

ROTARY DISTRICT 5470

International Service News

D-5470 International Service Newsletter #9

March 2018



The Rotary District 5470 International Service Committee educates and nurtures Rotarians and clubs working in the six Areas of Focus.

- ◊ It connects clubs
- ◊ It builds relationships
- ◊ It educates, assists, and may help finance clubs' international project development and fulfillment efforts.

It also inspires Rotarians like you

who chose to visit international projects and see first-hand how *Rotary is Serving Humanity*.

In the previous newsletter we primarily provided information about global grants involving clubs in our district. In this newsletter, we'll show some more of our many global grants as well as upcoming projects

Share your club's international projects and interest with District International Service Chair [Peter Jeschofnig](#) who will share with District clubs.



"Whatever you do will be insignificant, but it is very important that you do it." »

Mahatma Gandhi



Uganda water project

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Rotary Friendship Exchange Plans Colorado Springs RC & Bisceglie RC, Italy

The Colorado Springs Rotary Club is planning a “Friendship Exchange” with the Rotary Club of Bisceglie, Italy.

Last summer when visiting cousins in Italy Donna Dell’Olio attended a Rotary Club meeting in Bisceglie, Italy. She received a big, enthusiastic reception. From that meeting came the idea of a friendship exchange. The Italians (members of the Rotary Club of Bisceglie) with spouses will travel here in late summer 2018.

The Colorado Springs Club would entertain them in their homes, work together on a Rotary Project and “see the sights.” for about three days, possibly more. Then the Rotary Club of Colorado Springs will turn them over to another club in our district to host them for about three days. The Rotary Club of Colorado Springs is looking for a more rural club with access to traditional Colorado life, ranching? Mountains? to partner on this. This is very flexible.

In late November or early December 2018 the Rotary Club of Colorado Springs will travel (with members of other club) and spouses to Bisceglie. This is olive oil making season in Italy. Bisceglie is home to the finest olive oil in the world and a member of the Bisceglie Club is director of a famous olive oil plant. After about three days in Italy and hopefully a day of working on a Rotary Club project there Rotarians will travel to a club in the north of Italy (Bisceglie Club will help partner with a Rotary Club in the north).

Bisceglie is about three towns north of Bari Italy on the Adriatic. The Bisceglie Club is very fun and friendly. Only one or two speak English- but Rotarians can communicate with other Rotarians! Several Colorado Springs Rotarians are studying Italian to get ready for the trip.

For more information call Donna Dell’Olio 719 660 9893 or email ddellolio@cornishanddellolio.com.



Marshyangdi School Project; Kathmandu, Nepal

Submitted by Rob Cairncross, Snowmass RC

The Snowmass Rotary Club is excited to share a new international project we have chosen to support. We are helping a K-12 boarding school in Nepal that was effected by the 2015 devastating earthquakes.

A local mother and son had volunteered at The Marshyangdi School in Kathmandu in 2012, and they took in a student right after the earthquake, so she could spend two years in our valley, and graduate from our public high school.

The Marshyangdi School is not just an exceptional education, but also a nurturing, loving community, healthy meals and lifestyle, and a safe place for the 250 students to thrive. Their motto is "Others Before Self", and that is felt on the campus every day. Most of the children come from high mountain villages in the Himalayas, without access to basic needs, health care, or an education. After the earthquake buried some of their villages, taking the lives of their relatives, many have no other home than school, and some are orphaned.

Rotary can provide them with a new water sanitation system for the school, school supplies, a new kitchen, bedding, medical care, immunization, and so much more.

To learn more about this project, watch a video about the Marshyangdi School at this location:

<https://youtu.be/HAccZb1cxkQ>

or visit the website <https://marshyangdischool.org/>

For additional information you may also contact:
Rob Cairncross <rob@sarick.com>



Request for GG by Morondava Baobab RC, Madagascar

Solar power and training for Madagascar fishing village

The village of BETANIA is a fishing village south of the city of Morondava and isolated from the city by a channel.

This village consists of thirty homes and has no running water and electricity. The planned action is to set up a fishermen's cooperative in the village and provide the village with a solar energy electrical installation, a fishing product conservation unit (cool room) as well as lighting for the fishermen's homes. The project also includes training to maintain the electrical installations and the cool room.

