

# Big Sky Rotary News



ROTARY:  
MAKING A  
DIFFERENCE

Montana Rotary District 5390 Newsletter  
October 2017

## Joe Bear's Broadcasts

*A Message from District Governor Joe McBride*

### Events

Butte Rotary YOGA  
CLASS and/or Raffle  
Aldersgate United  
Methodist Church  
Nov 13, 2017

PETS 2018  
Renaissance Stapleton  
Hotel  
Mar 2-4, 2018

District Conference  
Fairmont Hot Springs  
Apr 27, 2018 – Apr 28,  
2018

WOW ! When obstacles occur, some people simply say, "Lets do something." Thanks to Tom Esch , the Daybreak Kalispell Club, Montana Rotarians, Canadian Rotarians and others, in spite of the obstacles of this summer's fire season, we continued our "Hands Across the Border" ceremony. It was a special event for all that attended. Thanks to all who participated. You are special.



*Joe McBride  
District Governor  
2017—2018  
Rotary Club of Butte*

My official governor visits started on Oct. 2 at the Billings club. Billings is our largest club, and I am impressed with all they do. They have an impressive official publication, "Billings Cogwheel." Their "Student of the Month Award" is an invaluable idea. Billings is really "Making a Difference," with their sponsorship of many praiseworthy programs.

Miles City was next. They inducted a new member—a good reminder that we need to continue to grow in both membership and ideas. Carl Ernst showed one of the major achievements that their club completed in the Miles City park. One of their major fundraisers was a "Duck Race." I plan on having one at our District Conference.

Back to Billings. The "Billings West Club" is under the laudable leadership of Coralee Goni. Their participation in the "Angel Fund" is par excellence. The fund services hundreds of youths and adults, including homeless, adult education, food pantries, and many other programs. I used my new idea of distributing 3X5 cards --asking members to give me

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## Rotary Club News

### Missoula Sunrise Rotary Hits the Links

Missoula Sunrise Rotary hosted its second annual Mag 7 Golf Tournament to raise funds for their work with the Missoula Partnership for Children. Golfers could only use a 7 iron and, even more interesting, the last 9 holes were played after dinner at dark with glow balls furnished by Northwest Energy.

Many local businesses offered support to make this event happen and fun was had by all! Thanks to Rotarians **Brandon Naasz**, **Gordon Campbell** and **Joe Hertig** for a fine job of organizing this successful event. We look forward to Mag 7 times 4 in 2018!!!



### Helena Sunrise Rotary Helps Habitat for Humanity

Members of Helena Sunrise Rotary recently lent a helping hand to the Habitat for Humanity. Members helped install new dry wall in the basement of the ReStore as a service project. Habitat for Humanity was also the recipient of funds raised at their October Trivia Night. The Club raised \$250 for Habitat for Humanity and received an additional \$250 in donations during the event.



# The Faces of Rotary

## Cathy Fisher

Cathy Fisher, of Bozeman Sunrise Rotary, is the driving force behind the club's "all-hands-on-deck" signature event, the Fix-up Festival.

For almost a decade, the festival has brought together local non-profit service organizations for one day to help out Bozeman's low-income homeowners who are elderly or disabled. Together volunteers from the club and the non-profits provide free minor repairs and modifications to help make homes safer, more accessible, and more energy efficient. Local businesses donate the materials, as well as expertise and manpower.



This year the Festival occurred on Sept. 23 and by the end of the day some 140 volunteers had repaired 12 individual homes.

"The work completed in a day always amazes me," Cathy said. "It would never happen without the year of planning and over 140 volunteers. It is truly a community effort of neighbors helping neighbors.

In fact, of course, this good work would never happen if it were not for Cathy Fisher. She sold the club on the idea nearly 10 years ago and thanks to her organization and dedication, she and her planning team make an event that takes all year to plan look like just one day's work.

"Cathy is one of the most selfless, giving and organized members in our club," past club president Mike Banville observed. "Her contributions have been felt in virtually every committee in our club and continues to be a strong advocate for helping folks needing basic housing. We are very fortunate for her skills, persistence and her compassion."



## Literacy Project Raises the Bar

September was Rotary's *Basic Education and Literacy* month. Many district clubs observe it by distributing dictionaries to young people in their communities. Last month Whitehall Rotary delighted children in Caldwell and Whitehall with dictionaries. In Great Falls, Rotarians delivered over 1,000 dictionaries to third-graders in the Golden Triangle.

