Rotarians. What is the best way to find team members? ASK a qualified young business person in your community. Applications are available on the district web site. Contact Beth Ihle or Julie Schmidt for information.



Hamilton Rotarians spend part of the Christmas season collecting money in front of K-Mart for their Christmas for Kids program.

DISTRICT

TRIVIA

Butte Rotarian Tom Davis served as RI President during 1941-42. From which club was our District Governor that same Rotary year?

HAVE CLUB, WILL SERVE

Participating in local Christmas Strolls is a great opportunity for Rotary clubs to be recognized in their communities. **Red Lodge** Rotarians added the Iron Lung to their Stroll activities; **Whitehall** Rotarians sold their popular Sunflower dish cloths and tile spaces for another project around their historic fishpond; and, **Twin Bridges** Rotarians kept strollers warm with chili, hot chocolate and spices cider.

Many clubs ring bells for their own projects, like Rotarians in **Hamilton** and others, like **Great Falls** Rotarians, ring bells for the Salvation Army.

Here are some other holiday season activities: The **Rotary Club of Whitehall** sponsored their first blood drive with United Blood Services. 30 units of blood were donated and will help supply local hospitals. Another drive will be held in July, 2010. The **Ro-**

tary Club of Twin Bridges will held their annual dinner with the Legion/VFW on December 12th. The **Rotary Club of Great Falls** had members bring food to a recent meeting which was then donated to the local food bank. The **Rotary Club of Anaconda** held a very successful fundraiser at the Washoe Theatre with a Johnny Cash Tribute band. The theatre was full and people were dancing
(Cont. p 4)

COOKBOOK PROJECT DEADLINE APPROACHING

The deadline to submit recipes for the District Cookbook is coming up on December 19th. As of December 15th, there were 117 recipes submitted and we have room for up to 400.

Any Rotarian, Inter-

actor, or Exchange Student in the District is welcome to submit one or more recipes for the cookbook. The more diverse representation from our District, the better our final product will be.

1200 books are on

the order list from clubs and the district. If we meet the current deadlines, the books will be available in February. If the deadline needs to be extended, expect arrival sometime in March.



Bozeman Youth Exchange Student Nolan Schmidt (far left) with St. Nikolas and some of his Austrian friends during a Christmas celebration.

5390 Young'ns-Interact Report

(The following is an excerpt from the Blog of Nolan Schmidt, one of our Youth Exchange outbound students who is spending the school year in Austria)

"We went to Lieserhofen for a Perchtenlauf. A Perchtenlauf is a traditional thing in this area of Europe. Basically it is like a parade of demons scaring

kids into being good for Christmas. St. Nikolas also attends and you can meet him and take pictures with him. The demons wear very scary costumes that can cost up to 2000 Euros!! Every tiny village has their own group of Perchten and they are all announced

and led by a banner displaying the name of the village. All of the Perchten carry whips made of horse hair or switches made of wood and they beat on people with them. I was hit many times and it is very painful. I was very happy to get home after this *(cont. p 7)*

MEMBERSHIP—A GREAT GIFT FOR YOUR CLUB

(Edited from a ClubRunner Newsletter)

There are a lot of small clubs in our district and around the world. When membership drops below 20, it may seem that building membership is a daunting task. On the other hand, clubs that are growing seem to have little trouble attracting new members. Why is that? Visitor and public image projected by your club is the key.

Here are some proven tips to help increase your membership:

- * Before launching any new member campaign improve the quality of your meetings. Getting visitors is easy! Impressing guests enough so they come back is the challenge!
- * Have a member create and maintain a web site for your club. It is estimated that up to

80% of all club visitors find a club to visit through the Internet.

- * Put your web site address on everything promotional that you do.
- * Separate duties between the membership chair (MC) and the PR chair (PRC). Consider the PRC as the one who “gets the visitors in the door” and the MC as the one who *(cont. p 6)*



Philipsburg residents enjoy the Winninghoff Park Ice Rink built by local Rotarians.

PRESENT GIVING DETERMINES FUTURE PROJECTS

We are not doing so well fellow Rotarians! There are still 16 clubs out of the 43 in the district who have pledged nothing to the Annual Programs Fund. The clubs who have pledged have committed to \$123,625.00 and of that amount only \$27,237.00 has been collected. The

Annual Giving Program is the “life blood” of the district being able to support our district humanitarian projects at the district and club levels. Our potential giving should be \$205,800.00....that is \$100.00 per year per Rotarian in the district. You can see we are a long way from that

benchmark; but, I think we could come close if the clubs who have not submitted their goal forms to the District Governor would do so as soon as possible. These forms were supposed to be in before this Rotary Year started on July 1, 2009. If our district is to continue to support *(cont. p. 4)*

IN MEMORY

Long-time
Butte Rotarian
Shag Miller
passed away on
December 7th.

