



IN THIS ISSUE

NOVEMBER 2018

District Governor Message	1
DG Chuck Recognizes Nancy Hobbs	2
Trustee Chair's Message	3
Rotary Club of Estes Valley Sunrise	4
Rotary Club of Scottsbluff / Gering	5
Upcoming District Events	6

Dear Fellow Rotarians,

November is Foundation Month in the Rotary world and a time when we focus on our foundation. For me that means thinking about all the good our donations do in our communities and around the world. Like most Rotarians, I get great joy from charitable giving...sharing my material blessings with the foundation to make this world better.

I know that we talk about the many ways to give, and the recognition of a Paul Harris Fellow, and it's easy to forget about the impact of our donations. Each month we see stories of our global projects in the ROTARIAN magazine and how we can lift up those in need with well thought out, sustainable projects. We see projects in our own communities which are made possible by District Matching Grants that impact on our own communities.

My own realization of impact of the foundation was solidified several years ago on one of many trips to Guatemala with a group of Rotarians and Interactors to work on a water project in the city of Gualan. On our first morning, instead of heading out to the project, we were taken to a school room filled with shelter boxes. My friend Dr. Edwin Oliva explained there had been a flood several weeks before and that we were going to begin the week building a "shelter box village" for those who had lost everything. As we set up each tent, a family was waiting for their new shelter.

After completing a tent for one older woman, she came up to me and hugged me as tears fell down her face as she spoke to me in Spanish. Edwin explained that she was thanking us for saving her life. Later that night as we met with the Club Rotario de Gualan, I watch a torrential downpour and thought about her huddling in her tent, safe and dry, and I realized how a small donation can change a person's life.

I also learned after joining Rotary how our own financial security depends far more on the financial, physical and spiritual health of others in our community, our nation, our world. When you share your good fortune by donating your money, time and talent to charity, you help create a stronger economy and a healthier, safer world.

So, I'm asking you think about the good made possible by your donation and **Be The Inspiration** to your family and community by giving generously throughout the year to our foundation. It feels wonderful, it's the ultimate in enlightened self-interest and it's the right thing to do.



Chuck Rutenberg
District Governor 2018-2019
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District Governor Chuck Recognized Nancy Hobbs



District Governor Chuck Rutenberg recognized Nancy Hobbs for her many years of dedicated service to her club and District 5440 at the Literacy Symposium on October 6, 2018. Nancy was a member of the Torrington Rotary Club, an Assistant District Governor from 2016-2018, and District Membership Chair from 2015-2018.

Trustee Chair's Message



Ron D. Burton

Trustee Chair 2018-19

November 2018

Every year we celebrate November as Rotary Foundation Month. How fortunate we are to have a world-class Foundation that allows us to do so much good in the world. We should all take pride in the fact that something good happens every second of every day because of Rotarians and our Rotary Foundation.

Remember how excited we were at the 2017 Rotary International Convention in Atlanta, where we celebrated the Foundation's first 100 years? The fundraising goal for that year was \$300 million, and, as you recall, we raised \$304 million to exceed that goal. It was a landmark year for the Foundation.

In the 2017-18 Rotary year, as the Foundation entered its second century of service, we had an even more ambitious fundraising goal of \$360 million. At the convention in Toronto in June, outgoing Trustee Chair Paul A. Netzel told attendees that we once again had a landmark year for our Foundation, setting a one-year fundraising record of \$373 million.

This year our fundraising goal totals \$380 million. Our goal for polio is \$50 million, which will be turned into \$150 million through the Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation matching grant. Add to that a \$137 million goal for the Annual Fund, \$61.5 million for the Endowment Fund, and \$31.5 million for global grant cash and other outright gifts, and our many programs will be fully funded and Rotarians will be completely equipped and empowered to continue making real change.

Now, it's up to you and me. We have the chance to forge a path of ever-increasing relevance and influence — to choose the direction and tempo of the Foundation's second century.

I'm challenging you to increase your involvement in our Foundation — by doing, by giving, and by inspiring. Together we can make tomorrow even brighter than today. We can make every month Rotary Foundation Month. So, *Be the Inspiration*, build your Rotary legacy, and let's make this yet another landmark year in our history.