Your Newsletter Editor had the pleasure of sitting next to a charming third-grader at a high school volleyball game last week. Sofi's grandmother had picked her up after school and brought her to watch her freshman cousin play. Tiring of the game, Sofi pulled a book out of her pack and began to thumb through it. It had that galactic blue cover so familiar to us all.

"Is that a dictionary?" I asked her, all faux-innocence.

"Yes, it's my very own," she said happily. "But you can look at it with me. Or I can teach you sign language if you want."

"Oh, would you?" I replied. "I've always wanted to know some." So Sofi showed me how to sign "Sofi," and together we figured out how to sign "Mary."

Sometimes we forget how much children love to learn, how proud they are when they know things, and how grown-up it feels to have a book that is "my very own." After delivering his dictionaries, Great Falls Rotarian Kevin Clark joked, "I've never felt so tall." In all seriousness, though, we can all stand tall about this project.



Kevin Clark (left) and Kevin Eckhardt, of Rotary Club of Great Falls, pose with third-graders and their very own dictionaries. "For the first time in my life, I feel tall!" Kevin Clark reported.



Ed Handl (left) and (back) Millie Baycroft and present dictionaries to students in Caldwell on behalf of the Whitehall Rotary.



# The Rotary Foundation News

## District 5390 Rotary Foundation

By Sue Carstens, District Foundation Chair

Thanks to all of you who attended the District Training Assembly. We learned a lot about The Rotary Foundation and the district grant process. I especially enjoyed the open dialogue throughout the sessions.

Our goal is to increase the amount of district grants requested and funded. To improve and streamline the process, we introduced the new online website for club Qualifications and Grant Applications ([www.MatchingGrants.org](http://www.MatchingGrants.org)). A few other grant-related changes include having 2 club members trained on TRF and the district grant process, but only one club member is required to attend the Assembly Training. We will be offering district online training sessions for the second club member starting next rotary year.

The maximum grant amount awarded will be \$2,500. If there are additional district funds available, a grant award over \$2,500 will be considered. To satisfy the District Committee qualification, clubs can have a member sit on any of the district-recognized committees. The committees and chairs are listed on the district website. Remember to contact the chair if you wish to join a district committee. We had each committee give a report on their activities throughout the year and I congratulate each committee for all they have accomplished.

Club Presidents and PEs who attended the Assembly and had satisfied the first step in qualifying their clubs for District Grants were notified that the website is now available to upload documents. Copies of the MOU and FMP are available right on the website and electronic signatures can be requested.

We are moving all of the projects awarded a 2017-18 Grant to the website and have uploaded the documents submitted for your grant applications. You will be notified by email when your input is needed. All progress reports will be uploaded to the website. The Final Grant Report is now entered online, pulling relevant information directly from your club's project.

The District Grant Committee will be holding online training sessions for the new grant application process and to answer questions. We will notify clubs when the dates become available over the next few months. I am happy to walk you through any part of this process.

## Rotary Foundation Month Resources

November is quickly approaching which means that clubs and districts around the world are preparing to celebrate the great work of The Rotary Foundation. Foundation Month is a great time to highlight projects that clubs in your district are doing with The Rotary Foundation, or, to educate members on how the Foundation works.

- Clubs can show a short video at each meeting in November that will help educate members about The Rotary Foundation. Leaders can find videos at <https://vimeopro.com/rotary/trf>
- Promote the updated 2017-18 Every Rotarian, Every Year (EREY) PowerPoint presentation (<https://www.dropbox.com/s/2ef23e1qqapnsku/1718%20EREY%20PowerPoint%20-%20FINAL.pptx?dl=0>) as a way for club leaders to educate members – the presentation even has slides that they can customize with information about their club.

*November is  
The Rotary Foundation Month*

## E-Filing Now Available for Club Qualifation for District Grants

As discussed at the District Assembly in August, the District is now using an online website to capture documents related to Club Qualification for District Grants.

The (website [http://www.matchinggrants.org/admin/qal\\_list.cgi](http://www.matchinggrants.org/admin/qal_list.cgi)) lists all of the clubs in our District. Simply click on your club name to get started.

The MOU and FMP can be downloaded directly to a computer as a fillable .pdf form from this webpage. Clubs have the option of sending the documents for signature electronically or printing and scanning the signed document before uploading it to the website. The prompts on the screen will lead you through each of the steps needed.

Remember this was written by a Rotarian and simply automates the process we have used in the past.

Each Rotarian who uses the website will set up an account with their unique email address. Club Presidents and PEs who had members attend the District Assembly will receive a separate email to set up an account. This was done to enable you to do online signatures if you wish to do so.

We will be offering video sessions later this year to review the online grant process. Dates and times will be sent out so you can sign up.

