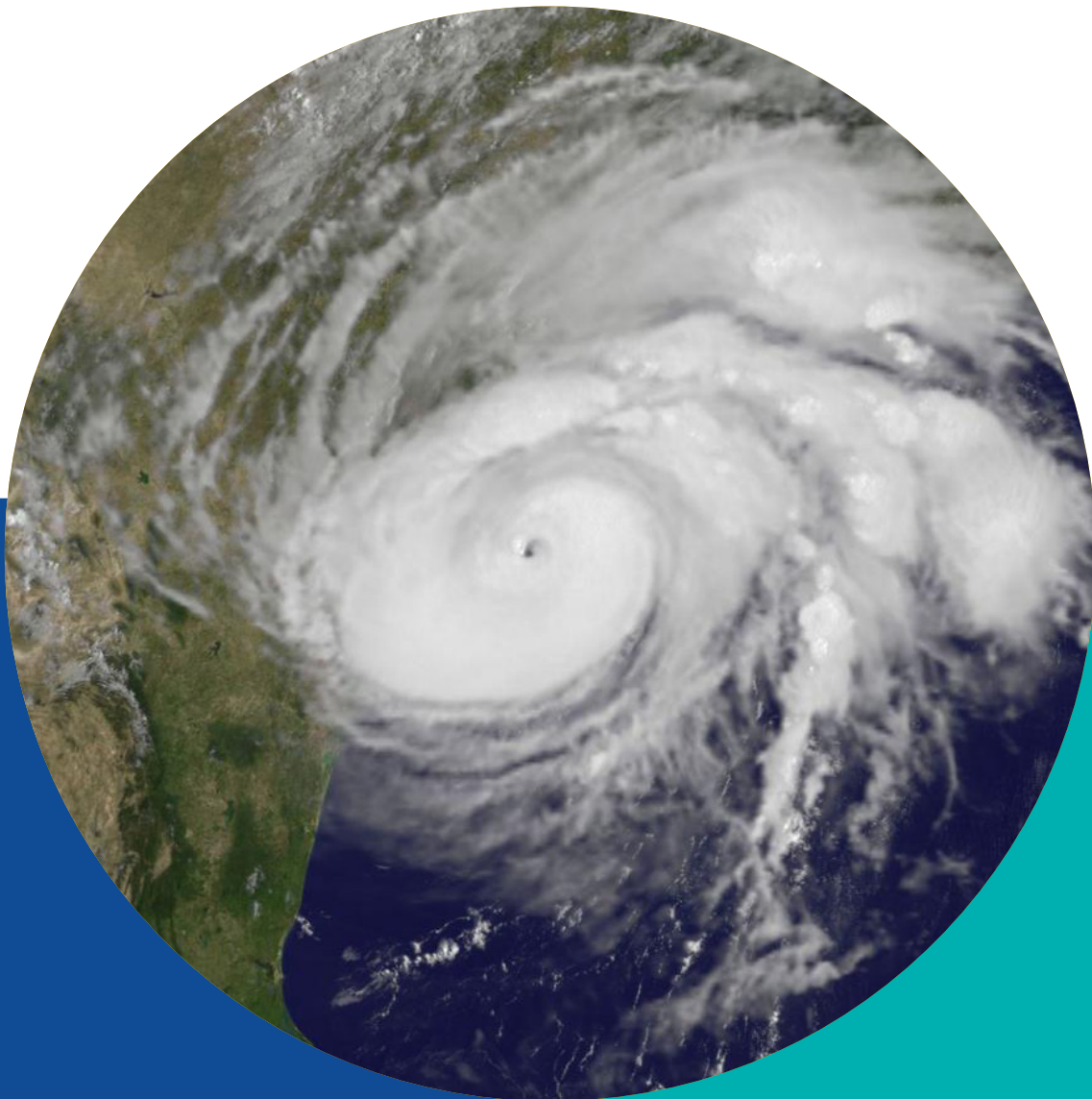


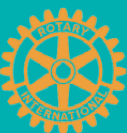
People Of Action NEWSLETTER

"Rotarians are People of Action Making a Difference"



Hurricane Harvey Relief

see page 16



District Governor's Message

It All Starts With Our Members

Bill & Tracey's Journal of Club Visits; Part 2: July 31 to August 15

From July 31 to August 15 Tracey and I continued our journey across the District and visited 9 more of our amazing Rotary Clubs. We continue to meet many fine Rotarians who are truly making a difference in their communities and across the globe.

Visit 11: The Rotary Club of Casper:

July 31 marked our 11th visit as we drove 3 1/2 hours from Fort Collins to Casper to visit the **Rotary Club of Casper**. We met with the Casper board prior to the noon meeting. The largest club in our District, Casper has 207 members. It was established on May 1, 1919. Since that time, the **Rotary Club of Casper** has gifted us with five District Governors and two Rotarians of the Year including **Barb Redder** and **Tom Thorson**.

The **Rotary Club of Casper** has a strong focus on improving the Casper community, having contributed significantly to two community parks. Crossroads Park boasts an enchanted Crossroads Adventure Playground that could compete at some level with Disneyland and a large pavilion, both made possible by Rotary. The Rotary Park is the jewel of Caper Mountain, donated and improved by the Casper Club. Rotarian **Bill Schilling** oversees a large, committed team of Rotarians working to improve this lovely mountain park with hiking trails and observation platforms. The parks are well branded by Rotary, which provides good recognition and awareness. A strong example of this came from a high school student at Crossroads park with his siblings playing at the enchanted castle. He mentioned to **President Richard Schwann** and how much he likes Rotary because the park is so well maintained, clean and fun. He has happy memories playing in the park as a youngster.

