

# ROTARY DISTRICT 5470

## *International Service News*

D-5470 International Service Newsletter #2

November 2016



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 International Service volunteer activities in our district. In this newsletter, we'll show some of the many global grants our clubs are involved with and opportunities to advertise your international project to district clubs that might wish to participate.

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



*"If you cannot feed a hundred people , feed just one.."*

*- Mother Theresa*



Durango Daybreak Rotarians doing solar energy project in NW Nepal

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# Recent D-5470 International Rotary projects

## Farmers of the Future: Lifting subsistence farmers in Niger out of poverty

Carbondale Rotary Club

Once upon a time there was a poor woman named Hamsa Kindo living in Niger, the poorest country on earth. She had a husband, 2 sons, 4 daughters and 6 grandchildren. She felt like a burden, having many expenses and no way to contribute. Then she joined Farmers of the Future, an innovative program supported by Rotary, and her life changed forever.

“Before the project I had to ask my husband for everything. I had no occupation and no money of my own. Farmers of the Future was like a dream. They taught me how to grow vegetables and graft fruit trees. Now with the money I make, my dreams of independence became reality. My relationship with my husband is good since I am not any more a burden on his shoulders. I paid for the wedding of my daughters. I pay the school fees of my children. I help my sons buy food and clothes for their wives. Today I have a positive role in my family and my community.”



*Hamsa (seated) with her family*

Farmers of the Future helps subsistence farmers in Africa lift themselves out of poverty by approaching farming as a business and maximizing profits from small plots of land. Irrigation is the key. With irrigation the risk of drought is eliminated and crops can be grown year round. Water is used to grow vegetables and fruit trees, crops of high economic and nutritional value. These new approaches are taught simultaneously to 2 generations: to children open and receptive to new ideas (think 4-H) and to mothers of those children who put new ideas immediately into practice. Women and children become the agents of economic transformation in the community!

A global grant from Rotary in 2013 helped fund pilot testing of the program. The Rotary Club of Carbondale led the way with support from 3 other clubs in the Roaring Fork Valley, 4 clubs from Toronto Canada and matching grants from District 5470, two districts in Canada and Rotary International.



*District Governor meets FOF women farmers in 2014*

In 2014, the Rotary Governor of District 9102 (covering 14 countries in West Africa) visited the Farmers of the Future sites. He was so impressed by what he saw and heard that he called Farmers of the Future “an example of sustainable development that should be duplicated as a regional project.”

The Rotary Club of Carbondale has taken the lead again in 2016 organizing a second global grant to create a showcase garden for the program. This new site will help build awareness and support for the program as we pursue opportunities to expand to new villages in Niger and neighboring West African countries.

If you would like to find out more about this project, feel free to contact John Craig of the Carbondale Rotary Club - [johncraig1234@gmail.com](mailto:johncraig1234@gmail.com)



# Recent D-5470 International Rotary projects

## Engine for Ambulance Boat, Mfangano Island, Lake Victoria, Kenya

Rotary Club of Glenwood Springs Sunset

Mfangano Island lies near the boundary waters of Kenya, Tanzania and Uganda, in the heart of Lake Victoria. Mfangano is home to approximately 26,000 people of Suba and Luo descent. The small beach villages that line the shores are accessible from the mainland only by a 2-hour ride on wooden outboard canoes. Fishing and subsistence farming are primary occupations for the majority of residents.

The remote communities of Mfangano face many serious challenges. With over 30% of the population infected with HIV, Mfangano and the surrounding islands represent one of the most HIV prevalent populations on this planet. Poverty and disease has forced these vulnerable communities to make dangerous changes to their local environment in order squeeze out enough to survive. Deforestation on the mountain and over-fishing in the lake has taken a huge toll, threatening annual rainfall and draining the local economy.

A core of volunteer Community Health Workers link every household to remote clinics. Talented teachers, most of whom grew up here on Mfangano, return to educate enthusiastic students in 19 Primary Schools and 8 Secondary Schools. The Glenwood Springs Sunset RC has supported various projects to improve the conditions on the island, from helping to set up an HIV station to providing a motor for the ambulance boat.



If you would like to find out more about this project, feel free to contact Sandy Lowell of the Glenwood Springs Sunset Rotary Club - [slowell3@gmail.com](mailto:slowell3@gmail.com)

# Recent D-5470 International Rotary projects

## Guatemala Literacy Project

Rotary Clubs of Aspen & Snowmass Village

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.

In developing countries like Guatemala, much of the population lives in poverty with little access to adequate jobs, medical care, and housing. Education offers the best hope for these countries to advance and to sustain that advancement into the future.

As in most countries, there is already an educational system in Guatemala—basic infrastructures are in place such as school buildings, desks, and teachers. The quality of education, however, is very poor. The greatest reason for this is the lack of textbooks and other learning materials. Often as much as 80% of each class period is wasted in copying text and diagrams from the blackboard—information which could be provided much more effectively in textbooks.