Specific objectives: The fishermen/villagers will be trained in conservation techniques for their products. At the conclusion of this sustainable project the fishermen will be equipped and trained on how to preserve their fish and seafood products, and avoid losing a portion of the harvest to spoilage.

The Morondava RC is fine-tuning the application and the budget. It is expected that the project cost will be around \$ 35,000.

If you are interested in participating in this potential project, please, contact David Smith, Global Grants chair. <dsmith7@unl.edu>



Successful Volunteer Project in Ethiopia

By Becky Kiser, East Colorado Springs RC

The Royal Adventure/Ethiopia was created by the East Colorado Springs RC with participation by the Colorado Springs RC, the Rampart Range RC, the Trampled Rose, and the East Colorado Springs Rotary Fund of the Pikes Peak Community Foundation.

The project was successfully completed in February of 2018 by the six member team of Janet Rose/USA, Lourdes Dominguez Blass/Spain, Keith Curran/Ireland, Melanie Estrada/USA, Tesfaye Legesse/Ethiopia, and Rebekah Kiser/USA.

The entire program was administered to 194 female students but at least 3,000 additional male and female students observed the work shop. We were unable to complete distribution to 50 other students as planned because of a political uprising. We plan to complete distribution in May 2018. We have already been invited to complete the same training with 10,000 additional students in Sheno. Ethiopia.

The purpose of the program was to present a three-part literacy and ethics model to volunteer rural high school and preparatory pre-selected girl students in Muki Turi, Holleta, Merhabete, Sheno, Ankober, and Aliyu Amba, Ethiopia.

The Training:

You are valuable

Using the historical story of the brave Hebrew Queen Aster; the girls were reminded of their own courage. They also learned that one teen age girl, much like themselves, in circumstances they wouldn't have chosen, has the power to change the direction of history.

Your dreams matter

Each girl made a book called "I AM" with daily quotes to remind herself every morning of who she is. They also received laundry soap, rose body soap, and Vaseline. Many of the girls are orphans and haven't been touched in years. It was so nice to give each of them a kiss and let them know we believe in them.

The key to happiness is helping others (Service above Self)

Thousands of students listened to the program outside the training circle. They hung through windows and doors at other schools trying their best to hear the training.

Every student was encouraged to help someone learn to read through phonetic sounds that are matched with the Amharic sound. Our goal is that this practice will not only lead to happiness in helping others, but it will also help the girls do better on their National Exam determining the direction of their future.



Successful Volunteer Project in Ethiopia (continued)

By Becky Kiser, East Colorado Springs RC

One of our most unusual places we traveled (and a fun story about Rotary) was Aliyu Amba. We arrived on a Thursday morning to see the local market in action. There were hundreds of camels, smells of spices, onions, and a large crowd swarming in every direction.



After the men of our team settled in for a delicious breakfast of raw meat and beer, the school director told me that the Rotary Club was waiting at the school and excited to see us.

I was confused about what Rotary Club could possibly be working so far out of the city. I asked the school director and he looked back at me a little puzzled and said, “we loved the four-way test you taught us that we decided to form our own Rotary Club so that we can remind each other the principles.” It might not be official, but I did have to agree that it was a very good idea.



Providing Education to Children from Underprivileged, Discriminated Communities.

Cañon City RC & Dillibazar, Nepal (District Grant)

Two and a half years ago, two devastating earthquakes occurred in quick succession in Nepal. In the Dillibazar suburb of the capital, Kathmandu, three of the five elementary schools were destroyed. Former Cañon City resident, Rotarian Mark Wiebers, is an elementary school principal and his wife is a teacher in Dillibazar.

While other Rotary International clubs provided brick-making machines and other funding and labor to rebuild schools, Mark and two Rotarians in his club requested that we consider funding the education of underprivileged

children in Dillibazar, where many were orphaned in the earthquakes. The cost of \$300 per student would allow untouchable caste orphans (Dalit) or abandoned children in his district to attend school. Funds would pay for tuition and school fees only.



