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 fulfilment 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.

“Humanitarian work should be part of your life goals.”

- Toni Payne

Share your club’s international projects and interest with District International Service Chair Peter Jeschofnig who will share with District clubs.

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In the province of Formosa, Argentina, there are many children and adolescents with neurological and physical disabilities like cerebral palsy, encephalopathy, hemiplegia, craneoencephalic trauma, paraplegia and other associated diseases. These diseases keep the afflicted students in a state of virtual isolation due to a lack of mobility. Members of the 9 de Julio Formosa Rotary Club have been working for many years to provide education to these children by supplying them with wheelchairs so they can attend school. Without wheelchairs, these children are practically abandoned in their homes, without access to any type of education and or medical or psychological help.

There are several special schools, including Special School Number 12 and Rehabilitation Centers that employ professors in Special Education, Kinesiology, Phonoaudiology (Speech and Hearing Therapy), Social Work, Guidance Counseling, Child Psychology, and Occupational Therapy, and where the children with neuro-motor disorders receive adequate treatment and monitoring of physical development.

Through this global grant, 48 special wheelchairs and transport wheelchairs will be provided to the schools allowing additional students with disabilities access to basic education and integration with other children, of which they are currently absolutely deprived. Wheelchairs and proper training also help prevent physical injuries that children without wheelchairs suffer, from falling or lying on the floor.

The members of RC 9 de Julio Formosa, together with the management and personnel of the School Nr. 12, will be in charge of the monitoring and control tasks for the proper use of the delivered chairs, also of the progress of the kinesiology treatments and learning of the beneficiaries and their families.

If you would like to find out more about this project, feel free to contact David Smith of the Pagosa Springs Rotary Club - jdsmith7@unl.edu
The Rotary Club of Pagosa Springs is recognized locally for its many programs that support and enhance the quality of life in Pagosa Springs. Current projects include scholarships for advanced studies, organization of the 4th of July Parade, the Feed Our Children Program, providing dictionaries to 3rd grade students, and more.

The Rotary Club of Pagosa Springs is also helping to improve the quality of life in some of the poorest countries in the world. It has recently joined with Rotary Clubs in Carbondale, Aspen, with three Rotary Clubs in Canada and with a Rotary Club in Niger to carry out a project in Niger. The goal of this project is to lift subsistence farmers in Africa out of poverty by approaching farming as a business and not just a means of survival. This goal will be achieved by providing a solar powered irrigation system and educating women and children to view farming as a business. The project is being implemented in the village of Gueriguindi, Niger, which is 30 minutes outside the capital city of Niamey.

Economic development in Niger has been slow. According to the UN Human Development Index statistics, Niger is the poorest country on earth. 70% of the country lies within the Sahara desert. Its 17 million citizens are primarily subsistence farmers, growing barely enough rain-fed crops to feed themselves. Drought conditions prevail in two years out of five. The general shortage of rain puts the food supply at constant risk. Farmers are trapped in a cycle of endless poverty. Feeling desperate to feed their families, they may try to migrate to Europe or they may join terrorists groups that offer hope and wages.

Rotary program will provide a solar powered pump to supply water to the fields. At this time, the solar panels have been installed and the pump is expected to be delivered soon.
The Farmers of the Future Program introduces new agricultural concepts, encouraging farmers to think of farming as a business and not just a means of survival. These new concepts and techniques are introduced simultaneously to 2 generations: to primary school students open and receptive to new ideas and to their parents, primarily mothers, who put new ideas immediately into practice. Working with students and parents has a synergistic effect in creating change. Students learn that farming can be a good source of income. Mothers prove the point by significantly increasing household income.

This project is funded through Rotary clubs in Colorado and Canada, and through matching funds from The Rotary Foundation. Total budget for the project is $54,315. The Rotary club, Niamey-Gaweye, Niger oversees the entire project. It is responsible for dispersing funds; it visits the site regularly to monitor progress; and it is the main point-of-contact for the clubs supporting the project. Although the residents of this village have never heard of Denver, they have heard of Pagosa Springs and they know that there are people in Pagosa Springs who are helping them to improve their quality of life.

If you would like to find out more about this project, feel free to contact David Smith of the Pagosa Springs Rotary Club - jdsmith7@unl.edu

Or John Craig of the Carbondale Rotary Club - john craig1234@gmail.com
Guatemala Literacy Project
Rotary Clubs of Aspen & Snowmass Village

This is a typical story

Ancelma goes to school in rural Guatemala. Most of her classmates have dropped out, and now it’s her turn. Her parents, who are illiterate and make about $4 a day, need her to join them in the fields. Even though her school has no computers or books, she knows it is her best chance for a better future. Now that future seems impossible.

