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The Season’s Greetings 2020

Rotary Family,

As we come again to this holiday season in this very memorable year, I am reminded of the wonderful ways we as Rotarians connect with each other, our communities, and the world. Our DG team’s visits around the District have once again proven that Rotarians in District 5440 are deeply connected, engaged and working hard to change the world, even with the limitations of the pandemic.

Many of us will take time now to reflect on our accomplishments this year and think about goals for next year. We also take time to specifically focus on the needs of those around us. Many of us will volunteer for extra activities like bell ringing, preparing and delivering food and gifts, or even appearing as Santa Claus

(HOHOHO), on Zoom of course.

Whatever the activity, the desire to give back comes from deep inside us. Our own internal moral compass makes it possible for us to give to others in need. This moral compass is unique to each of us and is expressed in many ways. Around the world of Rotary, we see every gender, religion, race, creed, language, and economic level coming together. Each Rotarian is united by the Core Values we share:

1. Service
2. Fellowship
3. Diversity
4. Integrity
5. Leadership

Rotary defines us first and all the things in the world that can divide us come after. Because of Rotary, we can meet and work as friends with people from other places who are very different than we are. *Together, we see a world where people unite and take action to create lasting change – across the globe, in our communities and in ourselves.*

So, as we enjoy this season of the year, remember to graciously greet those you see with whatever greeting of the season works for you. This greeting is an expression of who you are as a person and as a Rotarian and conveys your best wishes for the person to whom you are speaking.

This year of 2020 presented unique challenges to us as Rotarians. I am happy to report that all over our district and the Rotary world, Rotarians have found ways to shift gears to help and make a difference to their club members, their communities and the world.

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# District Governor Message (Continued)

This world today can certainly use more good wishes for peace, prosperity, health and opportunity. We as Rotarians can spread those good wishes to whoever we meet, however we are able to meet them. During this season, be the agent of those good wishes and good changes.

Thank you for being a Rotarian and for your service to the world.

We wish you joy, peace, health, and hope during this season and in the New Year.

Chris Woodruff, District Governor (2019-2021)

Rotary District 5440

Email: [Chrisw.Rotary5440@gmail.com](mailto:Chrisw.Rotary5440@gmail.com)

Phone: (970) 590-2341

2103 21<sup>st</sup> Ave., Greeley, CO 80631

Greeley Centennial Rotary



## Rotary Satellite Club of Berthoud

The Berthoud Rotary Satellite Club is small but full of energy. We have 15 members at the present time and we are actively recruiting new members. Since Covid has kept us from a lot of activities that we were going to do, we decided to become a volunteer group for the time being. We always wear our masks and social distance.



We started out by helping the Loveland Rotary by selling ducks and duck race tickets at the Berthoud Farmers Market. On October 24<sup>th</sup>, a group of us worked with a local non-profit "A little Help" and raked up leaves for an elderly person here in Berthoud.

Next our group collected a lot of food for the House of Neighborly Services (HNS) Thanksgiving baskets. A few of us are going to assist them in putting the baskets together. Now we are beginning to collect unwrapped toys and gift cards for the HNS Christmas program.



Starting November 20 through December 24, the Salvation Army will be doing their annual Bell Ringing outside Hays Market in Berthoud and we already have quite a few volunteers for 2 hour shifts. It feels great giving back to our community and is also a great way to let them know that we are here in Berthoud ready to lend a helping hand.



Right now we are meeting on Zoom on the 2<sup>nd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> Wednesday of the month at 6pm. Our zoom meeting number is 821-2810-4879 and the password is 841936. Everyone is welcome to join us.

Submitted by Jan Grack  
Secretary/Treasurer Berthoud Rotary Satellite

# Cheyenne After Hours Rotary Club

## Nearly 10,000 Pounds of Produce - Cheyenne Rotary After Hours 2020 Produce Project

We started our produce project five years ago, the summer of 2016. From 2016-2019, we cooperated with the Cheyenne VA Center, Miller Family Farms (one of the vendors at the Cheyenne Farmers' market), and volunteers from around the Cheyenne community to bring healthy, fresh produce to veterans in our community. Each Saturday of the Farmers Market (it's 10 consecutive Saturdays that run from the first Saturday in August through the first Saturday in October), we help Miller Farms clean up their vendor space. We sweep, take down tables and tents, help load their semi, and re-create veggies that he donates each Saturday. Once that was finished we took the crated produce to the Cheyenne VA Center. The following Monday, veterans could come and get the produce for FREE!! In 2020, due to Covid-19, the Cheyenne VA opted not to do the veggie distribution due to the virus and liability concerns. So in 2020, we still partnered up with Miller Family Farms, but also with Cent\$ible Nutrition Program (through UW Extension) and Needs Inc. We did the same thing this summer (2020) as in previous summers with the only difference being that we required all volunteers to wear masks and gloves and we then took the donated produce to Needs Inc. where they distributed the produce to those in need throughout Laramie County.

