

Big Sky Rotary News



Montana Rotary District 5390 Newsletter
November 2016

Malinda's Musings

A Message from District Governor Malinda Shafman

November is Rotary Foundation Month, and this Rotary year it is special for The Rotary Foundation (TRF) because they celebrate their 100th anniversary in 2017. It was at the 1917 Rotary Convention in Atlanta that Past President Arch C. Klumph proposed a revolutionary idea: an endowment fund for the purpose of doing good in the world. Since then The Rotary Foundation has grown tremendously with over \$3.4 billion having been spent on Rotary programs since 1947. The Rotary Foundation has also earned the highest rating overall through Charity Navigator (4 stars), being rated on its financial strength, accountability and transparency. The Association of Fundraising Professionals (AFP) has named The Rotary Foundation their 2016 Outstanding Foundation. Strong financial oversight, this stellar charity rating, and a unique funding model mean that The Rotary Foundation makes the very most of your contribution.



Malinda Shafman
District Governor
2016—2017
Rotary Club of Evergreen

I have asked each District 5390 Rotarian to consider making a contribution to TRF this year in the amount of \$26.50, over and above your normal giving. That was the amount of the very first donation to The Rotary Foundation in 1917.

Here are options to complete this challenge:

- ◆ Many clubs are holding a fund raising event just for TRF, with all proceeds going to The Rotary Foundation. Complete the form *The Rotary Foundation Multiple Donor Form* when you submit the proceeds and each club member will get credit for a portion of the donation.

(Malinda's Musings continued on page 8)

Events

[PETS 2017](#): Feb. 24—26

[District Conference 2017](#): April 28—30

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Rotary Club News

Rotary Clubs Raise Money for the Canton Church Restoration Foundation

The Helena Sunrise Rotary Club and Rotary Club of Townsend teamed up and sponsored the second annual Trivia Night in Townsend at the American Legion on November 10. The annual event is a fundraiser for local charities. The charity this year was the Canton Church Restoration Foundation.



Winning Team

The Canton Church, an eloquent Colonial style church, was built in 1875-76 in the town of Canton. It is the state's oldest standing Roman Catholic church not built by a religious order. The style, rarely found in Montana, reflects the roots of many local settlers who hailed from Canton, New York. Although the community of Canton was inundated by Canyon Ferry Reservoir, the Canton church was moved two and a half miles to its present location near St. Joseph's Cemetery. The Canton Church Project, organized in 1996 with the help of the Catholic Diocese of Helena, today maintains the church. Members include descendants of the pioneer congregation.



Over 90 team members and 11 teams competed for the winning prizes and coveted Trivia Traveling Trophy. This year over \$1,000 was raised for the Canton Church Restoration project. Townsend City Mayor, Mike Evans, won the 50-50 drawing and donated the \$185 prize back to the Canton Church.

Billings Downtown Rotary Club Thanksgiving Food Baskets

The Billings Downtown Rotary Club packed 400 Food Baskets for Thanksgiving distribution in partnership with Family Services on November 18th. Club members sponsor baskets at \$30 each, and work in partnership with Food Services of America in securing turkeys, potatoes, onions, jello, marshmallows, margarine, cans of vegetables and cranberries for each basket. Twenty five Rotary Club members and twelve Interact Club Members from Senior High School packed the baskets. The Club will be sponsoring and packing another 400 food baskets for Christmas distribution on December 16th.

Rotary
Montana District 5390
Join Leaders; Exchange Ideas;
Take Action!



Kootenai Valley Rotary Supports Early Reading Intervention

Kootenai Valley Rotarians believe a child who is well prepared to enter first grade has a much better opportunity to have a successful school experience. Unfortunately, in many homes both parents must work to make ends meet and have neither the time nor the educational resources to provide the ideal learning environment for their children. Enter Kootenai Valley Rotary. In partnership with Big Sky Lumber Supply, Frames Unlimited and Head Start. Rotarians have constructed sixteen oak bookcases and stocked them with a starter set of books. The four-year-old children selected to receive this gift were randomly selected by the Head Start staff. A brass plaque with each child's name is affixed to the bookcase, personalizing the gift to encourage a sense of pride and ownership.



Bookcase Recipients and Rotarian Bookcase Maker George Gerard

To receive this gift, valued at over \$200, parents must agree to read to their child on a regular basis, with additional books being sent home at a later date. Many of the books used in this program were donated by people in the Libby/Troy community; others were donated by libraries and still others purchased by Head Start specifically for this program with monies contributed by Montana Rotary District 5390.

