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My Rotary Family

It is very hard to believe that we have come to the end of another Rotary Year. This is truly one for the history books.

None of us knew back in July that our theme this year "Rotary Connects the World" would take on such an important, personal meaning. A year ago, none of us had heard of coronavirus and Covid-19. We were not expecting the kind of economic and social fallout that we have seen in our communities and states since March 15.

Staying connected, however has become incredibly important. Whether we do it on the phone, or on a computer, or now, in some places, in person, cautiously staying connected with our Rotary family and friends is at the top of the list.

We also strive to stay connected to our larger Rotary family in our District and throughout the world.

Rotarians are resilient "People of Action" and have found ways to draw closer together, even while being physically distant. Our work is being done everywhere in our district, and we are having an immense impact throughout the world.

Thank you.

Thank you for making Karoline and me so welcome during our visits. Thank you for your support of one another, your clubs, and the people you serve in your local communities. Thank you for continuing to give to the Rotary Foundation in support of projects all over the world. Thank you for continuing the fight against polio, for keeping our promises.

And thank you for your incredible support of the Dig Deep - Navajo Global Grant. You are saving people's lives by helping to make clean water available on the reservation. This is one of the most important tools we can give to fight the devastating virus among the Navajo people.

All of you are leading the way. You see needs and you set about getting them met. You are living out our vision as Rotarians and "Service Above Self".

We have had quite a year.

The new Rotary year begins July 1. Our new theme is "Rotary Opens Opportunities". It seems to me that this is a perfect theme for these times.

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District Governor Message (continued)

We all have the opportunity to think differently about what it means to serve others and one another. I hope we can take the best of what we have learned this year and grow it next year. Remember to always make a virtual option available as you begin meeting again. Many of our members, speakers, and guests may not be able to come to an in-person meeting. Take action and find a way to keep them connected and included in our Rotary life. It is the right thing to do.

Karoline and I are so humbled and honored to be part of the District Governor Team for another year. We are so excited to work with DGN Shurie and Phil Sheel, DGND Lee and Catherine Varra-Nelson and PDG Barb and Don Redder. You will not find better people or better Rotarians. This partnership is something new and we hope very beneficial. All of us look forward to seeing you soon.

Look for opportunities. Build on your connections. Together, we see a world where Rotarians find a way to bring us together and make a difference.

It is up to us.

Chris Woodruff, District Governor (2019-2020)
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Greeley Centennial Rotary



Casper Reveille Rotary Club

By Deanna Pickering, Casper Reveille Club President

Here are a few pictures from our first in person meeting last week to pass the gavel to the incoming president.



Passing of the gavel meeting – group picture of our meeting by the river in Casper.



Rotarian of the Year – Deanna Pickering presents Kammi Shaw as Rotarian of the year.



Incoming and outgoing – LtoR PP Greta Hinderliter, Incoming President Kevyn Morgareidge, outgoing president Deanna Pickering, PE Cyndi Brainard.

Cheyenne After Hours Rotary Club

By Judy Fossum Mathern, President 2019-2020 and 2020-2021

Pivot, Adapt, Help, and Have Fun

Change is a constant. Like all Rotary, Rotaract, and Interact clubs worldwide, Cheyenne Rotary After Hours has had to make some changes as well since March 2020. That's okay though, as it makes us think differently, listen more intently, and respect others in "where they are", and still continue to help locally and internationally.

Pivot:

We took March "off" and resumed Zoom meetings in April with great success! Our first meeting was nothing formal. As we hadn't met since the end of February, this was just a "how the heck are you and it's good to see you" meeting. We've also managed to have a few business meetings to discuss upcoming (hopefully) fundraiser ideas, upcoming meetings, and district announcements. To add some levity and something different to the Zoom meetings, I incorporated a couple of songs on my accordion – "Happy Talk" from South Pacific at our first meeting; and at one of our May meetings I played "Happy Birthday" as we celebrated our club's 6th birthday and one of our member's birthdays. At another meeting I invited a yoga instructor to lead us through a relaxing guided breathing session. We plan to continue our Zoom meetings through at least August, at which time we will reevaluate.