But You Can Rewrite It.

What if, instead, she found the resources to stay in school? In Guatemala, a high school diploma opens a world of opportunities, especially for poor children like Ancelma, who often start their careers making four times more money than their father. That money educates their siblings, and eventually, their children—creating a ripple effect that shatters the cycle of poverty.

The Guatemala Literacy Project (GLP) is a partnership between Rotary clubs and the nonprofit Cooperative for Education (CoEd). It was forged to promote both traditional and technological literacy in Guatemala, one of the poorest countries in the world and one with the highest rate of illiteracy. As of this year, 505 Rotary clubs around the world have participated in the GLP. The GLP has four sustainable programs:

◊ textbooks,
◊ computer centers,
◊ literacy training, and
◊ scholarships.

If you would like to find out more about this project, feel free to contact Heidi Hoffmann of the Aspen Rotary Club <hhharch@rof.net>
The Edwards Rotary Club in partnership with the Clubs of Aspen, Vail, Durango Daybreak and Chandigarh Midtown in India submitted an application to TRF for a Global Grant to bring solar energy for Himalayan Villages to grow their economy. In addition to the Rotary Clubs, the Global Himalayan Expedition, an Indian social enterprise, will provide financing, solar experience and volunteers to assist in the implementation of this Community Economic Growth activity in three high-altitude remote villages. A secondary focus of this project is to introduce technology and training to provide basic educational tools for digital learning.

Can you imagine the developed world without electricity? Would we have factories and retail shops? Would we have small local businesses? Would we have schools and universities able to provide our industries with advance scientific professionals? If you turn off all electricity in the United States, you would just begin to feel what it is like to live in a remote Himalayan village. Now consider the extremely high altitudes at which they live — above 14,000-foot elevation and isolated by snow for at least half the year. The goal of this solar energy project is to provide a green environment that will provide opportunities for villagers to climb out of poverty and build a thriving community by developing new business activities, fostering entrepreneurs and providing education for generations.

It is no coincidence that bringing stable, sustainable clean energy to remote Himalayan communities will bring new ways to generate income, help grow local economies and spur development. The bottom-up driver for business worldwide comes from electricity. Poverty is a barrier to electricity access. Without access to a renewable energy source, there will be no economic opportunities and that is daunting to these remote villages/hamlets in the Himalayan Mountains of India who have never had electricity, nor will they, without the villagers developing an energy source. During long winter months, villagers endure more than 12 hours of darkness each day. This project goal is not development of an infrastructure but the supply of electricity as the engine for economic growth.

How can Rotary improve this situation? You only need to ask the villagers and they will tell you they long for electricity similar to what they see when visiting markets in larger towns. They see people do not stop work or close shops at sunset. They see lights come on and work continues. That is what they all want and they know their government is not in a position to bring the national grid to their remote locations. However, organizations like Rotary can help them create economically meaningful change. The project also fits the Rotary Areas of Focus, it is sustainable and it is doable. The photo shows villagers discussing their hope for a solar power project similar to those installed at several other remote villages. They understand the need to make a commitment for participation and sustainability for it to happen. They know participation includes bringing in the panels and batteries. This is no simple task as you can see.
The project is to install Solar PV panels that will create direct current to power a microgrid for electricity to promote business ventures. Electricity generated will provide villagers with three to four additional hours of light each day for home study, distance learning and for livelihood activities including handicraft, micro enterprises and upgrade visitor homestays accommodations. Additionally, solar electricity will provide energy necessary for creation of innovation learning centers at three schools serving 42 villages. Electricity is necessary to provide educational opportunities for young Himalayan entrepreneurs to learn how to use requisite digital educational tools to lead their communities in growth and prosperity. A growing community also needs security to attract business. Below shows a village at 9 p.m. before electricity and the same village 24 hours later with electricity.

Not only is a village security improved with lighting, but it is a necessity for new job creation where light is a requirement for business activities and evening store lighting. The photo shows an example of job creation where a young entrepreneur opened a store to support solar power by selling DC LED bulbs and where he provides villagers a place for them to display and sale handicrafts to trekkers and tourists during summer months.
Electricity significantly supports the homestay industry sought after by trekkers and tourists. In fact, homestay accommodations appear to be one of the activities that will bring in more business and revenue once electricity is available. Visitors want facilities where they can work late into the night and have recharging ports for their cameras, iPads and notebooks.

