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2022

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Greetings!

Did you know....

October 24 is recognized as World Polio Day, and it was established by Rotary International to commemorate the birth of Jonas Salk, an American virologist, who led the first team to develop a vaccine against poliomyelitis. *Eradicating Polio* is a long-standing goal of Rotary International with help from the Gates Foundation and support of the World Health Organization. India was once thought to be one of the most challenging places to end polio. Fortunately, India was able to achieve three full years without a case of polio caused by the wild polio virus and the World Health Organization certified the region polio free. In

Nigeria, sustained efforts to vaccinate children, who previously couldn't be reached because of a lack of security in the country's northern states, finally resulted in that country reaching the three-year milestone. This year thirty Wild Polio cases have been reported worldwide. This past week Mozambique is the only country reporting a case of Wild Polio. A big thank you goes to Judy Boggs, chairperson, and the district Polio committee for all their efforts this month!

November is recognized as Rotary Foundation Month. Club Presidents, I hope you take this opportunity to share the importance and benefit of donating to The Rotary Foundation with your club members. Set a goal for your club to achieve EREY status (Every Rotarian Every Year donating to TRF). Rotarians, keep in mind you can set up an automatic donation to TRF on the RI website. Club Presidents, I would be delighted to honor every club in 5440 as an EREY Club and present your club with an award at the 2023 District Conference - every dollar counts!

District 5440 is a member of the Big West Zone that includes 30 Rotary Districts in the western United States and a small section of Canada. Vicki Puliz is the Rotary International Director for the Big West Zone. Each year, the Director of the Big West Zones assembles a Rotary Institute which brings together members and guests from throughout the western United States and Canada. The Institute features:

- Interactive, peer-based discussion and learning sessions.
- Inspirational speakers and presentations.
- Special program for Emerging Rotary Leaders from all 30 Districts in the Zones.
- Service activities.
- Networking and fun!

Next week the 2022 Big West Zone Institute will be held in Salt Lake City! In the course of the Institute, District Governor Elects and District Governor nominees complete their training classes and a graduation celebration honors the District Governors Elect. This year at the Zone Institute, District Governor Elect Steve Sehnart will complete his training and be part of the Governor Elect

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District Governor Message (continued)

graduation ceremonies. District Governor Nominee Julie Johnson Haffner will complete her Governor Nominee training and celebrate with her classmates! **Congratulations to District Governor Elect Steve Sehnart and District Governor Nominee Julie Johnson Haffner!**

I would also like to recognize three Rotary members from our district that will be participating in the Emerging Rotary Leaders session: **Dan Carter from the Scottsbluff/Gering Rotary Club, Joe McCarthy from Rotary Club of Fort Collins Breakfast, and Lisa Scroggins from the Casper Rotary Club.**

Helping the Rotary Club of Kyiv International

In August I received an email from Bob Waltermire, the International Service Chairperson from my club, the Rotary Club of Fort Collins Breakfast. He was letting me know about an opportunity for our district to apply for a \$25,000 Rotary International Disaster Relief Grant (DRG) to help the Rotary Club of Kyiv International build shelters for people who had lost their homes during the conflict with Russia. I contacted my Governor colleagues in the Big West Zone in hopes that we could join together and apply for multiple grants. Several of the Districts in our Zone were already engaged in the process but three districts: 5470, 5390, and 5180 replied and joined us which increased the total DRG to \$75,000. Bob created the grant application and started the signature process immediately. During the processing of the DRG we were able to stay in contact with the Kyiv International Club President. Our District Foundation received the funds from RI for the DRG on October 25th. The funds were transferred to the Kyiv club and immediately used for beds, blankets, and other necessities for the people who have lost their homes and are living in the shelters. My DG colleagues, Bob Waltermire and I, want to keep applying for DRG until December 31st to help the people of Ukraine. I'm hoping that we'll be able to process two or three more applications for DRG.

I don't need to "IMAGINE" that this Rotary Year for District 5440 will be amazing! Our Leadership Team is talented and very strong. And every club in the district is compassionate, active, reaching out and making a difference in their community, in the district and in the world.

Dream Big and Imagine Rotary!



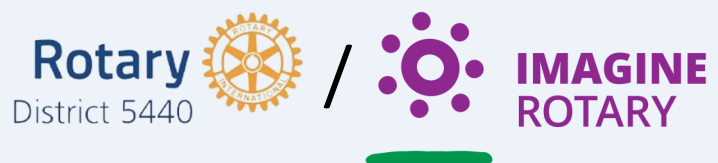
Lee Varra-Nelson

District 5440 Governor 2022--2023

Rotary Club of Fort Collins Breakfast

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Rotary Satellite Club of Berthoud

Cemetery Beautification Project



The Rotary Satellite Club of Berthoud recently completed a Rotary community project - **Beautifying our Cemetery.**

A HUGE SHOUT OUT to the following people who showed up to help us beautify the Green-lawn Cemetery in Berthoud on September 17! Rotary Satellite Club of Berthoud: Bill Breunig, Adam Herman and his wife Kealy (who brought us most of our tools---thank you!), Lyle Jones and his daughter Hayley, Kenneth Grack, Janette Grack, Holly Turner and Will Karspeck.