A Time to Reach Out & To Stay Connected:

Our club is small, so individual phone calls are perhaps easier in our club than in some, but I feel are so important. People need to know that we're still meeting as a club, but more importantly that they are missed and needed. On two occasions I personally called, emailed, or texted the members who had not been able to make the Zoom calls. We miss seeing everyone in person, but until it is safe to do so I feel it's imperative to stay connected with our members, to thank them, and to let them know we're thinking about them.

Adapt, Help, and Have Fun:

Speaking of safety, like all clubs we've had the challenge of adapting to new ways of meeting, new methodologies for providing service and help to our community, and to have fun while doing it. Actually when you think about it, these are opportunities.

District 5440 has been most generous in helping the food banks in the district with funds, which is awesome! For our club, even though the pandemic is global, we have decided to keep things local. Through some creative communication, delivery of goods, organization, using the talents of our members, and working together we have been able to help and do several service projects (safely) in Cheyenne, WY.

First, as we are all aware PPE was in short supply at the beginning of the pandemic. We found out that the Cheyenne VA Center was in need of people to cut out fabric for masks and to

sew masks. In working with the VA center's volunteer services, some members cut out fabric and others sewed masks. One of our members made masks for the Laramie County Health Department.

Second, so many people have been self quarantining and others in assisted living and nursing home facilities have not been/were not able to see anyone and/or have any visitors. We decided to "Adopt a Nursing Home"! Just in time for Mother's Day we purchased a nice blender, "mocktail" mixers, and fun treats for the residents at Cheyenne Healthcare Center. One of our member's daughters made giant poster-sized Mother's Day cards. With safety in mind, the items were purchased and delivered to the front door of the facility where they were then distributed by the staff.

Third, for the third year in a row we were planning to distribute a book about the 4-Way Test ("Andy and Elmer's Apple Dumping Adventure") to second graders in the southern triad of Laramie County School District #1. We usually do this in the spring (April/May), which of course was not possible this year... or so we thought. With some ingenuity, talking things out, a few phone calls and emails we came up with a plan to still be able to make sure the students got the books. The ordered books received shiny custom labels that the kids could put their names on, they were separated into different boxes for the different classrooms, a hand-written notecard was placed in each box, and the boxes of books were delivered to the schools' entryway where the teachers were able to then distribute the books to their classes. In years past (and hopefully again in the future) a Rotarian from our club would go into the classrooms and read to the kids and/or talk about the 4-Way Test. As this wasn't an option, our club's president (who is a voice actor by trade and has a recording studio in her home) recorded the book, added in pictures of pages from the book, and made it available on YouTube for the teachers to have for their curriculum. <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=kfd4EBtgGng>

Fourth, Fifth, etc., we'll have to see how things unfold and open up in our community in the coming weeks and months, and we also need to be respectful of our members and what they are comfortable with doing. We have plans to help with plantings at The Paul Smith Children's Village, and if the farmers market does take place starting in August we will go forward with our 5th consecutive year of our VA Produce Project.

Moving Forward:

It truly seems to be anyone's guess as to how things will be this fall, this winter, and into 2020. It's tough to make any concrete plans long term, so we're having to take things one day, one week, one month at a time and continue to pivot, adapt, help, and have fun moving forward. Here also is the link to the YouTube video/voiceover of "Andy and Elmer's Apple Dumping Adventure": ["Andy and Elmer's Apple Dumping Adventure" narrated by Judy Fossum](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=kfd4EBtgGng)

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Cheyenne After Hours Rotary Club (continued)



2nd Grade Literacy Project, Beth Cook delivering books



Posters, Cheyenne Healthcare Center Donation



Cheyenne Healthcare Center Mothers Day Donation



Blender, Cheyenne Healthcare Center Donation



April 7 Zoom meeting

Estes Park Longs Peak Rotary Club

MARKS 10TH ANNIVERSARY OF CHARTER

Longs Peak Rotary (LPR) Club is celebrating its 10th year having received its charter on June 30, 2010. LPR was formed to offer Rotarians an evening club option and it is the 3rd Rotary Club in Estes Park.

