

**Centennial Grant
UPDATE
from Jackson Hole**



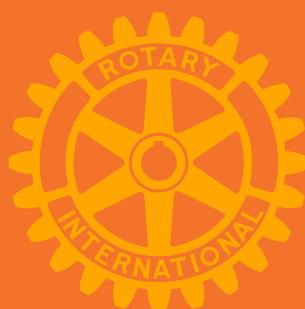
**Fort Collins Rotary
Breakfast casts larger
'Vision' into India**

Rotary District 5440 NEWSLETTER

The Connection

October 2016 • Issue 4

Rotary



**Cheyenne Rotary
Day of Service**



solid footing

Members of the Jackson Hole Breakfast Rotary Club recently completed a community project using one of Rotary District 5440's Centennial Grants.

.04

day of service

Annual event engages Cheyenne Rotarians and helps keep city clean.

06.



future vision

The Rotary Club of Fort Collins Breakfast has donated close to \$150,000 to projects in India, with a focus on eye care.

.08





meet ms. trefonas

This month, we get to know Assistant Governor, Elisabeth Trefonas, who serves the five Rotary Clubs in Jackson, Star Valley, and Teton Valley.

.10

THE CONNECTION • SEPTEMBER 2016

District Governor's Message

Barb Redder • District Governor 2016-17

Casper Five Trails Rotary Club

The leaves are starting to turn, the evenings are cooler and there has been snow in the forecast all signs that fall is definitely here. We are lucky to live in a part of the country where fall is a beautiful time of year.

There are many good things going on with Rotary. We just completed our Fall District Assembly. Thanks to everyone who attended and those that participated as presenters. The District Assembly is a great way to connect, network, learn and share.

Rotary celebrates Polio Awareness day on October 24th. Unfortunately, polio is still circulating in parts of the world, including the endemic countries of Pakistan and Afghanistan.

Recently, there have also been 3 confirmed cases in Nigeria, the first cases in that country and the continent of Africa since July 2014. Rotary is still firmly committed to fighting polio anywhere children remain at risk, including Nigeria and the rest of Africa. Please consider an activity in your community to increase awareness and to raise funds so we can finally put an end to this devastating disease. Also, please keep in mind that all funds are

matched two-for-1 by the Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation.

October is also Economic and Community Development month. Rotary members around the country and the world are promoting economic and community development and reducing poverty in under-served communities. Rotarian sponsored projects range from providing people with equipment, to vocational training. Creating productive employment opportunities is essential for reducing poverty and achieving sustainable economic and social development. I encourage clubs to take this opportunity to consider projects either locally or internationally to enhance economic and community development. Every community has different needs and different opportunities to serve.

Our District Friendship Exchange Committee has scheduled an Exchange with District 9650 in New South Wales, Australia for March 15th-26th, 2017. If you have always wanted to go to Australia, this is your chance. Please contact Raju Jairam for details at raju@mbi.com.

Don and I are still touring the best parts of four states. Visiting all of you and your clubs is truly the highlight of our experience. Thank you all for being an integral part of Rotary Serving Humanity in both your communities and around the world.