Other projects and organizations supported by this very active club include: Kids Against Hunger, assisting Food Bank of the Rockies and local kids with food boxes for Christmas break, Adopt-a-Highway, Rotary Cares, trash pickup two times per year, reading to second and third graders, an international project in Panama regarding schools and hosting of youth exchange students. Fund raising efforts include a

■ See **TRAVEL LOG** on page 5



Bill Emslie
District Governor 2017-18

*Fort Collins After-Work
Rotary Club*



The Four-Way Test: Plus One

by Tracey Emslie

Fort Collins Rotary After Work

Logistics for a week of club visits in Northern Wyoming amidst the “Carmagedden” of the eclipse traffic promised to be a nightmare, but AG and Membership Chair Nancy Hobbs graciously offered us hospitality on Sunday at her home in Torrington, which was in the “path of totality.” After the delight of the sun and moon dancing together, we headed to Buffalo, Gillette, and Worland on practically empty northbound lanes while what seemed to be the rest of the world headed south.

That bit of bliss stopped north of Lusk when miles upon miles of bumper to bumper traffic loomed in the highway in front of us. OK. Our map showed some back-road alternatives. We were in our 4WD farm truck. Off we went through the Thunder Basin Grasslands.

Forty or fifty miles along, we came across a frantically waving woman with a car full of family stopped behind her.

“Oh, thank heavens!” she gasped. “We’re lost and haven’t seen another human being in an hour and a half!”

They were from Minnesota, headed for the Black Hills on their way home from the eclipse, and frankly unnerved by Wyoming’s wide expanses, of which there is a considerable amount in Thunder Basin. As we shared our more detailed map, another car rolled up with a similarly lost and stressed man and wife. They were trying to get back to Saskatchewan.

Where were we headed? “To a Rotary meeting.”

They decided to follow us to the nearest highway and off we all went in a substantial cloud of dust. The roads deteriorated to classic western farm/ranch two-wheel ruts with weeds between them high enough to scrub the undercarriage of the truck clean, but the GPS insisted we were on the right route and we could see fleeting glimpses of the highway ahead.

Then we got to the gate; the classic barbed wire type with a loop around a post that you pop up, drag the whole wobbly thing out of the way, and are careful to close behind you since because it was closed, you assume there is stock on one or both sides. It had a cardboard sign on it.

“\$50 toll per car. Pay at the ranch house or turn

around!”

We did not have \$150 cash amongst us, a county road is a public right of way, and our shining goal of the highway was about 10 miles away. Turning around would have meant backtracking many more dusty miles. Bill and I opened the gate and waved the others through as well. We would talk to the ranchers when we got to the ranch house. Maybe it was a joke.

Not hardly. We got near the ranch house and discovered a sizeable van parked as a barricade smack on top of the cattle guard. Purposeful, Wyoming ranch We-Have-to-Deal-With-Something-Here folks were emerging and staring at us.

Bill walked over to them. More weathered guys with cowboy hats kept arriving. Minnesota and Canada got out of their cars.

“Let Bill deal with it,” I told them. The two men edged by the van, stepping carefully over the cattle guard to provide what they undoubtedly considered to be moral support to Bill. The women were annoyed, flabbergasted, and more than slightly nervous. They started talking about piracy and literal highway robbery.

“Uh, oh!” said the woman from Canada. “My husband has his hands on his hips. That is not a good sign.”

“There’s another one of those wire gates right over there,” said the woman from Minnesota. “Why don’t we just go through that?”

“No, no, no!” I said. “You do NOT want to be rude or antagonize them!”

“Why not? They aren’t exactly being nice!”

“Because most people carry around here.”

“Carry what?”

I explained. Both women’s eyes got enormous. I shrugged. “It keeps people polite.”

We couldn’t hear a word of what was being said over at the ranch house, but suddenly the postures of the people by the ranch house changed. They lined up. They smiled. Bill took their picture with his phone

■ See 4-WAY TEST on page 23



*Rotarian **Brad Cundy** receives
PHF plus 3*



*Rotarian **Steve Loftin** receives
PHF plus 4*



*Rotarian **Ned Hodder** receives
PHF plus 4 & 5*



*Visit 11, Rotary Club of Casper. Left to right are President
Richard Schwahn, AG **Wayne Heili** and DG **Bill Emslie**.*



*Visit 11, Rotary Club of Casper from left to right **Jim Ruble**,
President **Richard Schwahn**, **Dennis Jack**, DG **Bill Emslie**, DG
Spouse and Rotarian **Tracey Emslie**, and **Denise Prugh**.*



Dick Wimbish with President Richard Schwahn PHF plus 4



Visit 11, Rotary Club of Casper's Rotary Park. A real gem with popular public hiking and a picnic area. Rotarian Bill Schilling shows DG Bill Emslie the Rotary Club of Casper's amazing Rotary Park



Visit 11, Rotary Club of Casper's enchanted Adventure Playground at Crossroads. President Richard Schwahn (left) with DG Bill Emslie.

TRAVEL LOG

from page 2

Duck Derby and annual golf tournament.

We received a copy of the visioning this forward-looking club completed in February of this year. The plan is well thought out and contains an impressive vision and list of goals as to where the club wants to go over the next five years. Great job Casper. This is a model visioning of what a Rotary Club can do. For our readers, have you considered a Visioning session? Our district can provide a facilitator. A club Visioning exercise can produce some amazing results.

During our visit, we also had the privilege of meeting Rotarian **Bob Barnard**, a 60-year member of the Casper Club.

We also had the honor to present five Paul Harris fellowships to club members including

- **Brad Cundy**, PHF plus 3
- **Dick Wimbish**, PHF plus 4
- **Richard Schwahn**, PHF plus 4
- **Steve Loftin**, PHF plus 4
- **Ned Hodder**, PHF plus 4 and 5

Thank you so much to each of you for your generous support of our Rotary Foundation.

The Rotary Club of Casper is a high performing Rotary Club. Congratulations to **President Richard Schwahn** on leading this hard-working club.

Visit 12: The Rotary Club of Riverton:

After a restful night with **Barb** and **Don Redder**, who hosted our stay

■ See **TRAVEL LOG** on page 6

TRAVEL LOG

from page 5

for two nights, we were off on the morning of August 1 to visit number 12 to the Rotary Club of Riverton for an 11:00 a.m. board meeting and noon club meeting. We drove from Casper for 2 ½ hours through enormous stretches of high country prairie sage.