The Club's focus is to support the children and youth of Estes Park with additional projects for at risk populations. Over the past 10 years the club has had fundraising events with the proceeds over the years going to our scholarship fund, supporting student programs, Future Farmers of America, Bright Christmas, and Honor Flight. The Club has sponsored Rotarian foreign travel through the Global Volunteer program, co-sponsored Interact clubs at the High School that included a water project trip to Panama as well as RYLA and young RYLA. The club has provided matching grants for the Estes Park Learning Place, a Global Grant for Glen Haven flood sanitation assistance, and a District grant for La Puente kitchen removal (homeless resource in Alamosa). Members volunteer at the Community Café and the Club is the non-profit sponsor for Estes Pak (EP Middle School food resource program).

Fundraising is integral to every Rotary Club and some of the most memorable for LPR include Mister Estes Park held at the Stanly Hotel, a Holiday Gala at the Estes Park Resort, several yearly Flamingo Flocking's in the Estes Valley, and a jointly sponsored pre-Duck Race pancake breakfast with the Kiwanis club. Additional events include a participant Ride the Rockies BBQ in Bond Park and the "Dinner Under the Stars" provided at a member's home. EP Rotary Clubs support each other with several shared volunteer events: High School After Prom, the Duck Race, and Elk Fest (serving beer at the beer garden). The Global Grant for Glen Haven sanitation projects after the 2013 flood was a multi-club project.

LPR is a small but mighty club that meets twice monthly, usually the 1st and 3rd Wednesdays of the month with a 5:30p social time and meeting at 5:45p Shepard of the Mountain Lutheran Church. LPR always enjoys meeting new people and welcomes any that wish to learn more about Longs Peak Rotary Club. We start the next decade facing the ever-changing world as Rotary Opens Opportunities.

Fort Collins Foothills Rotary Club

Drive-By Birthday Celebration in Fort Collins!

The newest Honorary Member of **Fort Collins Foothills Rotary** turned 89 years old in June, and the Club was so sad that we wouldn't be able to give him a proper recognition for all the contributions he's made to our community.

So Win Schendel's daughter-in-law, Rachele, organized a Drive-By Celebration, with about 30 cars processing through the neighborhood on a beautiful Saturday afternoon. We had plenty of cards, balloons and banners – but will have to save up the hugs for a future date.

Win is an honored immigrant to our country, always remind us of the value of our unique and generous culture. He enthusiastically supports every Rotary project we engage in. We're glad to have him safe and healthy!



Jackson Hole Supper Rotary Club

By Zachary A. Padilla, Club President

The Rotary Supper Club of Jackson Hole is meeting partially in person and enjoying being a strong leader in the community. We raised \$1750 for the local charity One 22. This organization helps locals pay their rent/mortgage during a pandemic such as this.

It's an honor to be the President of this club (starting today!!!). As we move forward we are looking for more creative ways to engage our members, bring in new members and help the community as we recover from this pandemic. I hope we can continue this energy going into the future.

Thank you all for your support. It's great to be a part of District 5440. Here is a photo from one of our Zoom meetings.



Don't Forget... Stay Healthy... Drink Wine!

Laramie Sunrise Rotary Club

Laramie Sunrise Rotary is a small club, but we try to come up with unique and useful local projects for our local community. We discussed various options in our weekly club and at least one board ZOOM meeting for what our club could do immediately to alleviate local COVID problems that were cropping up. Club President Gustave Anderson learned that some of Laramie's smaller clinics and health care providers were having a difficult time procuring disposable PPE for their staff. After talking with Laramie Physicians for Women & Children, Gustave, took a prototype for a "presentation gown" (garment worn over clothing by clinic staff during exams) and visited Atmosphere Mountain Works, a local Laramie business that sews camping and other outdoor gear. Sunrise Rotary donated \$1,600 toward the purchase of materials, and Atmosphere's staff sewed 30 gowns, in a variety of colors. When the gowns were finished, another Laramie business, Star Awards & Promotions, provided a patch for each gown, showing Laramie Sunrise Rotary's donation. We were concerned the iron-on patches might not survive multiple hot water washings in the

Clinic's on-site washing machine, so several Rotarians took the gowns and sewed the patches on. Now Laramie Physicians for Women & Children has a healthy supply of exam gowns that can be washed and reused!