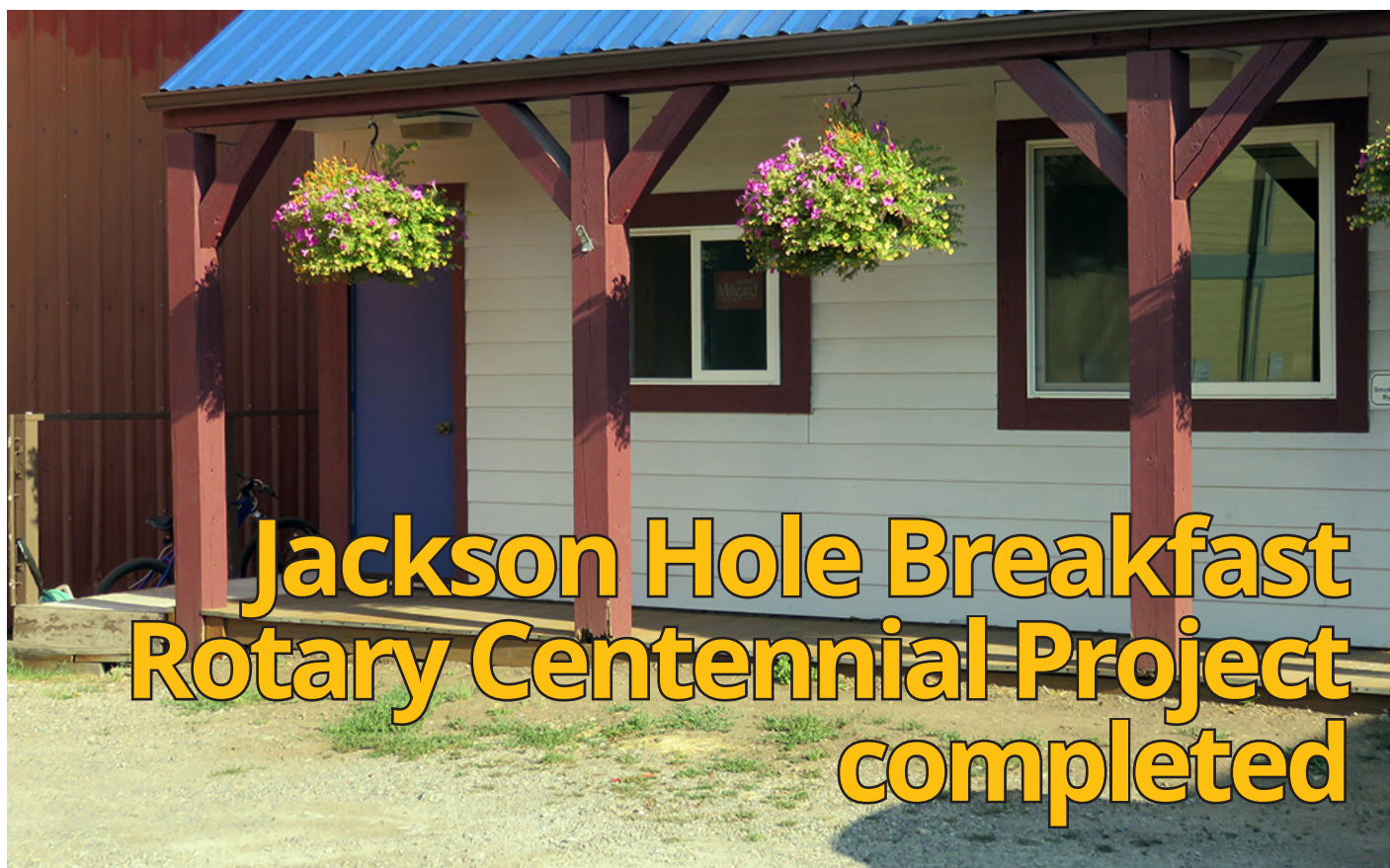


Photo courtesy of Jackson Hole Breakfast Rotary

Through one of Rotary District 5440's Centennial Grants, the Jackson Hole Breakfast club was able to replace a worn-out and potentially hazardous entryway to the Good Samaritan Mission.

The Jackson Hole Breakfast Rotary Club completed its Centennial Project over the summer for the Good Samaritan Mission.

The Good Samaritan Mission provides housing, food, and clothing for persons in need in the Jackson and surrounding area.

The entry to the Mission was a decrepit wood deck in need of repair. It was uneven, cracked, and falling apart. Last season it nearly caught fire and burned the Mission down because of smoke ash that was thrown on the unprotected wood deck.

Importantly, the project was in collaboration with the Teton County Treatment Court Program, in which participants are sentenced to enter the Treatment Court to address drug and alcohol addictions instead of being detained in prison.

The Program has proven to be an effective alternative to prison, and it keeps families together and participants in the community, while decreasing and preventing criminal recidivism due to addictions.

The Treatment Court program is a twelve to eighteen-month program and has four phases of participation.

To graduate and complete all four phases, participants must complete a community service project of at least 40 hours. Treatment Court philosophy believes that only through giving back to the community can participants appreciate how their positive actions, and not their negative addictive actions, powerfully impact their neighbors, home, and create their own sense of self-worth and purpose.