There was a golden eagle sitting on a fence post. Established on June 18, 1979, this club boasts 46 members and meets at the very well maintained Central Wyoming College.

Some of the many activates include the Fire Pit Project, a 50' diameter fire pit in the new River Walk along the Wind River which was funded by local grants and constructed with labor from Rotarians and churches.

Other activities include several high school scholarships; Read to Me with Rotarians sharing their favorite stories with children throughout the county; Habitat for Humanity support with an HVAC system & sod; and providing a Gazetteer (dictionary) to each 3rd grader in the county. A Gazetteer is a combo dictionary and encyclopedia.

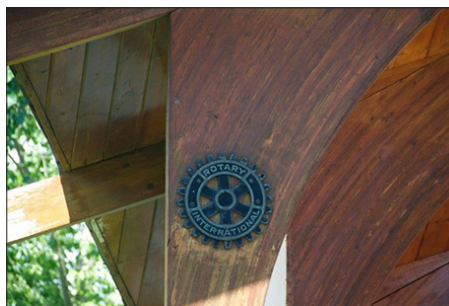
A project completed a few years ago is an impressive band shell built at the local park (see photo). Much of this is supported by an annual Duck Derby. The club also has a nice weekly newsletter that recognizes members and keeps everyone up to date. We had the privilege of meeting Charter member **Dennis Tippetts**, who commented on how the club has made a difference in this community.

Congratulations **President Mick Prior** and your board for making club meetings fun and project the

■ See **TRAVEL LOG** on page 7



*Visit 12, the Rotary Club of Riverton has a very lively and dedicated board and members. Pictured here left to right in the front row are **Christa Stream** (Club Secretary), **Carmen Milbury** (Treasurer), **Darla Mason** (Membership Chair), **Cathy Cline** (Vice President), **Shannon Watts** (Webmaster), **Jackie Dorothy** (President Elect) and **Ken King** (Sergeant-at-Arms). In the back row left to right are **Governor Bill Emslie**, **Mick Pryor** (President) and **Herb Wilcox** (Outgoing President).*



*Visit 12, when you visit the band shell in Riverton, you know the **Rotary Club of Riverton** is active in the community and when you enter the town, you know right away the town has a Rotary Club and when and where they meet.*



*Visit 12, this impressive band shell was provided by the **Rotary Club of Riverton** a few years ago. I bet the concerts sound great coming from this facility.*



Visit 13, Rotary Club of Casper, Reveille. Bottom left to right are Pam Jones, President Carolyn Griffith, Tracey Emslie, DG Bill Emslie, Margaret Carpenter, and Cynthia Olsen. Top back row left to right is Justin Smith, Rob Lempka, Deanna Pickering, Trevor Mahlum, Dave Hough, Greta Hinderliter, JoAnne Wenberg, Roberta Jackson, Rachel McPherson, Caysie LaRue, Don Redder, and Ardell Breed.



Visit 13, DG Bill Emslie presents to the Rotary Club of Casper, Reveille.

TRAVEL LOG

from page 6

enthusiasm of youth. You have a well-run club with a diverse array of projects and we wish you and your members well as you begin another year of Rotary service.

Visit 13: The Rotary Club of Casper, Reveille:

After returning from a drive to Riverton through some beautiful Wyoming country, we had dinner at the Fire Rock Restaurant with the Rotary Club of Casper, Reveille's board.

The dinner lasted two hours as the club had so much to share about service to community and beyond. This helped us prepare for a visit to the club the morning of Wednesday, August 2 at the Casper Senior Center.

I want to point out that we have ten breakfast clubs in our district of 53 clubs. In these clubs, we have many Rotarians who get up early each week to attend Rotary. My congratulations to this group of early risers as you are up and getting things done when some of us are still asleep.

Over dinner the previous evening I learned about all the great projects and activities this club is involved with.

Something unique about this club is that they have decided to focus on supporting seniors. Some of these senior focused activities include delivering Meals on Wheels, driving seniors to Wyoming Symphony Orchestra performances, assisting seniors in need with simple home improvements and maintenance, installation of benches on a walking path near the Senior Center, serving ice cream sundaes at Central

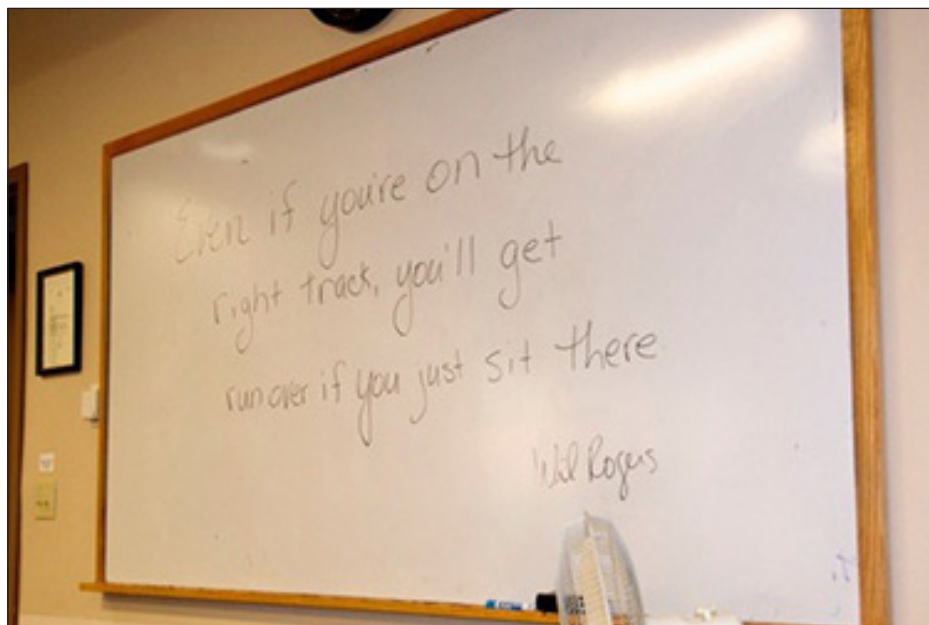
■ See **TRAVEL LOG** on page 8

TRAVEL LOG

from page 7

Wyoming Hospice, having lunch with seniors at the Senior Center, participation in Epilepsy Walk and contributions to the Book & a Bite Literacy program.