These examples are just a few of the activities that will increase a community’s ability to grow and develop new businesses, businesses that will elevate them to a life above the poverty level. At the same time, lighting and computing capabilities will improve their children’s learning in the classroom and increase evening study hours at home. As student performance gets better, kids will stay in schools longer, even enrolling in a college or vocational school. With a good educational background, they will be drawn into the labor force and create income that they would not have been able to generate without an education. The engine that will drive their economic development in the establishment of new business ventures and job creation is electricity. Imagine what the U.S. economy would look like if our power grid did not exist.

Unfortunately at this time The Rotary Foundation determined that this activity did not meet its eligibility guidelines for the Economic and Community Development Area of Focus. However we cannot give up now. Too many villagers are relying on this program to provide them with economically meaningful change. We believe it is possible to convince TRF that this project is not just an infrastructure project. The generation and consumption of electricity will provide the driving force for economic development.

For additional information about this Global Grant Project contact: Richard Dangler, Edwards Rotary Club <rdangler@hotmail.com>
Emergency Medicine Training Project for the DRC (Congo)
Lamar Rotary Club

Emergency Medicine is non-existent in the DRC. Congo's Protestant University (UPC) and a team from Australia, funded in part by the Lamar Rotary Club, in collaboration with the World Health Organization (WHO) and the African Federation of Emergency Medicine, are proposing to change that statistic. In fact, they have already started! In the Spring of 2016, the UPC Family Medicine program team joined Dr. Vera Sistenich and Lucy Hobgood-Brown, UPC's Australian representative, in South Africa for the annual conference of the International Conference on Emergency Medicine. Read all about this exciting initiative and donate to this fledging program aimed at building a healthy Congo by visiting this website: www.educationcongo.org.

Rhumba and Resuscitation: Emergency Medicine Education in the D.R. Congo

“Has anyone done resuscitation on a real patient?” A few hands go up in a room of doctors, nurses and medical students. “Has anyone seen a situation where resuscitation should have been started but nobody was there who knew how to do it?” The room erupts with cries of “Papa Wemba!”

On April 24, 2016, DRC’s flamboyant King of Rhumba collapsed and died on stage at the age of 66 during a concert in Côte d’Ivoire. Videos of the incident went viral and it was clear that not even the personnel wearing Red Cross bibs knew how to start CPR. Papa Wemba received a state funeral a few days later and Kinshasa was plastered with banners and murals of grief and commemoration.

This was the backdrop to our visit and work on a Congolese initiative to progress emergency medicine education. I am a specialist emergency physician based in Sydney with an interest in developing emergency medicine in low resource settings. Lucy grew up in the Congo where her parents lived and worked. Lucy’s father was the Chancellor of the Université Protestante au Congo (UPC - www.upcrdc.org); Lucy is also a co-founder of the NGO HandUp Congo (www.handupcongo.org) through which she has been doing community development projects since 2005. We met at a development sector social function in Sydney in October 2013 shortly after I returned to Australia from working with the International Committee of the Red Cross in Geneva.

HandUp Congo volunteer Dr Vera Sistenich contributed this article following her recent visit to the Democratic Republic of Congo (DRC) with fellow volunteer, Lucy Hobgood-Brown. For the rest of the story, go to http://www.educationcongo.org/rhumba-and-resuscitation-emergency-medicine-education-dr-congo

To find out more about Lamar RC's involvement with this project, contact Dr. Margaret Loewen - Lamar Rotary Club. miloewen@hotmail.com or cell phone: 719-688-4125
This project focuses two of the most critical health issues of third-world countries and indigenous peoples in particular. Worldwide, 4 million women and children die every year from open cooking fires and millions more die from unsafe drinking water.

Our Guatemala water and stove project will address these issues in the village of Canguacha. This Mayan village of 3000 is located in a mountainous area eight hours northeast of Guatemala City.

Their current water source is a stream running through the village. This stream tested very high for bacterial contaminate. This Global Grant project will access an alternate source two km higher up in the mountains. We will rebuild a small dam and install a new pipe line. Water meters will be attached to cisterns located around the village and a small fee charged and deposited into a fund to maintain the water system.

There are 400 families in the village; all use open cooking fires in their homes. We will provide 250 families with stoves. The stoves are not free. Families with stoves will contribute each month to the cost of their stove. We will use these funds to purchase additional stoves until all families have a new clean burning stove. Villagers throughout Guatemala have to buy their firewood, most of which comes from illegal wood cutting, contributing to extensive deforestation. What these stoves will save in firewood costs per family is more than the monthly cost for their stoves. Once every family has a stove the monthly payments will no longer be required.