In this project, a Treatment Court participant donated his time and labor to renovating the decking and entry.

This grant was used to obtaining the supplies necessary for the project.

This grant helped in two meaningful ways. First, it assisted the Good Samaritan Mission to have a safe and well-built deck and entry for all of its hundreds of residents in need of food, shelter, and clothing. Second, it assisted in the rehabilitation of a Treatment Court participant and helped to engage him in meaningful, productive community service.

Upon completion of the deck, the participant graduated the Treatment Court program.



SAVE THE DATE

**Save-the-Date for the
2017 District 5440
Conference!**

June 1-3 in Casper, WY.

Plans are already being made to host you in Casper! Prepare now to come and enjoy the fellowship of Rotary with friends of old and new, along with inspiring speakers.

More details will be released in early fall.

LEADERSHIP OPPORTUNITY

Rotary Zones 21b and 27 will be meeting in Salt Lake City, UT on Oct. 27-30, 2016 for the Rotary Institute.

Opportunities and Scholarships exist for Emerging District Leaders, Young Professionals, and Rotaractors.

For more information on the Rotary Institute, please visit:

<http://www.rizones21-27.org/zone-institute-2016/>

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CHEYENNE ROTARY DAY OF SERVICE

On a recent sun drenched September afternoon the Cheyenne Noon Rotary Club rolled up their sleeves and took part in their second "Rotary Day of Service" by cleaning up a section of Cheyenne's famed Greenway.

The first Cheyenne Rotary Day of Service was organized by current Cheyenne Noon Rotary Club President Lori Schoene in 2014.


Many Cheyenne Rotarians grabbed garbage bags, gloves and paint brushes and did clean-up as well as painting an underground tunnel that is part of the Greenway.

The City of Cheyenne Parks and Recreation Department was thrilled by the actions of the Rotarians, so much so that they were thrilled to know that it was going to happen again this year and hopefully in coming years.

Picking up trash is dirty business, however, a dedicated group of Cheyenne Rotarians picked up garbage and cancelled their tee times on a wonderful September afternoon.

In addition to the usual litter, several large tree branches were removed (torn off from large cottonwoods in Cheyenne's infamous wind) from the Greenway.

The "Rotary Day of Service" is something the Cheyenne Noon Rotary club will likely adopt on a yearly basis.



**Cheyenne Rotarians
Robin Sims and Jamie
Markus are happy to
be in the fresh air and
picking up litter.**

Photo by Stephanie Denning

Rotary Friendship Exchange

Dist. 9650 and Dist. 5440



Schedule for Outgoing Rotarians from Dist. 5440 to Dist. 9650 (March 16 – 26, 2017)

- **ARRIVE Sydney.**
- **Arrive Coffs Harbour Thursday 16th March**, PM preferably – by air. At home in evening with hosts.
- Friday 17th, Sat 18th, Sun 19th. March. Coffs Harbour Hosting - local stuff to include, including sightseeing, including a yacht cruise to the Solitary Islands, up close encounters with (wild) kangaroos guaranteed, pristine beaches and much more., social functions and a combined Rotary function. **Local transport** by members and members' perks.
- **Depart Coffs** for Dorrigo Monday 20th March AM (earlyish). **Transport** by Rotary volunteers.
- **Arrive Dorrigo** well before lunch Monday
- Balance of Monday 20th, all day Tuesday 21st March, host program by RC Dorrigo, with all the famous Dorrigo Plateau has to offer, World Heritage Sub Tropical Forests of Gondwanaland, and driving to and from Dorrigo on the renowned Waterfall Way, an Australian classic drive.
- **Depart Dorrigo** Wednesday 22nd March, AM for Walcha, Point Lookout on the way, likely lunch with **Armidale** Rotarians. **Transport** appropriate rental vehicle with volunteer, Coffs (most likely) to arrive Dorrigo in good time to transport the group from Dorrigo to **Wauchope**. (The rental bus naturally will be at your cost.)
- **Arrive Walcha** Wednesday PM, mid afternoon.
- Balance Wednesday, 22nd, all day Thursday 23rd March, host program by Walcha **local transport** by rental vehicle, if required, but more likely that locals would do their legendary 4WD tour.
- **Depart Walcha** Friday 24th March AM after all heads are clear, travel, most likely fairly directly to Wauchope.
- **Arrive Wauchope** as early as practicable to allow time for initial settling in with local hosts and good time to depart for the evening function at **Laurieton Rotary District Conference**. Once group is delivered to Wauchope hosts, the Coffs volunteer driver should return the rental vehicle to Coffs. Or, if it is Thrifty, perhaps the vehicle can be returned to Thrifty at Port, if the driver is planning to attend the conference.
- Balance Friday 24th, all day Saturday 25th and Sunday morning 26th March **D9650 Conference** and time with Wauchope hosts.
- **Depart Wauchope Sunday 26th March PM for Sydney** or other destinations. For some, or all, Monday morning might be better. By air from Port Macquarie, or maybe by train from Wauchope.