Funds are raised in an annual Duck Derby. This club clearly has fun in service to others and their passion for senior support is very strong. Congratulations **President Carolyn Griffith** for your club's focus in helping to improve the lives of seniors in the Casper area.



Visit 13, some wise words displayed at the Rotary club of Casper, Reveille.

Visit 14: The Rotary Club of Douglas:

Following the Reveille meeting, we said goodbye and thank you to **PDG Barb** and **Don Redder** the morning of August 2 for a short drive to Douglas where we met with the Douglas Board at the Douglas Country Club.

The Rotary Club of Douglas serves an area of about 7,500 people (town and surrounding area). Chartered on June 18, 1980, and with a current membership of about 40 members, this club has served the community for many years by providing a delicious and fairly priced meal at the Wyoming State Fair.

This is a week-long effort and requires the participation and focus from the entire club.

Other contributions to the Douglas community include support of the local Boys and Girls Club, the annual Christmas Giving event that includes over 200 goodie bags, gifts for children and Santa's deliveries, scholarships for both GED and College, Adopt-a-Highway cleanup each year, Youth Exchange (who attend the weekly

■ See **TRAVEL LOG** on page 9



Visit 14, pictured here with the Rotary Club of Douglas from left to right are Tracey Emslie, DG Bill Emslie, Kirk Hisam, President Terry Moss, Ed Warner (behind Terry), Sue McBride (next to Terry), Karen Werner (behind Sue), Tammie Tjama (next to Sue) and AG Wayne Heili.



Visit 14, AG Wayne Heili addresses the Rotary Club of Douglas. The Rotary Club of Douglas board from left to right are Karen Werner, President Terry Moss, Tammie Tjama, AG Wayne, and DG Bill Emslie.



Visit 15, pictured here are some of the amazing members of the Rotary Club of Laramie. From left to right are AG Larry Struempf, Past President Herb Manig, President Drew Johnson, President Elect Nominee Caitlin White, Board member Jaime Stine, President Elect Tim Eisenhauer, and Treasurer Nicole Nelson.



Visit 15, the Rotary Club of Laramie has a unique way of displaying the banners from many club visits over the years.

TRAVEL LOG

from page 8

club meetings) and RYLA.

A recent international project involved sending honey bee farms to Africa. The club has also supported ShelterBox. As you can see, this is a very active club with strong community support. Thank you, Rotary Club of Douglas, for all you do and to **President Terry Moss** for your leadership.

Visit 15: The Rotary Club of Laramie:

Tracey and I were up early the morning of Thursday, August 3 for visit number 15 and the Rotary Club of Laramie. This is another large club with a strong tradition and name recognition in Laramie. Chartered on April 1, 1920, this club is starting to plan for its 100 the anniversary.

This club has a solid record of leadership having contributed three district governors over the years and having a now deceased **Dave Nickolas** as a Rotarian of the Year in 1995-96.

We began the visit with a meeting with the board, a mix of youthful and experienced Rotarians who lead numerous projects in the Laramie community.

With a club of 113 members, Rotary's presence is felt. Club fundraisers to support the many projects include the Laramie River Duck Race and a community basketball game with the Harlem Ambassadors.

Projects supported by this club include local projects and events such as Dine and Discover (a family dinner reading program) and the Suicide Prevention Task Force.

The club provides support for var-

■ See **TRAVEL LOG** on page 10

TRAVEL LOG

from page 9

ious entities that serve early childhood and general education such as Laramie Adulting 101 and the Laramie Workforce Center. They provide medical and social assistance by supporting the MS Walk, Relay for Life, Downtown Clinic, and United Way.

They provide holiday gifts for under-privileged youth through Christmas families donation and Coats for Kids. This club supports two RYLA and two Young RYLA students each year.

Over the next few years, a new city park will be completed by Rotary and the club will keep this park clean.

Other youth support includes re-starting the local Interact club, and youth baseball. The club supports the downtown medical clinic, a Future Farmers of America trip, a student scholarship and Read to Feed which is a competition to provide \$1,000 for domestic animals for families in need. They supported a scholarship for a global grant scholar. This scholar is **Kenneth Brenneman**, who I sat with at the table for lunch.

International projects include ShelterBox and the Guatemala clean water project. The club has a nice weekly flyer that provides a good update to its members.

As you can see from this list, the club provides solid community support. Congratulations **President Drew Johnson** for your leadership this year of this very active club.

Visit 16: The Rotary Club of Star Valley

Tracey and I drove to Afton, Wyoming on Monday August 7 and

■ See **TRAVEL LOG** on page 11



Visit #16, Rotary Club of Star Valley. Front row from left are DG Bill Emsie, Megan Hillstead-Stoker, Jared Mobley, President Sherry Skinner, AG Helen Bishop, and Dee Roberts. Back row from left are Chris Allred, Justin Day, and Ted Izzo.



Visit 16, Star Valley President Sherry Skinner looks on at the display of projects and fund-raising initiatives made possible by club members.



Visit 17, Rotary club of Laramie Sunrise members from left to right include Bruce King, Garrett Bean, Julie Bromley, Michael Henderson, Tessa Cedillo, Jill Ottman, Rick Malone, Secretary Carrie Fink, Treasurer Dan Boddicker, DG Bill Emslie, Rotarian Tracey Emslie, Gustave Anderson, President Maureen Boddicker, Manuela Hofer-McIntyre, AG Larry Struempf, Steve Marshall, Zach Schumacher, and Joshua Baldwin.



Visit 17, DG Bill Emslie congratulates Rotary Club of Laramie, Sunrise President Maureen Boddicker for achieving 100 percent Paul Harris Sustaining members.