YOUTH EXCHANGE—COMMITTEE EXPANSION NEEDS VOLUNTEERS

Running a District Youth Exchange program takes a lot of time and dedication. Just ask our current chair, Martha Ripley of Missoula. With the desire to expand youth exchange comes the need to expand the committee two more people—an Inbound

Coordinator and an Outbound Coordinator. If you are interested in helping with this wonderful Rotary program in one of these two areas, and working with great kids from Montana and around the world, contact Martha.

Here is something to think about on the

local level: When your club sponsors an inbound student, it is nice to arrange for someone in your club or community who speaks their language and can help the student with language issues if their English speaking ability still needs some work.



Close it not good enough. We must End Polio Now. Like single rain drops joined together, small donations will built into a flood of help for polio eradication.

Club News, Continued from page 2

in the isles.

Livingston Rotarians made necessary repairs and then set up the Rotary Christmas Train in early December. It helps remind kids of all ages of the wonder of the Christmas season.

Don't forget about the **Rotary Club of Big Sky's** annual Gold Raffle & Auction on January 30th. Tickets for

dinner and a raffle entry are \$100; but, you could win a lot more in gold. Armored car is not included.

The **Rotary Club of Missoula** gives a lot of support to the Watson's Children Shelter Missoula Youth Homes. Sometimes it is the kindness of just members that impacts a child's life. One young girl received a new pair

of running shoes and small boy was given a Big Wheels which have him the freedom to move with ease—small investments with enormous benefits.

What will your club focus on this coming year? The **Rotary Club of Great Falls** will be working on Membership growth during January—April, 2010.



Missoula Rotarian and Executive Director of the Watson Children's Shelter fills in the amount of the donation made by her club in November. Jean Bowman and club president, Dan Smith, are holding the check.

HELP END POLIO—VOLUNTEER FOR 2011 NID IN INDIA

We are so very close to ending polio around the globe. Besides donations, help is also needed in administering the vaccine to millions of children. National Immunization Days (NID) are still held on a regular basis. Hundreds of volunteers, many of them Rotarians, spread out through cities and villages to administer the two precious drops of polio vaccine to the

masses of children.

Rotarians from Montana have a great opportunity to participate in an upcoming NID in India. It will take place in early 2011, probably January or February. AG Joanne Knutson, Rotary Club of Bigfork traveled to India in January 2009 and is planning a return trip in 2011. If you would like to join Joanne and other Montana Rotarians, plan on having 10

days to two weeks available, approximately \$5000 to cover travel expenses, and the desire to help the small children in the slums of India. The exact date of the trip will not be known until about two months before. For more information about this life changing experience, contact Joanne at jknutson44@centurytel.net.

“Failure is not falling down; but, refusing to get up.”

Chinese Proverb



Whitehall Rotarians (from left) Karen Burtch, PDG Erv Hedegaard and Paula Johnson were among club members who checked in blood donors during the club's first blood drawing.

Foundation Giving, Continued from page 3

District Designated Grants, District Simplified Grants, GSE, Youth Exchange and other worthwhile programs we need to get this money in to RI. We get back half of what we contribute for use in the District. Also remember, if you want to

use this contribution to The Rotary Foundation as a tax deduction your contribution must be to RI prior to December 31, 2009 to qualify for the 2009 tax year. Do your best or maybe a little more to get our Annual Programs Fund giving up to where it

should be as we approach the half-way point in this Rotary Year. Thanks for all you do for Rotary.

Don Doerfler

District Annual Giving Chairperson.

Club Membership and Foundation Giving



NOVEMBER 2009	# Mem. Start of Month	# New Members	# Members lost	# Mem. End of Month	Meetings Held	Avg. % Attend.
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AREA 1 - Nancy Manning

Kalispell Daybreak	71			71	NR	NR
Kalispell	122	0	1	121	3	80
Libby	46			46	NR	NR
Whitefish	65	0	3	62	4	63

AREA 2 - Joanne Knutson

Bigfork	41			41	NR	NR
Columbia Falls	15	0	0	15	4	76
Evergreen	17	0	0	17	4	79
Polson	76			76	NR	NR

AREA 3 - Marilyn Morris

Hamilton	38	1		39	5	64
Missoula	176	1	0	177	4	40
Missoula Centennial	11	0	0	11	4	73
Missoula Sunrise	72	0	0	72	4	65
Philipsburg	38			38	NR	NR

AREA 4 - Ed Shaw

Anaconda	20	0	0	20	5	61
Butte	39			38	NR	NR
Dillon	26			26	NR	NR
Twin Bridges	19			19	NR	NR
Whitehall	25			25	NR	NR