Deer Lodge Rotary Club Serves Powell County Youth

Deer Lodge Rotary made a number of local appearances serving youth in our community. Rotary members helped sell concessions at a Powell County Wardens home football game. Then on October 29th Rotary was one of the organizations who "painted" participants in the Youth Board 3K and 5K run. On November 1st, third grade students in Powell County received their dictionaries, which is a partnership project between Avon Grange and the Deer Lodge Rotary Club. While the District runs a dictionary project, our club values the partnership with the Avon Grange and the opportunity for the two groups to work together for the children of our community.



Deer Lodge Rotary Partners with PEO to Buy Winter Clothes for School Children

The PEO is an international women's organization, founded in 1869, with 250,0000 members, and a primary focus on providing educational opportunities for female students worldwide. The local chapter has been involved in some sort of philanthropic activity since its inception and this year they decided to work with the local elementary school to provide winter clothes to children in need.

The Deer Lodge Rotary Club jumped at the opportunity to partner with PEO and serve the members of our community. The Rotary Club took advantage of one of the largest events in Powell County to set up a table and sell cookies.

October 16 is the day Grant-Kohrs Ranch National Historic Site holds its annual Pumpkin Sunday event where over 3,000 visitors come from all over Montana. The Tri-County Fairgrounds across the street from the ranch holds a harvest Thyme Craft and Antique Event where vendors can set up booths to offer food and treasures to the crowds. Club members baked cookies and staffed the Rotary Booth letting our presence be known. Former Rotary President Terry Mosier brought this opportunity to our club then she organized this event and carried it through to purchasing the clothes and taking them to the PEO.



Selling cookies are, From left to right, Janice Neubauer, Terry Mosier, Terry's granddaughter Sara Foster and Cheryl Sandquist.

Rotary raised approximately \$350 used to purchase lightly used clothing items including 5 coats, 3 sweatshirts, 1 pair of boots, 6 pair of tennis shoes and a pair of sweats from New to You, the Deer Lodge shop run by the Women's Club. Terry Mosier and fellow Rotarian Joy Tuttle also went to Herbergers and purchased new clothes items including 4 girls' coats, 4 boys' coats, 4 pairs of girl's boots, 4 pairs of boy's boots and 2 pairs of snow pants. All items were taken to the elementary school then the school nurse distributes the items as needed.

This was the first time these two civic organizations worked together and it was a source of pride for both groups to be able to work together to benefit those students in need.

*December is
Disease Prevention and Treatment Month*

District 5390 News

District Literacy Project

The Gift of a Dictionary

By Marci Williams, Rotary Club of Helena Sunrise

I was lucky enough to be able to participate in the Rotary dictionary project for local third graders. It started with an afternoon at the Silver Star. Several of us gathered to label the dictionaries with the Rotary sticker. It was lovely to meet so many folks from the noon club. My 16-year-old son came along and helped. I was happy to expose him to such a terrific group of people.

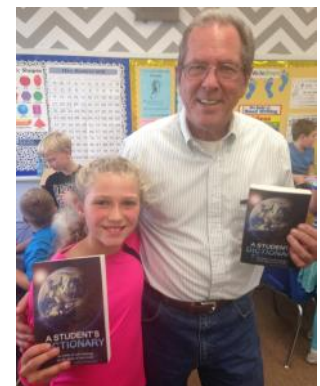
I was matched up with John Scarf from the noon club. We met at Jim Darcy School early on the 3rd of November. We were greeted with a smile and a dolly. We loaded it up with dictionaries and headed to the classrooms.

The teachers and children were delighted to see us. John dissected the books and encouraged the kids to look up Montana, US Presidents and the Constitution. I took a different approach. I told the children that when I was a very small girl (much younger than them), my Mom and I would sit on the sofa and look up words in our GIANT dictionary to describe each other. Of course, my words were simple: nice, pretty, smart. Her words were much more complicated. I still remember two of them: benevolent and precocious. I asked each classroom if anyone knew what these two words meant. Not one child did so I challenged them to look them both up in their new books.

Many of the kids were hugging their books and asked if they could take them home that night. We told them to write their names near the sticker and they could take their books home on the last day of school. I know we made an impact. One that hopefully will last a lifetime. Thank you for the opportunity!