TRAVEL LOG

from page 10

spent the night in a very cute cabin run by Old Mill Cabins. Our next-door neighbor was Mattias from Germany with his two sons who were making a tour of the Western US National Parks.

The Rotary Club of Star Valley, established on December 22, 1993, meets in the community center of Thayne, Wyoming. This was a former school that now houses the town library, the food bank and a big all-purpose room used for dances and concerts.

Prior to the club meeting we met with the board, members present included **President Sherry Skinner**, **AG Helen Bishop**, **Chris Alread**, **Ted Izzo**, **Meagan Hillstead-Stoker**, and **Jared Mobley**.

With a membership of about 15, Star Valley is a well-run club with a broad range of community service projects as their priority. Some of the club's projects include two fundraisers including a chili cook off and Oktoberfest, which support many community and international projects.

Community projects include: students of the month, scholarships for high school seniors, book donations to our local library, support to our local food bank, dictionaries to all third graders in our school district, and continual support of the Star Valley Medical Center Mammography Program.

The club's international project is in partnership with Hirsche Smiles to take dental/humanitarian teams to underprivileged areas in Guatemala.

The club draws members from a string of towns along Star Valley, a very productive agricultural area

■ See **TRAVEL LOG** on page 12

TRAVEL LOG

from page 11

near the Wyoming, Idaho border.

Congratulations to president **Sherry Skinner** for a well-organized and well-run club doing good in the community of Thayne.

Visit 17, Rotary Club of Laramie, Sunrise:

After leaving Star Valley, we drove 6 ½ hours in the rain along Interstate 80 and arrived the evening of August 8 in Laramie.

With the heavy traffic, hard rain and many large trucks, Laramie never looked so good. But we arrived safe and reasonably dry and stayed at the Holiday Inn where the club met early the next morning.

The Rotary Club of Laramie, Sunrise, established on February 5, 1995, and currently with about 30 members, exudes energy and enthusiasm for doing good in the Laramie community.

President Maureen Boddicker is a vibrant leader who sets a high standard as to how a high achieving Rotary club should perform.

Some of the service projects this club conducts in the Laramie community include assistance at a community Soup Kitchen, Highway 230 clean up, Jubilee Days meal service, Adopt a Family for the holidays, Christmas bell ringing and support for a charitable community Thanksgiving dinner.

A future project that will involve both Rotary Clubs in Laramie is a new Rotary Park, which will become a place where Rotary can host events and provide a place for families and members of the community to relax and enjoy time together.

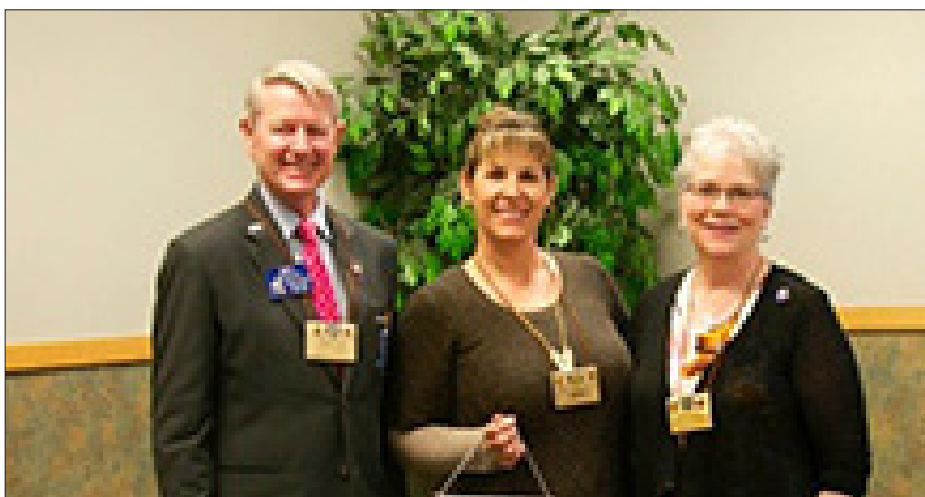
■ See **TRAVEL LOG** on page 13



Visit 18, Members of the Rotary Club of Johnstown-Milliken. From left to right are DG Bill Emslie, President Adna Romero, Jason Greutz, guest Karin Cranwell, Brad Cranwell, guest Aiden Cranwell, Robert Campbell, David Kisker, Paula Grzenia, Roy Huckle, Colleen Flack, Edgar Schramma, Dave Keagle, Ed Spreng, and Willie Grauberger. To quote President Adna "Awesome picture thank you and it was great to have you visit."



Visit 18, Members of the Rotary Club of Johnstown-Milliken.



Visit 18, Rotary club of Johnstown-Milliken. DG Bill Emslie, President Adna Romero in center, and AG Karoline Woodruff.



Visit 19, Rotary Club of Rock Springs gifted a 150' tall flagpole and very large flag. Note at the base of the flagpole are the tiny figures of President Tim Savage and DG Bill Emslie.

TRAVEL LOG

from page 12

This is a very generous Rotary Club with 100 percent of its members as Paul Harris Sustaining members and Paul Harris fellows.

Congratulations **Maureen** on leading a small club making a big difference in the town of Laramie.

Visit 18, Rotary Club of Johnstown-Milliken:

Our next club visit occurred on Thursday, August 10 with the Rotary Club of Johnstown-Milliken. Established on October 16, 1937, this 80-year-old club currently has about 20 members.

Johnstown-Milliken is a breakfast club, one of just 10 in our district that starts the day once a week with a great Rotary meeting.

My hat is off to those early risers who make Rotary the priority of the day once per week. And, because it is just a bit impractical to meet with the board prior to a breakfast meeting, we had the pleasure of meeting with the Johnstown-Milliken board the evening before.

Here I learned that this club sponsors an Interact Club, RYLA conferees, Student of the Month, a bed-time reading program, third grade dictionary, adopt a highway, a little free library and Rotary bench.