Mark and Chelsey Wiebers with construction workers & school families

Untouchables perform society's "unclean work"—work that involves physical contact with blood, excrement, and other bodily "defilements" as defined by Hindu law. Untouchables cremate the dead, clean human waste from streets and latrines, cut umbilical cords, remove dead animals from the roads, tan hides, sweep gutters and so on. They have to live downwind of the village, and are not allowed to share public wells or places of worship.

Our club raised \$2,100 in personal donations, and received a District Grant Match of \$2,100 which combined, is supporting the education of 14 children who would otherwise not be in school. Mark Wiebers sent details of the criteria for selection, and although our original goal was to support girls, we felt that the Rotarians in Dillibazar should determine those children in greatest need.



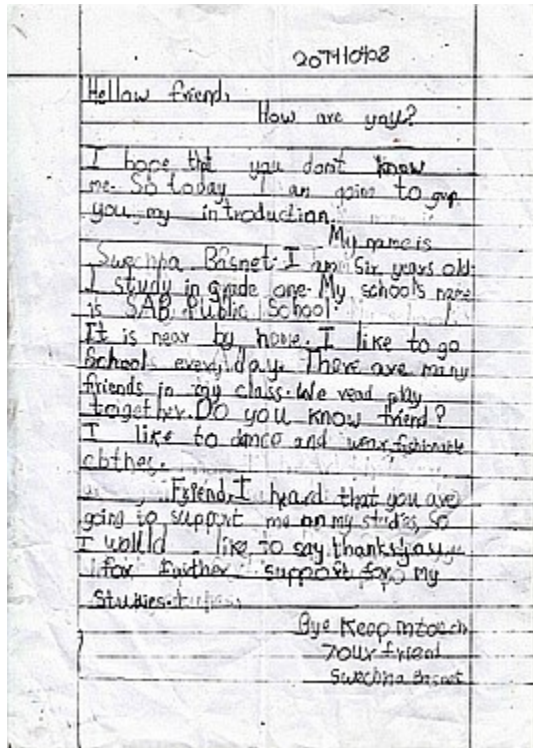
At rebuilding site

Mark Wiebers has sent photographs of the 14 children receiving scholarships, their personal profiles, and has sent us thank you letters and cards from all the children, written in English. Mark's parents, who reside in Cañon City, have been to visit him twice this school year and have reported on the success of these children. The Dillibazar Rotarians are working with local authorities to find a way that this pilot program will be supported in subsequent years by the Nepalese government. Unfortunately, Mark received severe injuries when a vehicle struck his motorbike, but he is recovering, and the project is rolling forward. The new elementary school is adjacent to the high school and is complete.

We have presented information on the ongoing project at a recent Chamber of Commerce event in Cañon City, to local organizations, to Torshavn Rotary Club in the Faroe Islands, in Northern Europe, and to Cirencester Rotary Club in the United Kingdom. It is very gratifying to have the chance to give these children who have so little, a high quality education and a chance at a successful life.

Providing Education to Children from Underprivileged, Discriminated Communities (continued).

Cañon City RC & Dillibazar RC, Nepal (District Grant)



Swechha's letter to Rotary



Swechha Basnet

As a result of our public presentations, other organizations and citizens have provided in-kind gifts, for example a local sewing club and friends are providing the labor for making girls' dresses and boys' shorts for elementary age students, and feminine hygiene kits for girls. The cost materials for the latter item is through another District Grant to our club: **More Education Time for Girls in Third World Countries**, to be described separately.

Contact: Rtn. Linda Carlson, Ph.D., email: linnycarlson@hotmail.com; cell phone: (719) 269-2629.



Mark presenting Rotary check to Dillibazar RC president

More Education Time for Girls in 3rd World Countries

Sponsoring Club: Cañon City RC

Submitted by Linda Carlson, Cañon City RC

Globally 1.25 billion women have no access to a toilet during menstruation, according to the charity, WaterAid. Girls' bathrooms in Senegalese rural co-ed high schools have only a 'squatter potty' (hole in the floor) with no toilet paper, soap or running water, and often no bathroom door. Young women typically miss 5 to 7 days of school a month because of embarrassment, and the lack of availability of facilities and supplies for their monthly hygiene needs.



