

Big Sky Rotary News



Montana Rotary District 5390 Newsletter
September 2016

Malinda's Musings

A Message from District Governor Malinda Shafman

Events

[DISTRICT FOUNDATION DINNER - FALL](#) : Oct. 7

[Zone Institute](#): Oct. 27—30

[Young Professionals Summit](#): Oct. 27—30

[PETS 2017](#): Feb. 24—26

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

September is Basic Education and Literacy Month in Rotary. Literacy is defined as the ability to read and write. As a former educator, I believe teaching a child to read and write is one of the greatest gifts they will ever receive. Reading and writing opens up the whole world to a person. So whenever you can, seek out the opportunity to help a child learn to read and write.



*Malinda Shafman
District Governor
2016—2017
Rotary Club of Evergreen*

Last year, District Governor Bill Spath emphasized Literacy and championed a project for clubs to provide books to children, as well as give money to a District international project effort for providing books in Guatemala. See the article below by George Gerard for the report on the fruition of that effort.

Literacy Project

by George Gerard

Literacy. Think about it for a moment. Think about your life without having the ability to read or write. Isn't this just something we take for granted? Sure, we understand there are people in our communities who are illiterate, but we probably don't know them, or if we do, they probably hide that from us. Personally, I know what it is like to be illiterate because I am functionally that way when I visit Guatemala each year for Rotary, sometimes doubly so



(Continued on page 6)

Inside this issue:

Club News	2
Interact Club News	4
Tasmanian Friendship Exchange	4
The Rotary Foundation	5
Rotary International	7
Reconnect Week	8

Rotary Club News

Join the Billings Downtown Club in an International Water Project

Clean water and hygiene can save lives. Globally, waterborne illnesses are a leading cause of death for children under five, killing nearly 1,000 children every day. Billings Downtown Rotary Club has been working on water and sanitation projects in a remote part of Liberia, West Africa, for the past four years, with participation from Billings West Club and the District. Water wells and latrines have been constructed in six villages to provide clean water to people who previously only had stream water to drink. This year, we are raising funds to bring this life-giving benefit to two more villages. We currently have funds for one village, and are working to find funds to help the other village.

We invite other Clubs in the District to join us in this effort. The cost per village is approximately \$5,500. Funds are now available for one village, but we need additional funds to complete the project at a second village. Business owners from Billings Downtown Rotary Club have pledged to match your donations. Also, participation by your club will meet one criterion for Humanitarian Service towards a Rotary International Presidential Citation if five clubs participate.

The villages that will benefit from the gift of safe water are located about an hour's walk from the nearest population center and approximately 80 miles northeast of the capital city of Monrovia. The villages are not accessible by road, and the people suffer from water borne illnesses. The population of each village is about 250 people.



Rotarians Mike Mayott and Cindy Bye of Billings went to Liberia in 2014 to survey the results of the projects. Cindy Bye, an environmental engineer and the project manager, will visit again in 2017, and she invites any interested Rotarians to join her. She has established relationships with contractors and a facilitator that we can trust to ensure that funds are spent wisely.

The villagers assist in the project by providing labor, native materials and food and lodging for the contractor. Training is provided to the villagers on how to care for the well and latrine, to ensure sustainability.



Contact Cindy Bye at 406-672-0408 or email at cwellisak@gmail.com if your club would like to be a partner in this project. Your response to participate is needed by October 31 for the second project to be completed this year.

Townsend Rotary Club Fall Fest

The Townsend Rotary Fall Fest is not just a single three-day event. The Fall Fest is a collection of events spread out over three days. The Fall Fest features great vendors selling outstanding food and products and of course, an incredible schedule of musical entertainment over the three days of Fall Fest. But in addition to the vendors and entertainers Fall Fest also features one of Montana's largest car shows.



But the Townsend Rotary is not the only organization in town that schedules events throughout Fall Fest. On the morning of the Car Show the Volunteer Fire Department hosts a pancake breakfast at Heritage Park.

In addition, the Townsend Chamber of Commerce sponsors a Fall Decoration contest and most of the businesses in Townsend participate in the Fall Decoration contest giving the main street a festive look during the Fall Fest weekend.

For more information and a complete schedule of events, go to www.townsendfallfest.com.

Helena Rotary Club Hosts Peace Park Assembly

The Rotary Club of Helena was the host club for the 84th annual Waterton-Glacier International Peace Park Assembly. Helena Sunrise, Townsend and Whitehall also provided support and participated in the planning for the event. The Assembly was very successful! Speakers included international participants in the Glacier National Park's *Hands Across Borders* workshop that preceded the Assembly. The international speakers described efforts to protect biospheres and create peace parks across international borders around the world. A highlight of the event was the *Hands across the Border* ceremony which was conducted at Chief Mountain Border crossing between the United States and Canada.