The next morning Tracey and I arrived at 6:30 a.m. for a 6:45a.m. breakfast and program.

One very kind member, **Mr. Willie Grauberger** presented me with a custom made wooden Rotary name badge that I shall treasure forever.

Thank you, **President Adna Romero**, for your leadership and

■ See **TRAVEL LOG** on page 14

TRAVEL LOG

from page 13

all your club does in your community.

Visit 19, Rotary Club of Rock Springs:

Visit 19 was to the Rotary Club of Rock Springs which was established on September 30, 1949 and currently includes about 16 members.

The visit began early the morning of Tuesday, August 15 when we left from Fort Collins for a 4-hour drive to meet with the board at 11:00 a.m. This was the first of three club visits this week.

We arrived on time and met with **President Tim Savage** and his board.

Rock Springs is a small, but active club that supports their community in a big way. Some of their projects include a local dog park, and a soon to be second dog park for small dogs.

The club also supports the Relay for life by cooking hamburgers and donating \$1,000. Life are you Ready is for school children and involves choices and consequences.

The club also supports a giant American flag as shown in the photo below and gifting of dictionaries to every third-grade child in Sweetwater County.

The meeting we attended there were three younger guests that were more than likely going to join this Rotary Club. All three wanted to make a difference in their community and the Rotary Club of Rock Springs provides that opportunity.

Following the club meeting, **President Tim** took Tracey and me on



Members of the Rotary Club of Rock Springs. From left to right are Ashley, Becky, Sierra Balfour, Shane, President Tim Savage, Don, Curtis Barker, AG Brenda McGinnis, and DG Bill Emslie.



Visit 19, Rotary Club of Rock Springs. From left to right are President Tim Savage, AG Brenda McGinnis, and DG Bill Emslie. These children captured in bronze, are saluting the American flag provided by the club.



a tour of the club projects in Rock Springs. This included a 150-foot-tall flag pole with a very large American flag in a small park with a lovely sculpture of children saluting the flag. This flag was gifted by Rotary to the community.

We also stopped at the under-construction dog park. The park for large dogs is complete with pond and fountain sponsored in part between Rotary and the city. Con-

gratulations **President Tim Savage** and the Rotary Club of Rock Springs for making your club a vibrant community resource.

Stay tuned for the next installment of our club visit log.

Tracey and I are having the time of our lives visiting so many wonderful clubs and amazing members. Rotary District 5440 has some of the best clubs anywhere.

Membership Summit is Coming to Town

by **Bill Emslie**

*District Governor,
Rotary District 5440*

Presidents and Club Membership Chairs, have you registered for the District 5440 Membership Summit to be held in Casper from 8:30 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. on Saturday, September 9? If you have not, here is the link to do so: <http://rotary5440.org/event/membership-summit-1/>

If you are not sure about attending, please read on. Membership is key to Rotary continuing its mission as one of the finest humanitarian service organizations in the world.

Every club will lose members due to natural attrition. To offset this, each club needs to bring in new members. To do this in an orderly way, each of our clubs should have or create a club membership plan. When developing your plan, it is beneficial to use proven, time-tested methods for bringing in and retaining new members. A membership plan is key for

success.

Kelly Atkinson, Membership Coordinator for our Rotary Zone, will be flying in from Salt Lake City with materials we can use in developing our club membership plans.

Kelly will share with us proven techniques to help attract and keep good members. When you attend the summit on September 9, you will leave with the materials you need to keep your club membership healthy and strong. If you or your Membership Chair cannot attend, consider sending a representative from your club.

This is our only opportunity to hear from Kelly this year. Please register now. I have been thorough Kelly's training and can speak very highly of him and the information you will receive.

**JOIN US
for the
2017 District 5440
Membership
Summit**

**September 9, 2017
8:30 a.m. - 3:00 p.m.**

**The Wolcott Gathering Place
500 S. Wolcott St.
Casper, WY**

Past District Governor Michelle Schaefer (5750) and Zone 27 Membership Coordinator Kelly Atkinson will lead this membership seminar.

They will share ideas with you on how to increase membership and retain the members you have! This is a free event and highly recommended for each club to attend.

Learn more and register at:
<http://rotary5440.org/event/membership-summit-1/>

Rotary
District 5440



District 5440 Hurricane Harvey Relief: **\$100,000 Goal**



by **Bill Emslie**
*District Governor,
 Rotary District 5440*

As you know, Hurricane Harvey is an unprecedented disaster for many communities along the United States Gulf Coast.

Rotary International has set up a Gulf Coast Disaster Relief Donor Advised Fund to provide direct assistance to communities involved. District 5440 is developing response plan with a total support goal \$100,000.

In forming a response to the many requests for assistance, we are asking all clubs in District 5440 to assist in one or more ways. These include:

- Contribute to RI's Gulf Coast Disaster Relief Fund. Account-Advisors are Greg Podd, Past Director, Rotary International and Barry Rassin, President Elect, Rotary International. This is a donor advised fund under The Rotary Foundation. A description of the Rotary relief effort can be found at: <https://goo.gl/NPEhWf>. See also the following article.
- Contribute to Rotary District 5930. This district, with clubs on the Gulf Coast southwest of Houston, was severely impacted and has partnered with the McAllen North Rotary Fund - a 501 (c) 3 which has set up an Emergency Relief Fund. You may contribute directly at: <http://www.rotary5930.org/>.

■ See **HURRICANE** on page 17

HURRICANE

from page 16

- Contribute to any other fund or group that is providing relief for hurricane Harvey. Your local communities may have a fund or plan for assistance and we encourage you to make your choice(s) as determined by your club. For example, one of our clubs is collecting donations for the American Red Cross, another club is partnering with Katy Christian Ministries to gather the food and

supplies to be sent to hurricane victims.

This wide range of support alternatives provides choices as you deem as appropriate. Our goal in District 5440 is to have an accumulated total level of support of \$100,000.

We are asking club presidents to report the contribution dollar amounts or items sent. We will total this to arrive at the amount provided by District 5440 and our 53 Rotary clubs, Rotaract and Interact clubs.