If you would like to find out more about this project, feel free to contact Rick LeGrand of the Durango Daybreak Rotary Club <legrand@frontier.net>
South African Dental Clinic
Horizon Sunrise Rotary Club in Grand Junction
by Miquette Gerber

The President and President-Elect of the Horizon Sunrise Rotary Club in Grand Junction will be traveling to South Africa in March 2017 to volunteer in a pediatric dental clinic. This will be the second time Miquette Gerber (President) and Lindsay Keller (PE) have traveled to South Africa to volunteer in a dental clinic for children. While neither woman has formal training in dentistry, many hands are needed in these clinics where more than 1,000 procedures are typically performed by an international staff of volunteer dentists. Procedures include exams, restorations (fillings), extractions, and oral hygiene lessons. The dental clinic is free to all children under 18 years of age. The clinic is put on by non-profit organization "Medicine-Arm-In-Arm" with assistance from the Rotary Clubs of Santa Barbara, California; Dundee, South Africa; and Mbane, Swaziland, in addition to Grand Junction Horizon Sunrise.

If you would like to find out more about this project, feel free to contact Miquette Gerber of the Horizon Sunrise Rotary Club - miquette.gerber@gmail.com
Four Colorado Springs Rotarians are off to Nicaragua for a service trip to determine needs for a water project. Jean Feist, Donna Dell’Olio, John Rodgers, and Katherine George are making the trip. They will tour 3 water projects in north Nicaragua, one completed and 2 under construction. The Rotary group will also be hosting a lunch for El Crucero community leaders and government officials and meeting with the Managua Rotary President. They are also taking 100 pair of eyeglasses provided by Rotarian, Dr. Michael Haas, to distribute at Clinica de Susie Syke in El Crucero. We look forward to hearing about the trip and another opportunity for us to do good in the world.
Ascend's mission is to help young women develop the self-confidence and skills that will enable them to lead their communities towards a more secure, just and productive future. Ascend was formed with the belief that, working together, young people can play a central role in a nation's transition from war to peace.

The overarching goal is to assist young Afghan women cultivate leadership skills and create lasting social impact in their communities and their country. Our team of 23 young women aged 15-23 spends six days a week engaged either in direct physical training, class-room based leadership training, or giving back to their communities through service projects, including teaching orphaned Afghan children, working at animal rescue centers, or teaching at the Women's Library and Garden. Ascend has the unique ability to introduce younger Afghan girls to the freedom and joy of the outdoors, while affirming their efficacy in their community.

For more information about this project, feel free to contact - John Hopkins <bigjohn@independence.net>
Primary Project Goals: 1. This project is designed to generate income and employment opportunities for women and their families in local communities. To utilize existing Tibetan Homes resources within the community to solve income generation and employment shortfall. 2. The RKHD – VTT Project focuses on solving issues around employment, through education and economic empowerment. 3. To leverage the Tibetan local culture to attract domestic and international travelers from lodging at generic accommodations options. 4. To create an environment for improving the quality of live in the Kangding and surrounding communities where the project is implemented.

Primary Project Motivation: Almost 80% of the Tibetan population lives in rural villages and struggles to sustain their livelihood on subsistence farming and bartering practices. 2. According to 2010 China National Bureau of Statistics, literacy rate for Tibetans is 37% compared to China’s overall literacy rate of 96%. 3. Tibetans are there for fundamentally disadvantaged in job market as a result of the low illiteracy rate and there for have a significantly lower employment rate. 4. Tibetan families are motivated to develop business that safeguard and promote their traditional culture thought socially and culturally responsible business that align with their Buddhist belief system. 5. Local families lack access to culturally relevant training to increase their business skills in support of their economic development. 6. As there is a lack of sustainable methods for families to generate income there is a repeating generation trend to the current generations and their children, limiting their access and ability to invest in: a. Education b. Healthcare c. Sanitation 7. To promote peace and international mutual understanding between Han Chinese, Tibetans, overseas travelers and more.
Proposed D-5470 VTT project—continued

Project Objectives: Establish a model Tibetan Bed & Breakfast Inn
Train the trainers (TOT) through study tour of exchange visits
Improve Bed & Breakfast business skills of 16 Women

If you would like to find out more about this project, feel free to contact Eddie Cheung <EandNcheung@aol.com> of the Durango Daybreak RC, or Claudine Bogart <crb32@msn.com>
In 2012, during my term as president of Cañon City Rotary Club, I received an email from S. Gunashekar, Past President of a Rotary Club in Chennai, India, whose Club was interested in befriending clubs founded in the same year as theirs, 1929. There are around 180 Rotary 1929 clubs world-wide, with 87 in the USA and Guna and his colleagues decided to host a conference for members to meet one another.