We also want to give a SHOUT OUT to the following Berthoud High School students who came to help: Daegen Glanville and Savannah Palos.

And more SHOUT OUTS to the Boy Scout Troop 6 (Berthoud) who invests heavily in teaching leadership, community service, and outdoor skills as methods of focus for character development in our youth. They brought: Joe Rohnke, Ramsey Hollander and mother-Brenda, Troy Wingard, Jack Wingard and Craig and Esther Wingard (troop leaders).

And finally, a SHOUT OUT to Tim Graham and his wife, Kris, from Adams Bank & Trust who volunteered their time.

Thank you Holly Turner with Good Samaritan Society for supplying all of us with much needed water!

I was hoping to clean up at least 3 rows, but this fantastic and energetic crew did over 100 headstones!

AMAZING!

Thank you,

Deanne Mulvihill
Berthoud Satellite Rotary Club
(edited)



Rotary Club of Scottsbluff/Gering

The Scottsbluff/Gering Rotary Club was able to provide over \$3,000 to the Scottsbluff/Gering Fire Fighter Ministry organization this past month. Some of these funds may have been contributed by the other Rotary Clubs from our District. I just want to thank all of you who did contribute as it helps so many affected by this fire and other fires that have taken place in our area.

It just is another example of Rotarians Service Above Self!!

Dan Carter, Member of Scottsbluff/Gering RC and AG for Scottsbluff/Gering, Morrill and Torrington



**Cheyenne
Rotary After Hours
6th Annual
Jingle Bell
Jaunt 5K**

Saturday December 3, 2022

8:30 registration/9:00 run/walk begins

Starts & ends at

Paul Smith Children's Village

**\$35.00 fee includes long-sleeved t-shirt if register
before 11/1/22**

Register on-line at:

<https://www.raceentry.com/races/jingle-bell-jaunt/2022/register>

For more information contact

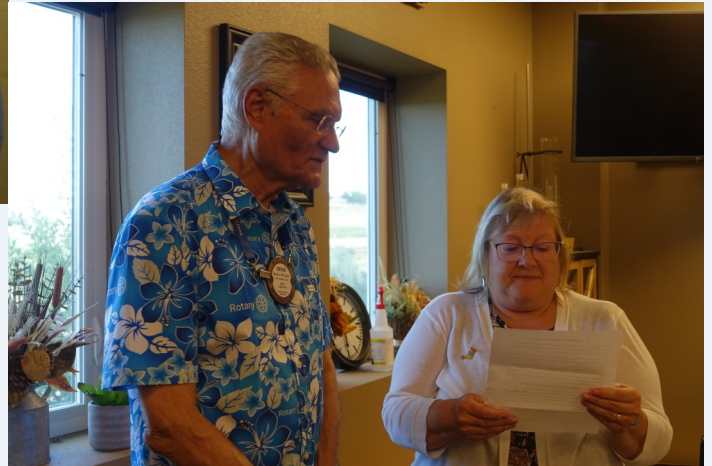
Dr. Michelle Aldrich at 307-760-6213

Rotary Club of Greeley After Hours



District Governor, Lee Varra-Nelson, made her official visit to the GAH on August 23, 2022. Here she is with Kellie Kegerreis, District 5440 Executive Director and GAH club member.

Current President and Past District Governor, Bryan Cooke, is with Immediate Past President, Renee Fielder at the August 23, 2022 club meeting.



Cowboy Country Rotary Youth Exchange

Cowboy Country Rotary Youth Exchange (CCRYE) is in full swing.

The District Youth Exchange Committee conducted an orientation for the inbound students in September. This year we have a great group of 10 students from Belgium, Brazil, Denmark, Ecuador, Finland, Germany, Italy, Japan, Sweden, and Uganda. They are being hosted by the Rotary clubs of Casper, Cheyenne, Cody, Fort Collins Foothills, Jackson Hole, Laramie, Loveland, Powell (2), and Worland. We had a great weekend at Camp Bethel outside of Shell, WY.

Planning has begun for the 2023-24 exchange year. Clubs that are interested in participating should contact committee chair Dirk Miller (dirkdmiller@gmail.com, 307-274-2812).

Upcoming District Events



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.

- [High Country President Elect Training Seminar-PETS](#)

The Westin Westminster

March 3, 2023, 1:00 PM - March 5, 2023, 12:00 PM

- [Rotary District 5440 - District Conference 2023](#)

Thursday, June 8, 2023, 5:00 PM - June 10, 2023, 9:00 PM

- [International Convention - Melbourne, Victoria, Australia](#)

May 27 – 31, 2023

You can register now and take advantage of the early bird discounts!



<https://rotary5440.org/>

District Governor—Lee Varra-Nelson