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

Lone Peak High School Interact Club Service Project

Last month *Big Sky Rotary News*, included an article about Big Sky's Lone Peak High School Interact Club *Flamingo Fling* fundraiser. Funds raised are for a planned service trip to Nepal. It will happen!

Lone Peak High School Interact Club members will leave for Nepal on March 12th and return on March 29th. While in Nepal Club members will visit schools and deliver school supplies. They will also visit orphanages and drop off clothing, shoes, toys and books. A camp with people still displaced from the earthquake is close to the hotel where they will be staying. Club members will spend time in the camp providing clothing and items like soccer balls and books for the children.

Club members will also have typical "tourist site visits." Part of this trip will include flying into Lukla and trekking into mountain villages where they will do volunteer work. The highlight of this trekking portion of the trip will include a view of Mt. Everest!

This adventure will involve Interact Senior Class members, with 7 to 8 students expected to participate.

Any Rotary Club, Interact Club or Rotarians who would like to help out with donations of school supplies or clothing Dale or Gayle Palmer (406) 995-4892 or nordichottub@aol.com.

Corvallis High School Interact Club

Corvallis High School Interact Club helped out at the Hamilton Rotary Club's Bratwurst Booth at the Ravalli County Fair.



T a s m a n i a n F r i e n d s h i p E x c h a n g e

Our friends in District of 9830-Tasmania are interested in doing a Friendship Exchange. This is a great opportunity for a group of Rotarians/partners to visit Tasmania and experience the beauty of that island, enjoying Rotary friendship and fellowship while being home hosted around the island. A team of approximately 6 couples would travel around the Australian state of Tasmania for two weeks learning about the culture, visiting places not normally on the tourist map, meeting Tasmanian Rotarians and making great friends. The exact timing of the trip will be determined once we have an interested group. The suggested time to visit Tasmania is February/March, due to ideal traveling weather.

In return a group of approximately 6 Tasmanian couples would visit Montana for two weeks to be home hosted around District 5390. This may occur late spring, but final timing would be determined later. If you are interested in this opportunity, either traveling to Tasmania or hosting Tasmanians in Montana, please let District Governor Malinda Shafman know as soon as possible. You can reach her at dg5390.2016@gmail.com or 406-309-0938.

The Rotary Foundation News

District Rotary Foundation Centennial Matching Grant Project

At its meeting in August, the District Foundation Board agreed to use existing District Funds for a one-time Matching "Centennial Grant" to celebrate the 100th anniversary of The Rotary Foundation. Complete a humanitarian service project in your community that involves Rotarians and is completed by December 1st, 2017. The District will match club funds 2 to 1 with a maximum grant of \$1,000. Clubs can partner with other clubs or Rotaract or Interact clubs to do a larger, multi-club centennial project.

The grant will be available to all clubs within District 5390, whether they are qualified for other grants or not. Applications are due to the District Grant Committee no later than December 15th, 2016. Centennial Project Guidelines and the Centennial Grant Application Form are available on the District's Home Page at www.montanarotary.org. Contact DRFC David Kinsey or Grants Chair Sue Carstens for more details.

The Rotary Foundation 100th Year \$26.50 Challenge

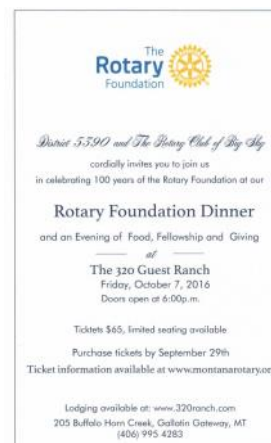
District Governor Malinda has asked that every District Rotarian make a contribution to The Rotary Foundation this year in honor of the Foundation's 100th anniversary and to increase the District's Every Rotary Every Year (EREY) percentage goal. One of the goals for the Presidential Citation is for Club's to donate \$26.50 per Rotarian to The Rotary Foundation.

Helena Rotary Sunrise Club President Marie Mullarkey has issued a challenge to her club's members to meet this goal. Marie has committed to matching each donation of \$26.50 from Helena Sunrise Club members with a donation of her own! To date, 70% of the Club members have accepted this challenge. Her hope is to complete this goal early in her term as President. She has also set a goal of doubling the Club's giving to The Rotary Foundation. This will easily be achieved with the challenge, especially since some of the Club members have donated \$100 in honor of the 100th Anniversary. Marie notes that she will also be well on her way of achieving a Paul Harris Fellow award by the end of her term.