In March 2012, individuals from seven Clubs of 1929, including my husband Eric and myself, attended a week-long event in Chennai. Clubs of 1929 from Chennai, Mumbai, Malaysia, Brazil and the USA met and exchanged stories about our history and current projects. Enduring friendships were the result as well as plans for future project partnerships. What a fantastic experience! Our hosts could not have been more gracious.

One of the highlights was the celebration of World Polio Day (on Paul Harris’s birthday) when we visited a local Women’s Hospital and administered the polio prevention drops to babies and young children. Many mothers had traveled on foot for days from their villages, to be able to avail themselves of protection from the disease for their children.

The Chennai Club had arranged a wealth of Rotary and other experiences for us, including visiting historic sites, taking a boat to a sunken temple, visiting a fishing village which had been washed away by a tsunami, but now rebuild by Rotary Clubs, visiting a home/technical training school for boys, and one for girls, taking a 2 hour yoga class and many other interesting .

Three years later, in March 2016, a second Clubs of 1929 meeting was held in Mumbai, with members of an additional Club from Sri Lanka, and Eric and I attended that too, enjoying a similarly outstanding itinerary. The next meeting will be in Malaysia in 2019. Any 1929 club interested please contact me and I will pass along information on that as I receive it. Breckenridge and Durango Rotary Clubs were founded in 1929. Linda Carlson <linnycarlson@hotmail.com>
District 5470 is active in sponsoring scholars for both Global Grant Scholarships and Peace Fellowships. The best source of information on these programs is on the district website's scholarship page. There you are able to find updated information regarding applications and deadlines.  

http://rotary5470.org/SitePage/scholarships

District 5470 provides district designated funds of $15,000 each year with a match from the Rotary Foundation for a Global Grant Scholarship valued at $30,000. A Global Grant Scholarship funds international graduate level study in one of the six areas of focus -- Peace & Conflict Resolution, Disease Prevention & Treatment, Water & Sanitation, Maternal & Child Health, Basic Education & Literacy, and Economic & Community Development. Application information will be available in June 2017 and may be found at the district website's scholarship page.

District 5470 is the international district for a Global Grant Scholarship for Jourdan McGinn, originally from Colorado Springs. She studies at the London School of Hygiene and Tropical Medicine and her host club is Newport Pagnell north of London. Jourdan is pursuing a Masters of Science in Public Health with a focus on maternal and child health within developing countries. Jourdan hopes to use her MSc to return to East Africa and find scalable, financially sustainable, and impactful solutions to the problems women face before, during, and after childbirth. Jourdan was jointly sponsored by the Broadmoor District Rotary Club and the Rotary Club of Colorado Springs.

Emily Hoover of Colorado Springs was selected by the district in November 2016 to apply for a $30,000 Global Grant Scholarship. She has been conditionally accepted to the University of Cambridge for study in Fall 2017. Emily is currently in the process of awaiting approval by the Rotary Foundation. Emily is sponsored by the Rotary Club of Colorado Springs.

The Rotary Foundation selects 100 Peace Fellows each year for two programs -- Master's Degree and Professional Development Certificate. An excellent explanation of these highly competitive programs is available at


Information regarding Rotary Peace Fellowships for 2018 will be available in late January 2017. Application deadline for submittal to the district will be in May 2017. Again, the best source of information is the district website.

Shea Brenneman of Colorado Springs will be leaving in January 2017 for an 18-month course of study in Peace & Conflict Resolution at the University of Queensland in Australia. Shea applied for this master's degree Peace Fellowship in May 2015 and earned the award in November 2015. The long wait since the award is due to scheduling requirements at the university.

Specific questions may be addressed to the district scholarship committee at d5470scholarships@gmail.com
Rotary Volunteer Opportunity: Teach ESL in Senegal

You are invited to join a team which is teaching conversational English As A Second Language in Guéoul Sénégal, July 17 to September 17, 2017. This is a project by Englewood Rotary and Friends of Guéoul.

A top level computer classroom supports the program, which aims to give mastery of English, a requirement for admission to Sénégal universities. You get home stay and a cross cultural experience with a warm and hospitable people. Drumming lessons included! Call Katlynn Wright at 720 435 4043 or email her <katelynn.wright64@gmail.com>
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>

Global Grants Basics:
Large, long-term projects
Sustainable, measurable 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

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

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
First Annual Rotary D-5470 Cruise

OCEANIA CRUISES®
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FIRST ANNUAL ROTARY DISTRICT 5470 CRUISE
OCEANIA REGATTA, ALASKA, JULY 2017

Join your Rotary friends and colleagues from District 5470 cruising Alaska’s Inside Passage on the beautiful Oceania Regatta. The Regatta departs from Seattle on July 14th, returning on July 21st, 2017.

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