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**My Rotary Family**

Words. Language and the words we use define us as human beings and are clear indicators of our character. The words that we utter reflect our state of mind, our core values, and what we hold dear.

We are living in a time when harsh, angry words get more airtime than kind, positive words. These anxious times make us uneasy and fearful. Consequently much of what we say and do may come out of this sense of unease.

Words are powerful and can have a long-lasting effect.

As members of the Rotary family, we have a whole basketful of words that describe us and what we believe in. Just look at this list: service, friendship, action, giving, caring, peacebuilding, together, unite, fun and hope.

I think there are four very special words that we can use as Rotarians, especially in anxious times:

- Truth
- Fair
- Goodwill
- Beneficial

I know these words are familiar because they come from our 4 Way Test. We recite them at our meetings and we use them to remind us of our core values. They are very powerful words that can help navigate these difficult times. Each works with and builds on the other.,

**Truth** – This is a central tenet of who we are. We speak the truth, even if it is difficult or hard. We do not live in a fantasy world. We look for the truth of an issue or situation, so we can honestly roll up our sleeves and make it better. We speak the truth so that everyone will know what we believe and that we can be trusted.

**Fair** – This can be a tough one. Fairness is sometimes defined by the beholder. For us as Rotarians, it means that we look for ways to put the needs of others ahead of our own needs, to do the right thing. We want there to be good outcomes, based on respect, understanding and partnership.

**Goodwill** – As Rotarians we try to build goodwill into everything we do. We want to be thought of as doing good in the world, helping others, and having fun together. We believe that building goodwill builds a better world.

**Beneficial** – We want our lives as Rotarians and our work to make the world better for others. We want them to benefit from what we do. We gain satisfaction from the service and care we give others. We want positive benefits for all of our work and relationships, again based on respect and a sense of true partnership.

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## District Governor Message (Continued)

The next time you recite the 4 Way Test, take moment to reflect and think about what you are saying and what it means to you. Think about how your life as a Rotarian has made a positive difference in your personal life, your club, your community and the world.

The words you say in the 4 Way Test matter. So do you.

I am honored to be part of this family.

Chris Woodruff, District Governor (2019-2020)  
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



## Jackson Hole Rotary Club

### Jackson Hole Rotary Expands Books for Students to Include 3<sup>rd</sup> Grade

Last year the Rotary Club of Jackson Hole continued a program to purchase a book for each 2<sup>nd</sup> Grade student in Teton County School District #1. The books were distributed late in the school year with instruction that the book was the student's and that the student could take the book home to keep.

This year, the Rotary Club proposed to continue to purchase books for the 2<sup>nd</sup> Grade students and to expand the program to purchase a book for each of the 3<sup>rd</sup> grade students. School Superintendent (and Rotarian) Dr. Gillian Chapman has endorsed the program to encourage reading by the students through giving books to the students.

For many years Rotary District 5440 has strongly supported literacy throughout the district. This year, D5440 provided the Rotary Club of Jackson Hole with a grant of \$2,000 to cover the cost of the books for the 3<sup>rd</sup> grade. The Rotary club will continue to pay for the books for the 2<sup>nd</sup> Graders.

The books have been selected (including some titles in Spanish), purchased, and delivered to the book dealer in Jackson. They are awaiting delivery to the School District. With the current suspension of school because of the pandemic, the books will be distributed as soon as possible. There are 229 identified 3<sup>rd</sup> graders in line to get a book to read on their own.

# 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](mailto:rotary5440@yahoo.com).

- **[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*