Furthermore, many students fail to develop proper study skills because they have no books to take home for further reading and investigation. These factors result in low enthusiasm, poor performance, and high dropout rates.

GLP programs serve rural Guatemala, mainly in the country's Central and Western Highlands. Program regions are inhabited primarily by indigenous Mayan Indians and plagued by systemic poverty, illiteracy, and inequality. The school systems in these communities are under-resourced and typically neglected by government support structures.



If you would like to find out more about this project, feel free to contact Sandy Lowell of the Glenwood Springs Sunset Rotary Club - [slowell3@gmail.com](mailto:slowell3@gmail.com)

# Recent D-5470 International Rotary projects

## Breast Cancer Imagery (BCI) Project – Gjakova, Kosovo Rotary Club of Edwards

The Breast Cancer Imagery (BCI) Project in Gjakova, Kosovo was developed after considerable discussions on cost effectiveness, working relationships with core partners and host community commitment. Given the Edwards Club's limited budget of just \$3,000 to start a project estimated to cost over \$300,000, the Club leveraged Rotary's matching funds policy. With a project proposal finalized, funding was sought and a buy-in from 27 partners in four countries and two non-Rotarian groups was secured. Upon receiving TRF grant approval, the project was implemented (in March) and completed four months later in mid-July. It was a triumph.

In large measure, the success of the project was determined by a community's cry for help in combating a higher than normal cancer occurrence as an aftermath of a war where depleted uranium shells were used. To answer this desperate call on a broad scale, the Gjakova Rotary and Edwards Rotary Clubs' installation of the second mammography center targeted a country of almost two million people. The equipment vendor installed, trained staff and proved they had the ability to repair and maintain the equipment when needed. (The equipment is a Siemens Mam-momat Inspiration digital mammography platform for screening, diagnostics, biopsy and tomosynthesis operations. While these facilities are generally used by women, an awareness outreach campaign is alerting men on the need for their gender to use the facilities as well. The responsibility of sustaining operational funds, official support and partner involvement resides with the Municipality's Director of Health Department and the Gjakova Family Medical Center. Though most screenings are undertaken at no expense to patients, sustainable funding is assured from annual government budgetary funds and some patient fees.

Being deliberate in building project success includes public promotion of Rotary's projects to help partners and beneficiaries see their contributions alongside successful outcomes gained. Celebrating successes go a long way to reinforce shared vision and responsibilities.

In July 2016, Rotary International Vice President Jennifer Jones joined a ribbon-cutting ceremony with our clubs and the Gjakova citizens. Her attendance at the celebration demonstrated full engagement by Rotary and the value of collective effort. The project continues to gain stature and reputation in the community as local media runs coverage on the center's operations where, in its first month, over 200 women received screenings and where over 400 more women from distant villages have registered for appointments. Without a doubt, this project has and will save lives.



If you would like to find out more about this project, feel free to contact Richard Dangler of the Edwards Rotary Club - [rdangler@hotmail.com](mailto:rdangler@hotmail.com)



# Recent D-5470 International Rotary projects

## Science Education in Senegal

Rotary Clubs of Pagosa Springs and Cañon City

The Rotary clubs of Pagosa Springs and Cañon City have teamed up to improve science education in junior high and high schools in Senegal. In addition to providing science books, lab supplies and a teacher training workshop, they provided a Science Day for all of the 6<sup>th</sup> grade students in a village.

One goal of this program is to increase participation of Senegalese students in science. Currently, approximately 20% of Senegalese youth pursue the science curriculum in high school, yet the Senegalese government has set a goal of 80% participation by the year 2025.

How to teach science to 200 sixth grade students in their ethnic language, Wolof? This was the challenge faced by the Rotary team, which includes Rita Jensen, Jean Smith and David Smith (Pagosa Springs) and Linda Carlson (Cañon City).

Although the national language of Senegal is French, most youth in this region speak Wolof at home and learn French at school. The Rotary Club team speaks French, but not Wolof.

This language problem was solved by recruiting 12 high school science students, who were trained to teach specific projects in biology, chemistry and physics by the Rotary team speaking French. Each member of the Rotary team had three high school teaching assistants who taught small groups of 6<sup>th</sup> grade students in Wolof.

One biology class, developed by Linda Carlson, focused on plant growth and observations of plants using hand lenses. Students in the other biology class, developed by Rita Jensen, learned how to use microscopes to explore plant and animal cells. In the chemistry class, Jean Smith showed how to power an LED light from a battery they built using copper and zinc electrodes and oranges. The physics class, developed by David Smith, focused on the properties of permanent magnets.

The 6<sup>th</sup> grade students showed great interest in their STEM classes. This was their first opportunity to see their own cheek cells in a microscope; their first experience playing with magnets; their first opportunity to explore the world around them using a hand lens. Their teachers said that this is a good step in fulfilling the national goal of increasing science class enrollment.