Townsend Rotary Club Delivers Dictionaries

Charles Slyker is a member of the Rotary Club of Townsend, MT. He showed up at Cecelia Hazelton Elementary School in Townsend on November 10 to help the Club pass out dictionaries to the third graders. His granddaughter Aspen had no idea that her grandfather was coming to school that day. Aspen was pleasantly surprised to receive her own personal dictionary from her grandfather! The Townsend Club also provided dictionaries for the Lame Deer School third graders.



Rotary Clubs Deliver Dictionaries Around Montana



Hamilton Rotary Club Delivers Dictionaries to Darby and Corvallis



Townsend Third Graders Hold Up their Dictionaries. Townsend Rotary Club delivered dictionaries to Cecelia Hazelton Elementary School and Lame Deer School

I n t e r a c t C l u b N e w s

Darby Interact Club's First Project Demonstrates the Power of the Youth Voice!

The Darby Interact Club completed their first project. They sponsored "Tip Your Cap to Pete Ehmann and Family Day. The event was to raise funds for Pete, an active Darby community member with kids in the school, who suffered a broken neck while moving cattle this fall. Students could pay a \$1 or more and teachers could pay \$10 or more to wear a hat in school all day. They raised well over \$1,000 for the Ehmann family! Pictured are grade school, middle school and high school students and teacher who participated in the fund raiser.



D i s t r i c t N e w s

The Cadre of Membership Specialists is coming to District 5390!

by Sandy Wong, District Membership Chair

A cadre program of skilled, talented, Rotarian facilitators is available to work with club leaders to assist with a strategic plan to grow and retain membership in our Clubs.

You can expect the Takeaways to include:

- How to use your Rotary story to inspire people to join
- How to target underserved, specific populations to join and strengthen your club
- How to use the Avenue of Service to grow membership and strengthen retention
- Ways to meet specific challenges and opportunities for your club in attracting members
- Basic components of an effective membership plan
- Key elements to keeping Rotarians engaged in your club or district

The cost associated with bringing a Cadre Specialist to our District is paid by our Rotary Zone budget. For our part, we need to schedule a meeting room for 4—4 ½ hours and cover a light meal and beverages for attendees. We hope to have five or more participants from each Club, and plan to keep the cost to \$10 or less for each Rotarian.

With the assistance of Assistant District Governors, District Membership Chair Sandy Wong is coordinating 3 or 4 meeting dates in centralized locations across the state. Possible locations include Billings, Bozeman, Butte, Helena and Great Falls. A Cadre Specialist can stay a few days and travel between locations, or perhaps come to Montana two times to be able to facilitate for several Clubs in centralized meetings.

We would like to schedule these meetings in December, January or February, and anticipate scheduling from 9 am to 1:30 pm, or 12:00 noon to 4:30 pm on a Thursday, Friday or Saturday. Club presidents will be contacted by AGs to coordinate the scheduling. If you have a suggestion for a date, or for an affordable meeting place (community room, board room, etc), with a screen and projector, convenient parking, and availability of a light meal being brought in, please email or call Sandy Wong at sandy.r.wong@wellsfargo.com, or 406 855-4829.

Let's Do This!

Sandy Wong was recently appointed District Membership Chair by DG Malinda Shafman. Sandy is the immediate past president of the Billings Rotary Club. Since becoming a Rotarian in 1998, she has served on the membership orientation committee, along with RYLA, Community Service Projects, Dictionary Delivery and Students of the Month committees in her Club. Sandy has been helping people buy, build or refinance their homes as a Mortgage Banker for 31 years. Sandy married her grade school sweetheart, Scott Wilm, five years ago and their blended family includes four cats.



Membership Matters

By Kelly Atkinson and Sherri Muniz, Zone Membership Coordinators

Interested in strengthening membership in your Rotary club? Hearing new ideas, seeing new tools, and learning how other clubs are successfully implementing action plans to increase and engage their membership?

Please register now to join us for the monthly *Membership Matters* Webinar! This free webinar is held the third Tuesday of every month and features a monthly theme to help your Rotary club grow and retain members.

To register for this free one-hour webinar (7 pm MT/ 8 pm CT) please click on the link below: <http://bit.ly/2gGCVPR>

Grant Application Deadlines

Clubs that are planning on applying for grants next spring should make sure that they submit their Memorandum of Understanding (MOU), Financial Management Plan (FMP) and IRS Form 990 submittal confirmation before December 31, 2016. Forms for these documents are available on the District website "District Resources" on the home page.