For the volunteers each Saturday, we had one or two Rotarians from our club as representatives and then we had a group of volunteers help us each Saturday. This year our volunteers included two different 4H clubs, Cheyenne Noon Rotary, Cheyenne Sunrise Rotary, Boy Scout Troop 101, and just helpful citizens from the community. We are SO GRATEFUL to our volunteers, as there's no way we could pull this off without them. Here are the cool stats from this year: **106 volunteers, 159 volunteer hours, 9,518 pounds of fresh produce!** We couldn't be happier about this! This is the first year we've kept stats about the project, but multiple these numbers by 5 and we're definitely pretty happy about it! It is definitely a community effort. Community helping community!!

Submitted by: Judy Fossum | Cheyenne Rotary After Hours | President 2019-2021



# Estes Park Rotary Club

## Rotarians sponsor successful summer camp in Albania

Although 5,881 miles separate them, the Nehemiah Gateway School in Pogradec, Albania and the Rotary Club of Estes Park, Colorado are drawn closer together by a shared desire to improve the lives of children.

The club has sponsored the Amaro Tan Summer Camp for low income, at-risk Roma, Balkan Egyptian and Albanian children for three years. This year's camp was held in August and hosted 30 children, ages 4-16, who were divided into age groups. Along with healthy outdoor activities, the children enjoyed breakfast and lunch during the three-week session.

The camp altered its format due to COVID restrictions, "while staying true to the spirit of the camp," an article in Nehemiah Gateway's newsletter states.

Nehemiah Gateway is an international organization, substantially based in Albania, whose mission is "helping and empowering people to sustainably shape and determine their lives in dignity and independence." The U.S. office is located in Estes Park.

"The Rotary Club of Estes Park and Nehemiah Gateway USA have forged a partnership that has positively impacted many at-risk Roma children in Albania," said Michelle Mann, Nehemiah Gateway USA Executive Director and member of the Rotary Club of Estes Park. "I am so proud of this club and of its dedication and desire to bring dignity, learning and fun into these children's lives on an ongoing basis. Thank you from the bottom of my heart!"

The club has earmarked \$1,750 for Nehemiah Gateway's 2021 Buçimas Summer Day Camp for children with special needs in Albania. Rotary District 5440 added \$3,500.

Ron Gordon, the club's International Service Committee Director, and Jack Boatman, Foundation Grants Director, have worked with Nehemiah Gateway in funding the 2018, 2019 and 2020 summer camps. Rotary District 5440 matching grants also helped sponsor the camps.

Gordon and Boatman also worked with Nehemiah Gateway to apply for a \$35,000 Rotary International Global Grant, which was awarded earlier this year. The grant will help Nehemiah Gateway train staff and equip a new Children's Learning Center in Pogradec, Albania. The center will welcome children with special needs for therapy services delivered by nurses and specialists. The global grant is a cooperative effort between the Rotary Club of Estes Park, The Rotary Club of Estes Park Foundation, Rotary District 5440, Rotary International and the Rotary Club of Pogradec, Albania.

The Rotary Club of Estes Park, founded in 1926, supports local high school students with its scholarship program, provides grants to local nonprofits, sponsors a Shred-a-Thon for the community, and partners with area charities in the annual Estes Park Rotary Duck Race. In addition, the club raises funds for regional projects and international initiatives. The club's motto is "Service Above Self."

To read more about the Amaro Tan Summer Camp in the October edition of Nehemiah Gateway's newsletter, click this link: <https://www.nehemiah-gateway.al/en/amaro-tan>



*Photos: Amaro Tan Summer Camp highlights. Photos courtesy of Nehemiah Gateway*

# Jackson Hole Rotary Club

## 5th Annual Casino Night Raises Over \$233k for Local Student Scholarships

*Overwhelming Community Support for this Year's Virtual Event at The Wort Hotel*

by Jessica Jaubert

**Jackson, Wyoming** – The Wort Hotel and JH Rotary Lunch Club Foundation celebrated a virtual Casino Night on November 7 in the Silver Dollar Bar with our generous community's help.