Providing the 12 high school students an opportunity to teach for a day had an unintended consequence. The Rotary team was impressed with the enthusiasm, skill and preparation of these student teachers. Several said that they liked teaching and will likely pursue careers teaching science.

Such aid projects are possible because many of the 1.2 million Rotarians in 200 clubs around the world give money to the Rotary Foundation. Funds from the Rotary Club of Pagosa Springs and the Cañon City Rotary Club are used to leverage funds from the Rotary Foundation to support several international aid projects. The non-profit, Friends of Guéoul ([www.gueoul.org](http://www.gueoul.org)), has been an important contributor to this program.



Senegalese high school science student teaches 6th grade students how to make a battery from strips of metal and oranges. The student teacher speaks both French and Wolof, the native language of the students.



Teaching by pointing: Pagosan and veteran teacher, Rita Jensen, communicates with students even when they do not speak a common language.



High School science student demonstrates properties of magnets to 6<sup>th</sup> grade girls in a rural village in Senegal.



Sixth grade Senegalese girl looks at her cheek cells in a microscope

If you would like to find out more about this project, feel free to contact David Smith of the Pagosa Springs Rotary Club - [dsmith7@unl.edu](mailto:dsmith7@unl.edu)



# Recent D-5470 International Rotary projects

## BiblioBus Project – Ferizaj, Kosovo Rotary Club of Edwards

A Beneficiary's BiblioBus story -- from a Kosovo village student

In a partnership with the Rotary Club of Ferizaj, Kosovo, the Edwards Rotary Club sponsored a mobile library project called BiblioBus. It began when Rotarian Dangler was the Chief of Party for the International Relief and Development NGO installing water systems for those in Kosovo lacking potable water service.



A Rotarian from Ferizaj, a design engineers on this project, mentioned that his club had been looking for an international partner for several years and could not find one to help with their mobile library project, called the Biblobus. Clearly the Ferizaj RC invested many months of developing a project to serve 44 villages, none of which have a school or community library. For years the villagers had approached the local government and humanitarian groups to help. Ferizaj RC took up the cause because they could see the villagers' strong desire for access to books. The Edwards RC took up this call and became the International partner they sought. The project met the first step of a successful project: **A strong community need and desire for this activity.**

If you would like to find out more about this project, feel free to contact Richard Dangler of the Edwards Rotary Club - [rdangler@hotmail.com](mailto:rdangler@hotmail.com)



# Recent D-5470 International Rotary projects

## Emergency Medicine Training Project for Congo

Lamar Rotary Club



*Congolese doctors receive training certificates from Australian doctors Dr Grace Maano (left), Dr Vera Sistenich (2nd left)*

*Photo credit: Lucy Hobgood-Brown*

This group of Congolese medical professionals have been learning to perform CPR to save lives. This Emergency Medicine Training Project for Congo has Rotarians from Australia, Colorado District 5470 and the Kingabwa Rotary Club in Kinshasa, Congo, partnering to fund this 4-year program. One year has been completed and 3 more years require funding at a level of \$90,000 per year. Please contact the Lamar Rotary Club for more information. Please ask your Club to help us raise funds for this worthy cause. Thank you! Margaret Loewen and Mike Renken, Lamar Rotary Club. E-mail: [mjloewen@hotmail.com](mailto:mjloewen@hotmail.com) or cell phone: 719-688-4125



# D-5470 Proposed VTT project

## Bed & Breakfast Vocational Training for Tibetan Women

Lead club: Durango Daybreak



*Tibetan family in Yoloshi village where Rotarians stayed during water project trip*

**Background:** Tibetan mothers often have to farm the land and herd the yaks, actions that require the help of everyone in the family. But this leaves them wondering, "Should I send my children to school or have them pick herbs for food, clothes and medicine?" In an ideal situation, mothers should be able to do both. According to a 2010 China National Bureau of Statistics, literacy rate for Tibet is 37% compared to 96% for China. This illustrates root problems in education system.

**Project Description:** In Partnership with Tibetan Village Project, Conscious Journeys, and Chengdu Rotary Club, Tibetan VTT will bring 4 Tibetans to Colorado to learn about American Bed & Breakfast business and they will return to Tibet with four Rotarians to teach 16 Tibetan women about how to operate their own bed & break style Tibetan homestays. This project is designed to generate income and employment opportunities for women and their families in local communities.

**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 >



## 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 Judy Beggs at [303 788 1716](tel:3037881716)



## 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](mailto: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](mailto: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

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](mailto:dsmith7@unl.edu) or Peter Jeschofnig [pjeschofnig@gmail.com](mailto:pjeschofnig@gmail.com)



# First Annual Rotary D-5470 Cruise



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.



FREE Unlimited Internet

PLUS select one from a choice of generous amenities:

\*3 FREE Shore Excursions for Two

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Book early for best choice of staterooms and best pricing