AREA 5 - Paul Bray & Bill Kearns

Deer Lodge	36			36	NR	NR
Helena	77	2	0	79	4	41
Helena Sunrise	21	0	0	21	4	61
Townsend	38			38	NR	NR
White Sulphur Springs	18			18	NR	NR
	1036	4	4	1035		

# Mem. Start of Month	# New Members	# Members lost	# Mem. End of Month	Meetings Held	Avg. % Attend.
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AREA 6 - Daryl Hansen

Big Sky	20	0	0	20	3	60
Bozeman	116			116	NR	NR
Bozeman Sunrise	80	3	0	83	3	76
Livingston	53			53	NR	NR
Manhattan	24			24	NR	NR

AREA 7 - John Stewart

Laurel	24	0	0	24	4	77
Red Lodge	45	0	0	45	3	61
Billings	231	2	1	232	5	51
Billings Sunrise	5			5	NR	NR
Billings West	78			78	NR	NR

AREA 8 - Rick Evans

Big Sandy	20	0	0	20	3	63
Chester	5			5	NR	NR
Great Falls	88	0	1	87	4	59
Great Falls Morning	10			10	NR	NR
Havre	31			31	NR	NR

AREA 9 - Tom Reynolds

Lewistown	54	0	1	53	5	55
Malta	11			11	NR	NR
Roundup	9			9	NR	NR

AREA 10 - Carl Ernst

Miles City	25			25	NR	NR
Glendive	19			19	NR	NR

	948	5	3	950		
TOTALS	1984	9	7	1985		

46.5% OF CLUBS REPORTED FOR NOVEMBER, DOWN FROM 60% IN OCTOBER

FOUNDATION CONTRIBUTIONS 2009-10, as of November 30, 2009

Goal \$117,800 Received-Annual Giving \$29,512.85 % Achieved 25
 Clubs Pledged 30 2009-10 Restricted Giving \$69,205.03

Total District Contributions: \$98,718

Goal 2008-09 \$144,735 with 39 clubs pledging

Clubs Below Goal 27

Clubs at or Exceeding Goal 3



While is picnicking this month at Rotary Park in Red Lodge, it will be a busy place this summer. The club still plans to add restrooms and accessibility features.

Did You Know ..?
30 years ago,
September 29, 1979,
The Rotary Foundation
funded the first
Health, Hunger and
Humanity Grant that
helped immunize 6
million children
against polio in the
Philippines .



The solar LED light like the one pictured above will bring light to many poor families in India thanks to the efforts of Polson Rotarians. They have been working through the process of obtaining a Matching Grant from The Rotary Foundation.

POLIO - WILL YOU HELP PUSH THAT FINAL INCH?

A key mission as Rotarians, for more than two decades has been the eradication of polio from the world. We are close, so very close. Will you join the rest of the Rotary world and push this mission the final inch needed to complete the job?

PDG George W. McIlvaine of District 5440, our Zone 27 Polio Challenge Coordinator, sent praises for the successes reported during the October Polio Campaign. He also ex-

pressed some concerns about the status of contributions for the challenge given Rotarians by the Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation. The most recent report, from October, shows polio donations by Zone 27 at \$74,619.93 for the 2009-10 year. The District goals, which includes 554 clubs in our Zone, is \$496,302 or about \$895 per club. Rotary International has asked all clubs to set a goal of \$2000. If each club in

our Zone made and reached that goal, we could contribute \$1,108,000 to polio eradication.

Clubs are not alone when they need ideas for programs or information on polio. Knowledgeable Rotarians are available to meet with clubs and potential major donors. It is critical that we show our strength and commitment to "End Polio Now." Don't give an inch!!

Membership, Continued from page 3

gets them to stay on as members.

- * Provide a member's name (typically the PRC), e-mail and phone number on your web site and encourage visitors to contact them with questions.

- * Ask your Meeting Chair (and other members) to be on the lookout for visitors and to drop everything to greet the guest.

(Would you go back to a group that ignored you?!!)

- * Be sure to arrange for your Meeting Chair to arrive 30 minutes before each meeting. Many guests will show up 15 to 20 minutes early. If no one is there, they might think the meeting was cancelled. Plus, you gain some valuable time to build rapport with a

prospective member.

Even large clubs can run into trouble with membership. Usually, a dip in membership is the result of poor leadership and a decline in meeting quality. Make sure you have a good product before trying to get others to join and you will be at membership capacity in no time!

DG Mark's Letter, continued from page 1

the cream of the crop. So congratulations to all of you and a super big thank you for all that you are doing for your club and your community. We are making a big difference in so many lives that

most of us do not even know about.

It's my honor to be your district governor

Mark Finnicum





SERVING THOSE WHO SERVE U.S.