Rotary Club of Estes Valley Sunrise

BRUCE AND SALLY JOHNSTON HONORED FOR 13 YEARS OF SERVICE

by Leslie Glover, President, Estes Valley Sunrise Rotary Club

Sunrise Rotarians, **Bruce and Sally Johnston**, were honored on Tuesday, October 16th with Paul Harris Fellowship Recognition for 13 years of service to Autumn Gold: A Festival of Beer, Brats and Bands.

Since 2005, Bruce Johnston served as Chair of the Autumn Gold Festival, a signature Sunrise Rotary fundraiser. Under Bruce's leadership, Autumn Gold has grown over the years and now features five live bands, multiple food vendors, a classic car show, raffle ticket drawing and kids' activities (face painting and a bounce feature). In 2018, The Denver Post listed Sunrise Rotary's Autumn Gold Festival as one of the top 15 fall events to attend in all of Colorado. Autumn Gold usually nets over \$40,000 in revenue most years. The weather for this year's event was so pleasant that the



event should net much more. Proceeds from the festival go back to the Estes Valley community through grants and awards to local non-profits, and proceeds from the raffle ticket sales go directly to EPHS graduating seniors for scholarships to college or vocational school. Sally Johnston served as kitchen manager, leading multiple volunteers in serving hundreds of brats, hot dogs, pretzels

with cheese and more. Every year, in addition to establishing the menu and food order, Sally organizes food prep then laboriously washes pots and pans, microwaves, serving bowls and utensils during and after the event. Autumn Gold is so labor intensive for Sally that she has not yet had the opportunity to fully experience the festival.

Clearly, Sally and Bruce have led Sunrise Rotary to fashion Autumn Gold as a festival that brings families, tourists and the community together in a fun-filled way while giving back to the community.

Paul Harris Fellow Recognition acknowledges individuals who contribute, or who have contributions made in their name, of \$1,000 to The Rotary Foundation of Rotary International. This week Sunrise Rotary contributed \$2,000 the Rotary Foundation in honor of Bruce and Sally. Those funds will be directed to one of three places: the Annual Fund, PolioPlus, or an approved Foundation grant. The Paul Harris Fellow Recognition was given to Bruce and Sally because they exemplify Rotary's motto: *Service Above Self*. Thank you, Sally and Bruce!

Next year the Autumn Gold Festival will celebrate its 25th anniversary and is scheduled for Saturday and Sunday, September 21st and 22nd 2019.

Rotary Club of Scottsbluff / Gering

September Happenings



Many local Scottsbluff/Gering Rotarians volunteered for the September 2018 Monument Marathon held in Gering – those assisting with the food tent for the runners shown above are:

Left photo – L-R Joe & Sandy Schon, Don Roth, Jeff West

Right photo – L-R Lyle Hoke, Carr & Sarah Trumbull, Sandy & Loren Gutwein.

October Happenings



Ribbon cutting event held for the North Platte NRD Greenhouse. Scottsbluff / Gering Rotary chose the North Platte NRD Greenhouse as their Rotary Gold recipient in 2018.

Scottsbluff / Gering Rotary Club presents Steph Black with United Way of Scottsbluff/Gering a check in the amount of \$3,000 to help with the Annual Day of Caring Event held on October 2, 2018 at the Weborg 21 event center. Several Rotarians and spouses volunteered and packaged food for food shelters in the 11 counties of the Panhandle.

Upcoming District Events

- [Nominating Committee Interviews for DGND](#)

Jan 12, 2019

- [President Elect Training Seminar \(PETS\)](#)

Denver Renaissance Stapleton Hotel

Mar 01, 2019 4:00 PM –

Mar 03, 2019 12:00 PM

- [Spring District Assembly](#)

Laramie County Community College

Apr 06, 2019

9:00 AM - 9:00 PM

- [District 5440 3rd Annual Foundation Dinner](#)

Laramie County Community College

Apr 06, 2019

5:00 PM - 9:00 PM

- [Rotary District 5440 Conference - 2019](#)

May 16, 2019 – May 18, 2019

- [Rotary District 5440 Conference - 2020](#)

May 28, 2020 – May 30, 2020

Check out the District 5440 Website! <https://rotary5440.org/>

District Governor—Chuck Rutenberg



Service Above Self



BE THE INSPIRATION