As well as the rental bus, there will be cost to attend conference, and possibly some meals, especially when traveling.

Rotary Club of Fort
Collins Breakfast
helps prevent
blindness with grants
to Bangalore eye
hospital

A Vision of Hope

Story and Photos by Dr. Krishna Murthy



Doctors at the Modi Eye Charitable Hospital
in Bangalore perform surgeries with equip-
ment provided through Rotary grants.

FORT COLLINS — More children in Bangalore, India, are seeing the world through healthy eyes, thanks to grants of nearly \$153,000 given to a renowned eye hospital by Rotary Club of Fort Collins Breakfast, Rotary Club of Bangalore NW and Rotary International.

The Modi Eye Charitable Hospital in Bangalore was founded in 1980 by Dr. P.C. Modi, who pioneered mass eye surgery in India, which has extremely high rates of blindness due to untreated cataracts.

The Guinness Book of World Records lists Dr. Modi as the “most dedicated doctor” for performing the highest number of eye surgeries; as many as 833 cataract operations in one day. He visited 46,120 villages and performed more than 610,000 operations before his death in 2005.

Two Rotary grants awarded in 2013 and 2015 are helping to equip the facility to improve operating room eye surgery and outpatient facilities to diagnose and treat pediatric eye issues as well as many preventable ailments that cause blindness, including glaucoma, cataracts and diabetes.

The grants doubled day camp eye surgeries from 500 to 1,000 every month and doubled the outpatient care services from 100 to 200 per day.

The services are provided free of charge to about 80 percent of patients.

Rotary Club of Fort Collins Breakfast and Rotary Club of Bangalore NW have partnered with Rotary International District 5440 and Rotary International District 3190 in Colorado and Wyoming to provide funding for the hospital.

A team of Rotarians from RI District 5440, including Past District Governor Mike Forney and Rotar-

tal’s services firsthand. They also participated in End Polio campaign in India.

Rotary launched its polio immunization program, PolioPlus, in 1985 and in 1988 became a spearheading partner in the Global Polio Eradication Initiative (GPEI) with the World Health Organization, UNICEF, and the U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention.

Since the global initiative began in 1988, the incidence of polio has plummeted by more than 99 percent, from about 350,000 cases a year to 74 in 2015.

Rotary Club of Fort Collins Breakfast has donated about \$150,000 to India

projects over the past 25 years. Find out more about Rotary Club of Fort Collins Breakfast at fc-breakfastrotary.org

The Rotary Club of Fort Collins Breakfast has donated about \$150,000 to projects in India over the past 25 years.



Photo courtesy of Dr. Krishna Murthy

District 5440 Rotarians (l to r) Dr. Lee Jeffery, Carla Jeffery, Past District Governor Mike Forney, and Dr. Krishna Murthy traveled to Bangalore in 2014 to visit the Modi Charitable Hospital and to participate in a Polio immunization day.

ians Dr. Krishna Murthy, Dr. Lee Jeffery and Carla Jeffery, visited Modi Eye Hospital in Bangalore in February 2014 to see the hospi-

Jackson, Star Valley, and Teton Valley AG - Elisabeth Trefonas

Elisabeth Trefonas, whose line of work entails meeting people in jails, prisons and courtrooms daily, joined the Jackson Hole Breakfast Rotary Club in 2009, hoping for a break in the negativity and, rather, with the hopes that she could expand her perspective positively by networking with a group of inspired leaders involved in community service projects.