The District will also contribute funds which will be included as part of the \$100,000 goal. Your District Executive committee is developing a District gift now and will make an announcement soon.

Thank you, Rotarians in District 5440, for your support. With the magnitude of this disaster, we need everyone to lend a hand as they are able.



END

POLIO



DONOR ADVISED FUND The Gulf Coast Disaster Relief Fund

The Gulf Coast Disaster Relief Fund (DAF) account within The Rotary Foundation has been established to streamline the flow of contributions from Rotarians looking to assist hurricane victims. The fund will be directed by the account-advisers listed below.

The account-advisers will work with local Rotary clubs and districts, as well as relief agencies, to address the needs of people in affected areas. Account-advisers may make grant recommendations for projects providing longer-term support and recovery (e.g. funding for Rotary Foundation Global Grant projects).

The Gulf Coast Disaster Relief Fund Account-Advisors

Greg Podd, Past Director, Rotary International
Barry Rassin, President Elect, Rotary International

Frequently Asked Questions

- **How can I contribute?** Please see the detailed instructions on page 2. You may contribute via check, credit card, wire transfer, or stock transfer. All contributions must go directly to the DAF account and be in U.S. dollars. Only U.S. tax receipts will be issued. On all contributions, please be sure to reference **The Gulf Coast Disaster Relief Fund, #608**. Misdirected contributions to The Rotary Foundation lock-box (or a Rotary Association foundation) will benefit the Annual Fund—SHARE.
- **What amount of my contribution will actually go to the relief effort?** Nearly 100% of contributions to The Gulf Coast Disaster Relief Fund will be granted to IRS-approved charitable organizations helping to provide relief and recovery. There is a small fee of 1% which covers the administrative and investment costs. Additionally, on 1 July of each year, 1% of the fair market value of the The Gulf Coast Disaster Relief Fund is contributed to The Rotary Foundation's Annual Fund to support the programs of the Foundation.

Please note that The Gulf Coast Disaster Relief Fund will make grants to other charitable organizations that may have other costs; however, efforts will be made to provide grants to organizations that directly support the needs of individuals and communities through the Rotary volunteer structure and other aid organizations. Additional fees may apply depending on the method of your contributions.

- **Will I receive recognition for my contribution?** Contributions to TRF DAF accounts are not eligible for Paul Harris or Major Donor recognition.
- **Where can I learn more about The Rotary Foundation Donor Advised Fund and how it works?** Please visit www.rotary.org/daf for more information.

For assistance, please send a message to plannedgiving@rotary.org or call (847) 866-3100.



DONOR ADVISED FUND

Ways to Contribute

The Gulf Coast Disaster Relief Fund

You can contribute to the Donor Advised Fund by following the instructions below.

| Check | | Credit Card |
|--------------------------|---|---|
| Payable to: | The Rotary Foundation DAF | Contribute online at https://www.your-fundaccount.com/rotary/HowToContribute.asp . |
| In the Memo line: | The Gulf Coast Disaster Relief Fund #608 | |
| Mail to: | Rotary DAF c/o NRS 12 Gill Street, Suite 2600 Woburn, MA 01801 | You will be asked to enter the account name (The Gulf Coast Disaster Relief Fund) and the account number (608). |

| Wire Instructions | |
|--|---|
| In addition to authorizing the wire, you must fax a copy of the wire authorization to (781) 658-2497 to complete the transfer. | |
| Please wire funds to: | Boston Private Bank & Trust Company |
| ABA Number: | 011002343 |
| For credit to: | The Rotary Foundation |
| Account number: | 943423732 |
| For Further Credit: | TRF DAF |
| Account Name: | <i>The Gulf Coast Disaster Relief Fund #608</i> |

| Stock Instructions | |
|---|-------------------------------------|
| In addition to authorizing the trade, you must fax a copy of the trade instructions to (781) 658-2497 to complete the transfer. | |
| DTC Shares to: | SEI Private Trust Company |
| DTC Participant ID: | 2039 |
| Agent Bank ID: | 94952 |
| Credit to: | Rotary Clearing/Liquidation Account |
| Account Number: | 755Z0007 |
| Agent Internal STC Account Number: | 11110-C |

Please note:

- All accepted contributions are irrevocable assets of The Rotary Foundation.
- Contributions must be made in U.S. dollars and cannot be by money order or cashier's check.
- Donors will be issued a U.S. charitable tax receipt.
- The Rotary Foundation does not award recognition for contributions to this account; contributions do not earn Foundation Recognition points (toward Paul Harris Fellows) or count toward Paul Harris Society, Major Donor or Arch Klumph society status or district giving goals.
- Non-U.S. contributions may be subject to additional information to meet U.S. guidelines for international fund transfers.
- Contributions sent to The Rotary Foundation lock-box will benefit the Annual Fund—SHARE.
- For more information about the Donor Advised Fund, please visit www.rotary.org/daf or contact the Planned Giving Team at planned.giving@rotary.org or (847) 866-3100.



Why **WE** are going to Toronto

by **Bill & Tracey Emslie**

*District Governor,
Rotary District 5440*

If you have already made up your mind that you are going to Toronto in June, 2018 for the Rotary International Convention and have not yet registered, click here: <http://www.riconvention.org/en/toronto/register>.

If you have not yet made up your mind, please read on.

Back in June, Tracey and I had the opportunity to attend the amazing Rotary International Conference in Atlanta. It was one of those great Rotary experiences. Imagine being in a crowd of over 40,000 Rotarians, with conversations going on in many languages but everyone seeming to understand the gist of what was being communicated, and coming away with a unique individual experience.

It was full of both the expected and the unexpected.

We anticipated that there would be a big announcement about polio eradication and were not disappointed. After hearing a report on the status and challenges of the fight against this vicious virus,

Rotary International John Germ announced a call to action with a goal of finding the \$1.5 billion that will be needed to carry this history-making health initiative to its end. His call was answered as, one by one, individuals, families, businesses, foundations, the WHO, the CDC, and sovereign countries announced their contributions.