Please contact Sue Carstens, District 5390 Foundation Chair, with any questions relating to this new process. She can be reached by email at [CarstensSue@gmail.com](mailto:CarstensSue@gmail.com) or by phone at 406-270-2760 (leave message if no answer). Please do NOT contact the webmaster.

## Rotaract Club News

### Bozeman Rotaract Club

Bozeman Rotaract was Flying Signs on October 21 to raise money for HRDCs Warming Center! They raised \$905 from the event. For their November service project, they will be helping the Gallatin Valley Food Bank distribute food for Thanksgiving! Thanksgiving Box Distribution happens on the Sunday preceding Thanksgiving.



## District 5390 News

### 2017 Hands Across the Border Ceremony

Twenty-nine Rotarians from Canada and the United States gathered Sunday, September 24, 2017 at the Chief Mountain Overlook above Waterton National Park and continued the 85 year old tradition of Hands Across the Border by shaking hands and pledging peace between nations.

The ceremony took place in spite of a wildfire which forced that cancellation of the annual Peace Park Assembly.

District Governors Rick Istead (5360, Alberta) and Joe McBride (5390, Montana) welcomed the group. Norman McCarvell, a past District Governor from District 5380 (British Columbia, Idaho, Washington) also addressed the gathering.

Waterton Lakes National Park Superintendent Ifan Thomas welcomed the Rotarians, and briefed the crowd on the wildfire while they could see columns of smoke and watched helicopters work on the fire. Superintendent Thomas expressed his gratitude for the assistance of a crew sent by Glacier National Park that is helping remove "hazard trees," burnt trees that pose a risk to visitors because of compromised roots.

The Rotarians sang both national anthems and recited the pledge to maintain peace between their nations as they shook hands. They vowed to meet again next year in Glacier National Park.



## Rotary Youth Exchange News

### Big Event May Come to District 5390

South Central Rotary Youth Exchange (SCRYE) consists of 38 Districts in 14 states and Canada and is the "governing body" of our RYE program. They provide training and make sure that we are on top of the latest rules and government regulations.

Each year the organization has two conferences. One is in January and is always in Tulsa. The second is the summer conference in July and is open for bidding to host. At this time, both Billings and Missoula have submitted big proposals to bring the SCRYE conference to our district in their communities.

The Summer Conference usually attracts between 50 and 120 people to the community and is revenue-neutral to the clubs and the District. It gives us a great opportunity to get more individual Rotarians and clubs involved in the training and inner workings of RYE. Our thanks to Billings and Missoula for stepping up to promote our district for this opportunity.



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

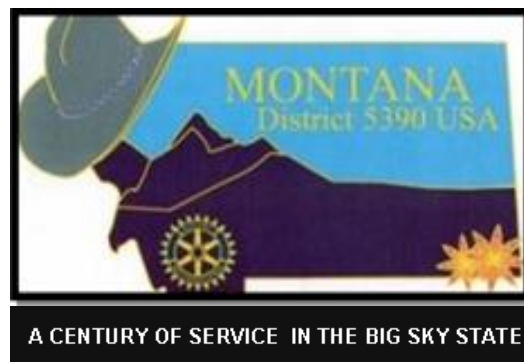
- Is it the Truth?
- Is it Fair to all concerned?
- Will it build Goodwill and better Friendship?
- Will it be Beneficial to all concerned?

[www.montanarotary.org](http://www.montanarotary.org)

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***Service above Self***



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*(Continued from page 1)*

ideas of how I and the district can help clubs. I received a number of ideas, all positive. Hopefully, we can initiate some or all of them. Thank you.

Or easternmost club is Glendive, where I experienced a good meal, good ideas and marvelous members. Their "Happy Bucks" idea was fun and profitable. The Woodwards are hosting an exchange student and their daughter Samantha is going to school in Taiwan. Having hosted 3 exchange students, I can attest that it is a rewarding experience. I ended my first week of visits after logging 1,220 miles and 19.5 hours in car.

On Monday, Oct. 9, I had dinner with the Roundup club. Their project, which you will see when you enter the city from the west, is under construction. It will be a knockout. Thanks to our AG, Ed Stauber, the club will try to send two students to RYLA next summer. John Liggett's father was a charter member of the Roundup club in 1926. Now John, who will be 98 on Oct. 14, is still an active member. Is he our oldest Rotarian in Montana? Please send me the name and age of your oldest member.

I am honored and humbled by our masterful members. **YOU ARE MAKING A DIFFERENCE.** Thanks to all who have hosted me.