The Rotary Foundation Dinner

District 5390 and the Rotary Club of Big Sky invite all Montana Rotarians to join them to celebrate the 100th year of The Rotary Foundation! Enjoy an evening of food, fellowship and giving at the 320 Guest Ranch, October 7, 2016. Honored Guests and Speakers include Rotary Ambassadorial and Peace Scholar M.J. Vuinovich, International Zone 27 Regional Foundation Coordinator Larry Dimmitt and The Rotary Foundation Annual Giving Officer Christine Grodecki..

More information and ticket information, is available at the District website.



(Continued from page 1)

where Quiche is the primary language and Spanish is secondary. I then become totally dependent on others for even my most basic needs.

My first visit to the community of El Progreso was three years ago and although the primary purpose of my visit was to access their water needs, as a former educator I couldn't help but notice the humble little building the residents were constructing for their school. You see, the nearest school was several miles away in another community and the children had to walk along a busy roadway with heavy truck traffic during the rainy season when torrential downpours were common. The parents feared for the safety of their children and, with very humble means and help from the Mazatenango Rotary Club, had constructed a small concrete block building with no glass in the windows and just an opening for a door. By the next year they had added the windows and door, had built a roof over an open area for another classroom, and were in the process of adding a second covered area for an additional classroom. This year what greeted me was a pleasant surprise: a nice, clean, modern classroom that had been constructed by a Canadian non-profit organization, a classroom with desks for the students but without educational materials. Enter Rotary District 5390.



Bill Spath began his term as District Governor with focuses on polio and literacy. As Bill made his club visits he asked each club to emphasize providing library books for kids within their respective communities, but he was also concerned with Rotary's international outreach. With this in mind he asked clubs to contribute to an international literacy fund and turned to me for recommendations. I suggested El Progreso School.

Last week, travelling with 15 crisp \$100 bills in my possession and with great assistance from the Rotary Club of Mazatenango, we were able to provide El Progreso School, for the first



Rotary International News

Rotary's World Polio Day

Rotary's fourth World Polio Day celebration, on 24 October, will highlight the extraordinary progress made in the eradication campaign and emphasize the work that remains before we wipe out the virus for good. Health officials and Rotary's celebrity polio ambassadors will head to Atlanta, Georgia, USA, for the event, the first to be held at the U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC). It will be streamed live and then will be available for viewing at endpolio.org. You can participate by:

- Download the World Polio Day toolkit for information and resources on planning and promoting a successful World Polio Day event, such as a viewing party or fundraiser.
- Register your event here for a chance to be recognized in Atlanta, or to be featured on our website and social media pages.
- Write to local media and government officials. Pitch a story about your club's contributions to the campaign and remind them why it's important to keep fighting.



Final Push – Calling Rotarians Volunteers

Routine Immunization @ Agra India*

Immunization Dates	Trips Dates
2016: 15 th October	13 th – 23 rd October 2016
2016: 19 th November	17 th – 27 th November 2016
2016: 19 th December	09 th – 19 th December 2016
2017: 7 th January	05 th – 15 th Jan 2017

Live experience & glimpse of Polio Tours & 2016-17, visit at:

<http://www.calindiatours.com/rotary/login.aspx>
Login ID- Rotary | Password- Poliotours
(Both username/password is case sensitive)

Or
Click below to download detailed itinerary:
www.calindiatours.com/downloads/Polio_Tour_Itinerary_India_Trip.pdf

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Rotary Global Rewards

Since the launch of Rotary Global Rewards on 1 July 2015, over 100,000 members have visited the site! If you have not visited Rotary Global Rewards recently, it now has over 1,500 offers worldwide. Try using the member benefits program both locally and when you travel.

If you'd like to give discounts to other Rotarians, add your own company's special offers to the growing portfolio of Rotary Global Rewards. To date, over 350 offers have been posted by Rotarians.

There are also two new and exciting global travel offers, a hotel discount center and an airline discount center, which provide great discounts and give up to 10 percent of your purchase back to Rotary. See www.rotary.org/globalrewards for details. Spend less, give more.



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



October is

Economic and Community Development Month

Reconnect Week

Reconnect Week, 9-15 October, is an opportunity for you to invite Rotary alumni in your community to join you in a celebration or special event that will help strengthen their bond with Rotary. By staying connected with alumni, you not only cultivate new membership opportunities and network with proven leaders, but you also help them find new ways to make a difference through Rotary.