Several months ago, friends and I who travel to Africa on humanitarian trips met with members of Circle Beth sewing club in Cañon City: these ladies sew children's clothes for Africa, the local Pregnancy Center, and similar causes. We explained the need for girls' washable hygiene supplies in 3rd world countries, and they agreed to start sewing them, using a simple pattern and instructions that we devised.

Each completed hygiene essentials tote consists of a colorful cloth drawstring bag, containing 2 waterproof underwear guards, 6 flannel absorbent pads, a ziplock bag of 3 wash cloths, and a ziplock for used items to be washed.

Our plan is to bring a few (say, 5) ready-made complete hygiene totes to the women of the rural communities we visit. We also bring 20 starter kits to be handed out, which contain needles, needle-threaders, thread, snaps that can be hand sewn, pre-cut waterproof liner fabric, pre-cut twill to create the drawstrings, a pre-cut cardboard pattern and instructions in the official local language: English, French etc. The sanitary underwear and pads can be assembled and easily sewn by hand, if a sewing machine is not available. All they must provide is the fabric, which they can obtain locally.



More Education Time for Girls in 3rd World Countries (cont.)

Sponsoring Club: Cañon City RC

Submitted by Linda Carlson, Cañon City RC



Cañon City Rotary Club donated \$1,000 which was matched by the District Grant for a total of \$2,000. This money and in-kind donations will fund an initial 60 hygiene totes and 1,500 kits to be distributed. The Florence Rotarian partner in this project, Catherine Webster, recently traveled in Kenya where the totes and the concept were received with great enthusiasm by girls, their teachers, and the Rotary Club of Kiambu.

Humanitarians traveling to Liberia, Senegal, Rwanda, Uganda, Mexico, Nepal, India and Haiti will distribute totes and kits this summer; a Cirencester Rotary Club, UK, member who travels to Sierra Leone, following a presentation to her club, has asked to participate.

All production labor is voluntary. Cost of travel overseas is already covered by other organizations, and we have received \$400 in donations from 2 local organizations, to offset excess baggage charges. Our community continues to generously donate labor, funds and materials.

We anticipate an ongoing, self-sustaining program because volunteers for sewing and donations are increasing. To date, we have been donated a serger (overlock) sewing machine, 25 spools of serger thread, many yards of colorful cotton fabric and flannel, twill tape: total value around \$500, and very many hours of volunteer sewing skills – priceless!

This project is led by local Rotarian, Linda Carlson and Lea Darnell, and friends. Presentations continue to be given to other US and overseas Rotary clubs by the Rotarians and individuals involved.

Partnering clubs: Florence-Eastern Fremont County Rotary Club; Rotary Club of Kiambu, Kenya; Rotary Club Dakar, Senegal; Cirencester Rotary Club, UK.

Other partners: Circle Beth Sewing Club, Cañon City community members.



RYE Student Fanni Máté from Romania

Hosted by Pueblo RC (2017-18)

Rotary Youth Exchange changes lives and makes our world a better place

170 days in America. I am feeling so grateful for all! There is no place I would rather be! This country became my second home. All the people around me made me who I am today. Representing my country is such an honor!

I am halfway through, but I still have a lot of plans for this year! It's gonna be amazing!

"Exchange is going from thinking you know who you are, to having no idea who you are anymore to being someone new.

But not entirely new. You are still the person you were before but you jumped into that ice cold lake. You know how it feels like to be on your own. Away from home, with no one you really know. And you find out that you can actually do it."



Vocational Training Team (VTT) planned for joint Rotary – Peace Corps project in Botswana.

Submitted by Dick Dangler—Edwards RC

Most of us know that Montrose Rotarian Amy McBride is currently on a Peace Corps assignment in Botswana as a Civil Society Capacity Building Specialist working to end HIV/AIDS. Our district has recognized the potential benefit of a joint Peace Corps-Rotary project. Indeed, Peace Corps and Rotary formalized a commitment in 2014 to collaborate in promotion of global development and volunteer service. As an active Rotarian, Amy has established contact with the Rotary Club of Gaborone, the capital of Botswana. During a meeting with board members, she pitched a VTT concept to assist non-governmental organizations (NGOs) by bringing nonprofit professionals from District 5470 to Botswana to share their skills with NGOs, specifically those working on HIV/AIDS. (Botswana has one of the world's highest HIV prevalence rates).