In her first months, her hopes were fulfilled.

That year she met amazing Rotarians who were integral to numerous projects, including helping her to establish the first inmate library at the Teton County Jail.

Watching the profound impact of the jail library in action, Elisabeth was sold on all the world-change things Rotary can accomplish.

Quickly thereafter, she served as her club's President for two terms from 2011 through 2013.

She now serves for 2015-2017 as the Assistant Governor for the five clubs in the Jackson, Star Valley, and Teton Valley.



Elisabeth Trefonas is the Assistant Governor for the five clubs in the Jackson, Star Valley, and Teton Valley.

She is very excited to be attending the upcoming Zone Leadership Training with Rotary International this October in Salt Lake City, Utah.

She is also planning to hold on to and squeeze out every last second of her last year in which she will be considered a "young Rotarian".

AG SPOTLIGHT

This segment is designed to introduce you to our hard working Assistant Governors. An "AG" must have served as club president and agree to serving a 3-year term to be qualified for this position.

The role of an AG is the following:

- *Provide support to the clubs in which they are assigned*
- *Provide support to the District Governor during their official club visit*
- *Assist incoming club presidents in entering goals in Rotary Club Central*

ARE YOU READY TO LEAD?

Join the 5440 Team Serving With The Best

Now seeking nominations for the District #5440 District Governor for the 2019-2020 Rotary Year.

It is a matter of passage in Rotary, that on July 1 of every year, a new Governor assumes responsibility for our, and every, District.

This year's interview date and location is TBD.

This brings a new theme, new responsibilities in the various committees, and, hopefully, a consistency of focus to attract new and keep current members, to make the world a better place, and to build awareness of our work.

The governor is charged with the duty of furthering the Object of Rotary by providing leadership and supervision of the clubs in the district.

The governor shall inspire and motivate them and ensure continuity within the district, according to the Rotary International Bylaws. There are sections in various documents addressing the qualifications and duties of the Governor that can be found in the Manual of Procedure; to make it easier for the average Rotarian to access and understand.



Our District Nominating Committee is comprised of five Past District Governors, Mary McCambridge (chair), Mike Forney, Julie Phares, Phil Murphy, Ken Small and two Past Presidents of Clubs in our District, Billie Addleman (Cheyenne) and Ron Randle (Fort Collins Foothills). Charged with the "duty to seek out and propose the best available candidate for governor-nominee" they will meet before May, 2017 in accordance with the bylaws, to interview and select our District's Governor for Rotary Year 2019-2020.

All Clubs will be asked to submit suggestions for nominations for Governor, and these "...should be in the form of a resolution adopted at a regular meeting of the Club naming the suggested candidate."

As with all elective offices in Rotary "any effort to influence the selection process for an elective office in positive or negative manner by campaigning, canvassing, electioneering or otherwise is prohibited."

Rotary International and District 5440 pay the expenses of attending training in the Governor Nominee and Governor Elect years, and for the Governor. The Governor Elect and the Governor also attend the Rotary International Convention as representatives of our District.

Contact:

Nominating Committee Chair
PDG Mary McCambridge
at 970-222-1486 or
marymac5440@gmail.com

Rotary

District 5440



U P C O M I N G E V E N T S

2017 President Elect Training Seminar (PETS)

February 24 - 26, 2017
Renaissance Hotel
Denver, CO

Spring District Assembly

April 29, 2017
Little America Hotel
Cheyenne, WY.

Centennial Foundation Dinner

April 29, 2017
5-9 PM
Little America Hotel
Cheyenne, WY.

2017 District Conference

June 1 - 3, 2017
Casper Events Center
Casper, WY

2017 International Convention

June 10 - 14, 2017
Atlanta, GA

SEE YOU SOON

**Share your club's projects, events,
and milestones with the rest of
Rotary District 5440,** by sending
your photos and stories to Kellie Tovar at
rotary5440@yahoo.com