We were thrilled to have a chance to help a local healthcare provider meet their pandemic needs, and also lend a hand to a few of our local businesses, right here in Laramie!

This photo is of the presentation of our gown supply to Laramie Physicians for Women & Children. Present were Laramie Sunrise Rotarians Dan and Maureen Boddicker, Gustave Anderson, Tessa Cedillo and Jill Ottman (also Bruce King, not pictured).



Loveland Rotary Club - KidsPak

By Tom Carrigan

KidsPak, a Loveland Rotary project, faced changes as its volunteers faced Covid-19 guidelines. As KidsPak readied its 8 store food drive in early March, Covid-19 was getting ready to rear its ugly head. The three day food drive was a huge success with over 34,000 lbs of food being donated with a retail value of \$45,000. Over 56,300 items were collected by 265 volunteers. What started in 2009 with 34 kids in 3 schools is now near 600 bags in 41 schools.

Little did KidsPak know that the 26th week pack on Wednesday, March 11th would be its last under normal conditions. What started as a spring break transitioned to how do we keep food going to our most food insecure kids in Thompson Schools. KidsPak first challenge was its packing volunteers who were almost all over age 60. With help from Brittany Stephenson, the Loveland High football team stepped up. Working in groups of 10, students had their temperatures taken, hands washed, masks worn, separation mandated and new plastic bags created as 5,000 bags were packed in the first 45 days after stay at home orders.

As many communities do, Thompson Schools (16,000) has some 5,700 families on food support. In the State of Colorado 358,000 students depend on food support. The call to keep going was an important step as the last eight weeks of school suddenly changed. Working quickly with TSD Nutrition Services and Gordon Jones, CFO of Thompson Schools, a plan was hatched. From the first cancellation day to May 29th, KidsPak sent home 24,420 meals in 4,884 bags. The 2019/20 full year

totalled 89,620 meals in almost 18,000 bags.

In mid-May, students from Mt View High School honor class took their time in the packing arena. Most days nearly 1,000 bags were assembled. As KidsPak looked at the long term needs, additional help to other 501c3 became apparent. KidsPak bags are now available at the Loveland Library six days a week for Salvation Army, Alternatives to Violence, Project Self Sufficiency, five Boys & Girls Clubs starting June 5th. With a grant by the Volentine Foundation, KidsPak is sending a special blue bag monthly to 225 families in the Loveland Housing Authority. Bags will be delivered in July and August also.

"We have been aggressive in getting Covid-19 grants" said Tom Carrigan, Chairman of KidsPak. There are 23 Rotary members and nearly 185 community volunteers. District Governor Chris Woodruff and Karoline were VIP guest packers in January and experienced the excitement of working together. With many first time donors to KidsPak, the summer and fall needs have been addressed.

Whatever the schooling looks like in the fall, KidsPak will be ready to get food to those in need.

Tom Carrigan
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Loveland Rotary Club looking for people doing good who'd like a free lunch

Club will pay its caterer to make box lunches while members can't meet in person



Jenny Sparks / Loveland Reporter-Herald

Ken Rosander with Main Street Catering carries meals into the House of Neighborly Service in Loveland on Monday. Rosander has been catering lunches for the Rotary Club of Loveland for many years. Club members want to support him while they are not meeting during the pandemic, so they came up with the idea of having him make meals that they will donate to people in need or people who are helping others. Employees and volunteers at HNS were the recipients this week.

By **JACKIE HUTCHINS** | jhutchins@prairimountainmedia.com | Loveland Reporter-Herald
PUBLISHED: June 29, 2020 at 4:18 p.m. | UPDATED: June 29, 2020 at 4:19 p.m.

The COVID-19 outbreak put a sudden end to Loveland Rotary Club weekly lunches in March.