Resource mobilization (aka fundraising) is a priority for NGOs, as the Government of Botswana has recognized that since it "is an upper middle-income country, development partners are shifting their resources and hence the need to identify other sources of mainly domestic funding to sustain and accelerate the response to HIV and AIDS." Further, it has identified numerous areas for NGO "systems strengthening," such as Governance/Leadership, Financial Management, and Information Technology. Amy will conduct a needs assessment of Botswana NGOs to determine their priorities, and then prepare a call for participants from District 5470 to fill areas of expertise.

At this point, the trip is planned for late October. During their several weeks in Botswana, VTT members will lead trainings and conduct one-on-one consultations with NGOs in various villages. Amy wants to include a mentorship component, whereby VTT members will continue to check in with their corresponding NGO representatives after their return to Colorado.

Amy got the idea for the VTT from several training needs she identified for the NGOs with which she works. One is for the use of Customer Relationship Management software, since she is helping set up their first "individual giving" programs (to reduce their dependence on foreign aid) and they will need to keep track of donors. Another is for website development, since her skills only go so far with helping to create a website for one of her NGOs.

Amy has been in contact with Edwards Rotarian Dick Dangler, who has agreed to assist with the development of a proposal and to help draft a VTT application. The feedback from our district leadership was positive and Dick and the VTT committee will work on bringing this VTT project to fruition. We'll report on the progress of this project as information becomes available.



Share your expertise

Join D-5470's CADRE of Technical Advisors

The T.R.F. Cadre of Technical Advisors (CADRE) are a group of volunteer Rotarians who possess professional expertise in Rotary's six areas of focus. They provide technical expertise and support to Rotarians planning and implementing TRF grant projects around the world. They are a most useful resource because they have a database of >700 Rotarian experts in all areas (**and sub-areas**) of focus.

Some districts are starting their own Cadres--which can be augmented by TRF Cadre. D-5470 is also in the process of developing its own Cadre of Technical Advisors.

If you are interested and willing to join the D-5470 Cadre, please send me a short note and I'll contact you by email or phone (pjeschofnig@gmail.com)

If you are also interested in joining the TRF Cadre, please download the instructions: "How to Register for TRF's Cadre of Technical Advisors" from this link: <https://my.rotary.org/en/document/cadre-technical-advisers-registration>

If you like to learn more about the TRF Cadre, please check out the PowerPoint Presentation about the Cadre: https://www.slideshare.net/Rotary_International/the-rotary-foundation-cadre-of-technical-advisors

Need advice or guidance on a project?
Interested in joining the cadre or want to learn more?

- Visit www.rotary.org/en/cadre-technical-advisers
- E-mail cadre@rotary.org



Global Grants Projects Involving Our clubs

Many of our clubs are the International Partners of Global Grants (GG) Projects around the world.

Our clubs also contribute to projects conducted by other districts.

Whether your club is the international partner in a project or is simply contributing to a project, remember that D-5470 is usually prepared to match your club's contributions from District Designated Funds (DDF).

To request D-5470 DDF, you need to complete a simple request form and send it to the D-5470 Global Grants Chair, David Smith < dsmith7@unl.edu >

Contact Us

Do you want to have your International Service project displayed in a future newsletter? Send the story and a few photos to pjeschofnig@gmail.com



Water & Sanitation Projects Around the World

Global Grants Basics:

- Large, long-term projects
- Sustainable, measureable outcomes
- Alignment with Areas of Focus
- Real community needs (via needs assessment)
- International partnerships (frequent communication)
- Implementation plan
- Proper Stewardship of funds
- Involve Rotary clubs in two districts
- Minimum budget of US\$30,000
- Minimum TRF match \$ 15,000

For detailed instructions on Global Grants applications check out David Smith's **GUIDE TO GLOBAL GRANTS:**
<http://www.rotary5470.org/SitePage/global-grants>

If you would like to be the international partner of a Global Grant or simply contribute to an existing D-5470 Global Grant contact the Global Grants Committee chair, David Smith dsmith7@unl.edu or Peter Jeschofnig pjeschofnig@gmail.com