Applications for the special Centennial Grant need to be submitted no later than January 31, 2017. Remember, your club does not need to be "Grant Qualified" to submit an application for this grant. Information about this special grant is also available on the home page.

(Continued from page 1)

- ◆ Some clubs are splitting the amount, with the club paying \$13.25 towards the goal and the Rotarian member paying \$13.25.
- ◆ Other clubs are collecting \$2.21 monthly, which makes it seem more doable.

Please do not feel pressured to give more than you can afford. I have been in a position before when I had to suspend all charitable donations for a time, so I will definitely understand. I also realize that you may be giving lots of your time to Rotary and that is recognizable in lieu of a monetary donation.

Thank you for all each and everyone of you are doing through Rotary!!

The Rotary Foundation News

Global Grants — A Primer, Part II

By George Gerard

Last month I addressed Rotary's underlying mission of peace that should be considered when undertaking a Global Grant. Fundamental to the promotion of peace is the establishment of strong, meaningful relationships, not only with our Rotarian partners but also with the where we communities become involved. Establishment of these relationships certainly does not guarantee a successful project, but it does lessen the risk of failure. Having personally experienced betrayal by both a Rotary club president as well as a community council, I now attempt to make three visits to a village, getting to know both the leadership and the community, prior to initiating a project. By having multiple projects in various stages of planning and implementation, I can maximize my efficiency while I am in country.

There is another very important consideration with respect to building trust with your host club. Since both the host club and the international partner club are equally responsible for the financial management of the project, and since failure to properly manage and account for these funds can jeopardize Direct District Funding (DDF) from RI for both Districts, a person must either have a great deal of confidence in the integrity and competence of his or her partner club or plan on making multiple trips to manage the project in person.

Finally, there's fellowship. Plan on having some fun. Unwind after a hard day with a meal and a few beers with your new friends. Sure, using an interpreter can be hard but usually some member of the club speaks some English. Besides, laughter is a universal language. The power of Rotary exists by combining the resources, both human and material, of multiple clubs and individuals under this umbrella we call Rotary. But I believe the true power of Rotary is found in our friendships.

The Rotary Foundation *Multiple Donor Form*

The easiest way to submit donations to The Rotary Foundation from more than one of your club members is to use the *Multiple Donor Form*. The easiest way to complete this form is to go to www.rotary.org. Click on "My Rotary" and "Sign In." Scroll down to "My Profile" and click on "Go to My Profile." Click on "Individual Contribution Form" and then click on "Generate Pre-Populated Form" under "Multiple Donor Form." You can now select members of your club that you wish to include in the donation. After you have selected the members who wish to donate, click on "Generate form for chosen donors." You can then print out the form, fill in the donation amount for each member, and mail the form and payment to The Rotary Foundation. Each member will receive individual credit for their contribution.



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

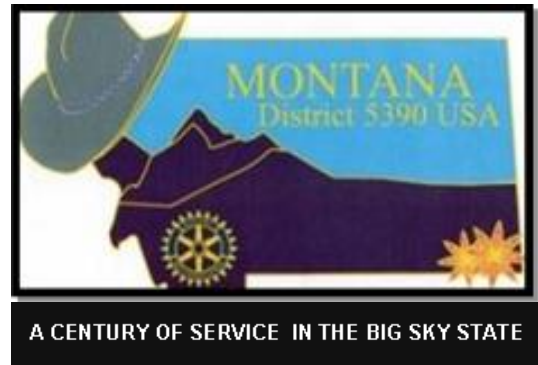
- Is it the Truth?
- Is it Fair to all concerned?
- Will it build Goodwill and better Friendship?
- Will it be Beneficial to all concerned?

www.montanarotary.org

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Service above Self



The Rotary Foundation Named 2016 Outstanding Foundation

The Rotary Foundation, the charitable arm of Rotary International—a global network of volunteers committed to improving lives and communities around the world—has been named the 2016 Outstanding Foundation by the Association of Fundraising Professionals (AFP). To view the complete press release go to: <http://bit.ly/2fGbfdY>

From its first contribution of \$26.50 almost a century ago, The Rotary Foundation's assets have grown to approximately \$1 billion, and more than \$3 billion have been spent on projects that promote peace, fight disease, provide clean water, support education, save mothers and children, and grow local economies.

Celebrate the Accomplishment of Rotarians Who Earn a Paul Harris Fellow Award!



Former Deer Lodge Rotary President Mike Richards is pictured here awarding Joy Tuttle her Paul Harris Fellowship certificate.