In the November newsletter, a new District project was announced. It will provide an opportunity for potentially hundreds of Montana Rotarians to be involved with a youth project and do it right here at home.

Thousands of American service men and women are deployed overseas and many of them have young children who are spending months at a time without one or both parents. Hundreds of those children

live right here in Montana. Our goal is provide as many of those children (approximately age 9 to 16) with an opportunity to have the Montana experience—hiking, rafting, fishing, horseback riding, visiting one of our National Parks and just being out in nature.

On December 14th, the District leadership met with key people at Fort Harrison to discuss the project. It was very well received. Our job now is to organize the current volunteers

on the project committee, communicate with clubs, schedule excursion days/weeks for the coming summer and give these children, in honor of their military parents, the chance to just be a kid enjoying the great Montana outdoors. It is a great opportunity for Rotary club members to experience being a Rotarian.

The project chair is DGND Daryl Hansen of Livingston.



Earlier this year, Philipsburg Rotarians once again hosted the Push America team as they cycled through Granite County. Doe Brothers' Rotarian Tony Marchi made sure they had plenty of ice cream.

NEWSLETTER/WEB SITE EDITOR TRANSITION COMING

Over the next one to two months, the writing of the newsletter and the management of the District

web site will be transitioning over to District Secretary/Treasurer Ellen Robison. Once the full transfer of du-

ties is confirmed, please remember to contact Ellen for questions or to submit news items.

BRINGING A SMILE TO THE WORLD . .

You have probably received a mailing from a group called Smile Train; but did you know that a similar program was started by The Rotary Club of San Francisco in 1992. They have since completed more than 124 missions around the world. Visit www.rotaplast.org.

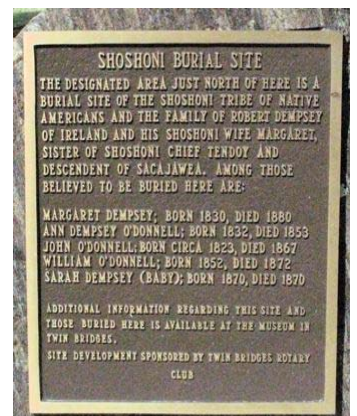
Youth Exchange Blog, continued from page 2

Event. The next Monday and Tuesday was a class trip to a hut in the middle of nowhere. Our class had been misbehaving so they took us to this place to solve our problems.

On the Sunday before going back to school, I went on a hunting trip with my host dad in the nearby Alps. There were probably about 60 people there all in traditional Austrian clothing

with the Austrian hats, some with Lederhosen. It was really funny. We drew a number out of a hat and that determined where on the mountain we would be. When we got to our place, people with dogs tried to scare animals to us. No success for us so we pretty much just sat there for three hours looking at trees. After that, we went back down for a typical Austrian hunting party.

It was so funny for me because it was so stereotypical of what many Americans think of Austrians—traditional clothing, eating sausage and drinking big mugs of beer, both men and women. The party was cool because I could understand what most people were saying. They spoke proper German and not the regional dialect which is very difficult.”



Rotary clubs often help highlight local history. The Rotary Club of Twin Bridges installed this bronze plaque on Melrose Road west of Twin Bridges. Look for it on your next visit.



Rotary District 5390

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THE FOUR-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?

District Officers, 2009-10

District Governor: Mark Finnicum, Great Falls
District Governor Elect: Dave Kinsey, Missoula
District Governor Nominee: Arlene Weber, Whitehall
District Governor Nominee Designee: Daryl Hansen, Livingston
District Foundation Chair: Mark Frisby, IPDG, Bozeman
District Secretary/Treasurer: Ellen Robison, Billings
Web, Newsletter: Arlene Weber

**Remember to submit items
for the District Newsletter
to the Editor by the 10th of
each month.**

More information is available
at montanarotary.org or at
rotary.org.

District/Club Event Corral



JANUARY 2010

- 22 **Whitehall** Annual Casino Night
- 30 **Big Sky** Annual Gold Raffle & Auction

FEBRUARY 2010

- 25-28 **PETS** in Denver

APRIL 2010

- 9 **Foundation Dinner**, East Chico Hot Springs
- 10 **Foundation Dinner**, West Kalispell Hilton

MAY 2010

- 7-9 **District Conference**, Great Falls
- 13 **GSE** Team departs for Brazil

AUGUST 2010

- 7 **Miles City**—Great Western Trail Marker dedication

If your club is having an event you would like everyone to know about, send information to Arlene by the 10th of the month to have it posted here.

District Trivia Answer



Giddy Up Blitzen. We gotta git this trivia answer out across the great state of Montana. As I recall back in 1941-42, the DG was Owen Speer from the Rotary Club of Deer Lodge.

Gee!! I better get registered for PETS. The price goes up at the end of January and the District does not cover late fees!