Every seat had a plastic LED bracelet on it. We were asked to please not change seats once we put it on. Bill Gates came on stage with an emotional speech that was punctuated by flashes of lights from the bracelets showing the geography of the effort in giant, glowing maps created by the different colors at different seats. That night, \$1.2 billion dollars was pledged worldwide. Since then the UK has pledged an additional \$130 million.

We did not expect to hear such a legend as Andrew Young speak. When he arrived on the stage, there was absolute silence, both in surprise (he had not been on the list of speakers) and respect for this national hero for the Civil

Rights movement and for international peace. His simple, eloquent words told us much about the man and the role he played in support of human rights.

There were many, many breakout sessions available to all attendees. If you can think of a Rotary topic, it was probably covered.

When not attending the breakout or plenary sessions, we wandered among the hundreds of topical booths in the huge Hall of Friendship. Here I spoke with Scouting Rotarians, Peace Building Rotarians, representatives from specific countries, and made some great contacts for the coming year. Tracey talked to Rotarians involved in the clean water initiatives, Quilting Rotarians, Hiking Rotarians, Whiskey Drinking Rotarians, and Rotarians working with various youth initiatives around the world.

These were just the tip of the iceberg. Our Zone had a "Southern Dinner in the Park with great food, great conversations, and music. The District 5440 reception featured friends we knew were coming, some of those we did not expect, and new friends made on the spot. We had genial opportunities to speak with brilliant people we had only read about, and discovered Rotarians who were changing the world in ways we had not imagined.

Based on this experience, are we going to Toronto?

You bet we are!



**Make a Difference in your Community
with a
Local Global Grant
from
District 5440 and the Rotary Foundation**

Overview

In partnership with the Rotary Club of Shimoga, India and the Rotary Club of Bangalore North West, India, district 5440 will offer a global grant opportunity to one club in the district to do a \$35,000 project in their community for an investment of \$4,000 from the club or clubs.

Project requirements

- The project must be in the local community of the district 5440 club or clubs applying
- The project must be in one of the following six areas of focus:
 - Water and sanitation
 - Disease prevention and treatment
 - Peace and conflict resolution
 - Economic and community development
 - Education and literacy
 - Maternal and child health
- The project must be sustainable - it can't just be providing supplies or remodelling structures. There should be training, long-term management and a maintenance and support plan. Sustainability means providing long-term solutions to community problems that community members themselves can support after the grant funding ends.

Selecting a project

Start by assembling a small group of people in your club and other clubs in the community to make a community assessment. Also, look for partner organizations working in the community that have a track record of successful projects. Next, investigate where Rotary and the partner organization can make a long lasting improvement in the community. Define a project that is doable in a year or two with a budget of \$35,000. Examine the sustainability of the project using the district 5440 Sustainability Score found on the district web site at <http://www.rotary5440.org/SitePage/global-grant-training> under Files.



Interact

Please join us for

DISTRICT 5440 INTERACT LEADERSHIP ASSEMBLY

Saturday

October 7, 2017 9 a.m. – 3 p.m.

Triumph High School

1250 W. College Drive Cheyenne, WY

**Come and get great ideas for the new club year! Leadership Development for
all of your new officers and club members! Awesome team building!**

Participate in a community service opportunity! Free Lunch!

Load up a car or van and make your way to Interact District Assembly!

Free Registration! Please Register before October 1, 2017!

4-WAY TEST

from page 3

and gave the two little girls our Rotary card with a wildflower seed packet stapled to it. The wife hustled over with a big grin and moved the van.

We all waved and drove away. We would go west at the highway. The others would go east. We stopped and rolled down the window to say goodbye.

"At least you'll have a good story to tell when you get back home!" I called out.

"For years and years and years!" one responded.

"That," said the other, "was much more exciting than the eclipse!"

As we headed toward Buffalo, I said to Bill that it looked like he had put the 4-Way Test to work on

that one.

"Oh, yes!" he said. "Plus one more thing."

"What was that?"

"Respect matters so don't be an idiot."

What the map had marked as a county road had been abandoned to the ranch some years earlier, but no sign had ever been put up.

Earlier that morning, an eclipse watcher avoiding the highways had roared down the hill and past the ranch house at high speed, kicking up dust, endangering the chickens and dogs, and scaring the children.

Respect and manners were all they were really asking for.

CONTACT US

GIVE US A CALL OR SEND AN EMAIL...

For more information about advertising and/or placing articles in The Connection.

Kellie Tovar

(970) 506-1036

rotary5440@yahoo.com

Visit us on the web at:

www.rotary5440.org

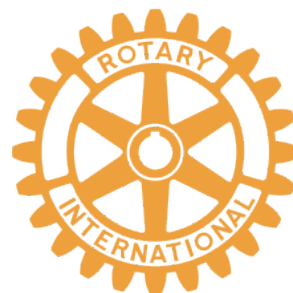
and

www.facebook.com/RotaryDistrict5440

If this Rotary of ours is destined to be more than a mere passing thing, it will be because you and I have learned the importance of bearing with each other's infirmities, the value of toleration."

*~ Rational Rotarianism,
The National Rotarian, January 1911*

Rotary
District 5440



Rotary

District 5440



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

Membership Summit

Sep. 9, 2017
The Wolcott Gathering Place
Casper, WY

CCRYE Inbound Orientation

Sep. 21-24, 2017
TBA

2017 Fall Assembly

Oct. 7, 2017
Little America Resort
Cheyenne, WY

2017 Fall Interact Assembly

Oct. 7, 2017
Triumph High School
Cheyenne, WY

2018 High Country PETS

Mar. 2-4, 2018
Denver, CO

2018 Spring Assembly

Apr. 7, 2018
Little America Resort
Cheyenne, WY

2018 Foundation Dinner

Apr. 7, 2018
Little America Resort
Cheyenne, WY

2018 District 5440 Conference

May 3-5, 2018
Estes Park, CO

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

"Rotarians are People of Action Making a Difference"