Jim Waldrop, a Rotarian and President of The Silver Dollar Inc., welcomed virtual guests to Casino Night from The Wort Hotel and spoke of the gratitude for our valley's generosity towards scholarship programs like Rotary's.

Bill Baxter, the owner of The Wort Hotel, Mr. Waldrop and everyone at The Wort, continue to make Casino Night a cannot miss event in Jackson's social calendar. Their efforts in the last five years have raised over a million dollars for student scholarships that benefit a diverse array of students who have shown merit through academics, work ethic, drive, and future goals.

While being virtual meant guests could not "gamble" and mingle, Casino Night hosts and committee organizers were dedicated in their efforts to make the event memorable.

Virtual hosts Melissa Turley, Club President and Jeff Ward of the Club Foundation guided folks through a program of silent auction bids, including an original Amy Ringholz painting, live music from Aspen Dawn and video from Orijin media featuring Rotarians and past scholarship winners.

Past Rotary scholarship winner America Martinez told viewers how the scholarships are "an investment in a life-changing outcome for a student." Martinez is currently a freshman at the University of Wyoming.

Bruce Hawtin, a Rotarian in Jackson since the early 70s, discussed how he was fortunate to have resources that allowed his success and how scholarships provided that opening for others as well. "All we have to do is provide them the opportunity and encourage them to take advantage of it, and they will be successful."

Casino Night would not be possible without sponsors, including Nicholas and Company, Wells Fargo, Hughes Charitable Foundation and many more who stepped up to support local students.

"We are grateful for a community that stepped up in these extraordinary times to support our students who need to know, maybe now more than ever, that we are behind them," says Rotary President Melissa Turley. "The Wort Hotel, especially Andi Caruso and Sara Judson, went above and beyond, like always, to make sure this year was successful. We cannot thank everyone who supported us and our generous, amazing spon-

sors enough for encouraging our local students to reach their potential."

"This year, we certainly missed seeing our friends and neighbors at The Wort. Casino Night would not be possible without our fantastic sponsors who this year continued in their giving and support," says The Wort Hotel General Manager Jim Waldrop. "We look forward to recognizing our extraordinary senior class next spring, and we are indebted to everyone who came out this year."



### About Jackson Hole Rotary Lunch Club

The Rotary Club of Jackson Hole is dedicated to improving education, health, and human services through a variety of projects and programs in Jackson Hole, the surrounding region, and across the globe. The Rotary Foundation of Jackson Hole awards local Teton County students every year with scholarships from monies raised by the annual Casino Night at The Wort Hotel. The Rotary Exchange Student Program provides opportunities for Jackson students to learn about different cultures by sending local students abroad, and welcoming students from around the world.

As part of Rotary International, Jackson Hole Rotarians support humanitarian service and help to build goodwill and peace in the world. There are 1.2 million Rotary members in 34,000 Rotary clubs in more than 200 countries and geographical areas. Rotary clubs have been serving communities worldwide for more than a century. Rotary clubs around the world, initiate projects that address critical issues such as conflict resolution, hunger, poverty, disease and illiteracy.

# Upcoming District Events

We look forward to the days when we can fill this page again with lots of great Rotary District events **in person**. Until then, stay safe and healthy!

**Kick that virus!**



District 5440 is using Zoom for our video conference meetings. Some clubs are now meeting in person and some are having hybrid meetings, in person and virtual. There is a list of clubs that are doing virtual meetings on the [District website](#). If your club is not listed and wish to be listed, you can email Kellie at [rotary5440@yahoo.com](mailto:rotary5440@yahoo.com).

## Leadership development available from Toastmasters

As part of our alliance with Toastmasters International, we're offering a series of leadership and communication courses to Rotary and Rotaract members. The first two courses, now available in multiple languages in the Learning Center, discuss fundamental leadership skills like motivation, integrity, and team inclusiveness. You'll also discover how ethics, decision making, goal setting, and delegating help you develop the skills necessary to lead a team effectively. [Watch this video](#) to learn how to find the courses in the [Learning Center](#) and how to get the most out of them.

- [President Elect Training Seminar \(PETS\)](#)

Feb. 26, 2021, 1:00 PM - Feb. 28, 2021, 12:00 PM

Denver Renaissance or virtual

- [Rotary District 5440 Conference - 2021](#)

What should have been in 2020. Stay tuned for details.

<https://rotary5440.org/>

District Governor—Chris Woodruff



*Service Above Self*