In the time since, members have taken their meetings online, which they will continue to do for the foreseeable future, but they did not forget the impact that would have on their caterer, Main Street Catering.

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Loveland Rotary Club - Free Lunches (continued)

LOVELAND REPORTER-HERALD

Last week, they began a new effort to provide business for the catering company owned by Ken and Jill Rosander while helping out the community, too.

Member Dixie Schmatz said the Rosanders had been catering about 100 lunches a week for the group.

Current club president Dwight Brummet, who is wrapping up his term this week, told the club he wanted to make sure Main Street and its owners would stay in business and that the club could help during the time it's not meeting by having meals made for others in the community.

Keeping the caterer in business also will help the club. Schmatz said every time the club has surveyed members, there has been near 100% satisfaction with Main Street. The catering business has been feeding the Rotary Club for 19 years.

Funding for the meals is coming from both the club and its members. Most members are paying for two lunches a month, and the club will pick up the remainder of the cost.

Schmatz said they settled on ordering 200 box lunches a month, and began looking for recipients.

"We called groups that we worked with before," she said. But many of the organizations they contacted said they'd received grants to help feed those in need.

So the search continues.

Ken Rosander said he feels blessed that Rotary allowed him and his wife to pick some of the recipients who will get meals.

The club gifted the Loveland Police Department with the first batch of meals last Thursday, and took the second batch to the House of Neighborly Service on Monday, both suggestions from the Rosanders.

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Jenny Sparks / Loveland Reporter-Herald
Ron Schlattman, Loveland Rotary Club president-elect nominee, gives a thumbs-up as Cherri Houle, left, thanks him for lunch at Loveland's House of Neighborly Service on Monday.

Loveland Rotary Club - Free Lunches (continued)

LOVELAND REPORTER-HERALD

The couple also has nominated Christ's Church of the Rockies, which feeds people in need, and the Lago Vista Neighbor organization.

For future gifts, the club hopes the public will point out worthy recipients — anyone doing good in the community for others. People can email LovelandRotaryLunches@gmail.com with suggestions.

"If someone knows of a group that needs this food or knows of a group that's helping, we would love to hear about these folks," Schmatz said.

Rosander said for his part, he feels blessed to be part of the effort.

"Knowing how much our clients care about us and are looking to take care of us and the community they serve really was truly a blessing," he said. "With so many organizations just trying to figure out how to sustain themselves through this time, it was a real blessing to know Loveland Rotary was figuring out ways to sustain us as well."

Rosander said his business is recoverable and sustainable, despite losing some of the work it would have done during the past few months. Some of the jobs he had booked, such as weddings, have not been lost, just pushed to future dates, he said.

When the Loveland Rotary Club will start meeting and eating together again in person remains uncertain.

One member contracted COVID-19 this spring, so the club is well aware of the need to be cautious about meeting, Schmatz said.

"It's very encouraging to have so many people showing up at Tuesday noon on Zoom," she said. They have been getting around 70 members participating that way each week. But a few don't have computers. The club makes sure to call and check in with members who don't participate in the online meetings, she said.

The 50-person limit for in-person meetings also has been keeping the full group of around 100 members from getting back together, although they are exploring options for a combination that would pair a live meeting with a Zoom meeting for those who can't or don't want to attend in person, Schmatz said.

When they do resume meeting, they will be looking for the Main Street food they have always enjoyed, but they are likely to ask for box lunches, "because that seems to be safer and easier," she said.

Upcoming District Events

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

Kick that virus!



District 5440 is using Zoom for our video conference meetings. They are offering a 100 participant meeting for free right now. Visit <https://zoom.us/pricing> for more information. If you need help navigating Zoom we have people who can help. Email Kellie at rotary5440@yahoo.com.

- [Fall District 5440 Assembly](#)

Laramie County Community College

Oct. 10, 2020, 9:00 AM - 3:00 PM

- [Rotary Institute - 2020](#)

Omni Hotel San Diego, Nov. 12, 2020 - Nov. 15, 2020

The Institute is virtual, not in person, at the Omni Hotel. Click [HERE](#) for more information.

- [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

