

### Volume I, Issue 3 September, 2015

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# **District Governor's Message** by Ken Small, 2015-2016 District 5440 Governor

In September, Rotary focuses attention on the New Generations. New Generations are basically any generation that isn't your father's or mother's Rotary. Generation X, Y, and millennial doesn't really describe the essence of the New Generations. It more embraces an update of Rotary through refocus on service and fellowship (possibly via media channels), flexibility in format of management, and attention to the value proposition of what is worthwhile during the time available for Rotary.

Rotoract and Interact are Rotary brand organizations designed to embrace the 18-30 age group and the 14-18 age group. Both organizations focus on service projects that are beneficial to the community or the world as well as provide leadership experience that the participants might not otherwise encounter.

District 5440 is building towards a strong Rotoract and Interact presence. Clubs are organized in several dis-

tricts and locals and new clubs are in the works in several more communities in the District. Eva La is the District Chair for Rotoract and Alexis Emslie is the District Chair for Interact. They are great resources with experience in both programs. Rotary Clubs, Rotoract Clubs, and Interact Clubs should use these two outstanding persons as

resources but the responsibility for having a good club of any stripe is that of the club members.

The Rotary Youth Leadership Award program has grown from a recognition program into full strength experiences through seminars, week long summer camps, and alumni association. Thanks to the vision of leaders of Rotary in what is now District 5440 and District 5450, the summer camp experience has been extended down into Young RYLA that embraces the youngest ages in an association with Rotary.

The sum of the Rotary experience can begin with Young RYLA which will generate interest in Interact, RYLA which generates interest in Rotoract, and Rotary which benefits from the interest and ideas generated by individuals who are focused on service and fellowship.

We have a great ability to recruit, can we retain the Interactors, Rotoractors, and the associated Rotarians. What is the value proposition? Same as before, all the brands of Rotary must allow service, friendship, and support.

DG Ken



Register Online at www.rotary5440.org

Discounted rate of \$25 for first timers, Rotaract members and Interact students! Returning Rotarians/Guests \$50.

### THE GREAT ROTARY DUCK DERBY IN CASPER! by AG Liz Becher, Casper Rotary Club



Rotaract Club President, Amanda Sutton (second from right), sells tickets with her fellow young professionals, and greets guests at the entrance to the event.



Five Trails Club President, Wayne Heili, suits up in the duck costume.

Casper Rotary Clubs combined forces and creativity for another successful Great Rotary Duck Derby on August 22<sup>nd</sup>.

The Casper Rotary Club started the event 15 years ago and it has grown into a beloved community event. Approximately 5,000 float down the North Platte River each August towards Crossroads Park (the Rotary Centennial project of the Casper Rotary Club). At \$20 a ticket, all three Casper Rotary clubs and our Rotaract club, promote the mission of Rotary and individual club projects while selling the tickets.

This year's proceeds will benefit the following projects:

- Casper Rotary Club Rotary Park on Casper Mountain
- Casper Five Trails Rotary youth projects
- Casper Reveille ongoing club programs for senior citizens
- Rotaract local community service projects

The Duck Derby offers fellowship and fun for all the Rotarians, their families, and friends, while benefitting the greater community. It's always a "quack up" to see how crazy club members get around little, rubber duckies......



Casper Rotary Club President John Starnes (second from left) stands outside the Duck Command Center with fellow club members.



Reveille Club members & President, Dave Hough (left), sets up a children's activity at the event.

Are you interested in serving District 5440 as



Download information from www.rotary5440.org Applications due by October 2nd rotary5440@yahoo.com

### DISTRICT GOVERNOR CLUB VISIT SCHEDULE <u>SEPTEMBER & O</u>CTOBER (full visit schedule under admin menu on <u>website</u>)

Club Name	Date
Gillette	September 1st
Casper Reveille	September 2nd
Douglas	September 2nd
Loveland Thompson Valley	September 3rd
Evanston	September 8th
Lander	September 9th
Sedgwick County	September 15th
Ski Town USA	September 22nd
Steamboat Springs	September 22nd
Estes Park-Longs Peak	September 23rd
Greeley	September 23rd
Johnstown/Milliken	September 24th
Scottsbluff/Gering	September 29th
Morrill	September 30th

Club Name	Date
Greeley Centennial	October 1st
Cheyenne Sunrise	October 6th
Greeley After Hours	October 6th
Loveland	October 6th
Sterling	October 7th
Laramie	October 8th
Jackson Hole	October 13th
Jackson Hole Supper	October 13th
Teton Valley	October 14th
Jackson Hole Breakfast	October 15th
Rawlins	October 20th
Laramie Sunrise	October 21st
Gillette-Energy	October 22nd
Sheridan	October 23rd
Greeley Redeye	October 27th
Kemmerer	October 28th

# **DUCKS IN THE DITCH**

by PP Pat Butts, Teton Valley Rotary Club



President Patti Burr, Nan Pugh and Isabel Waddell at the County Fair offering fair-goers an opportunity to participate in the Ducks in the Ditch event.

Saturday, August 8th, marked Teton Valley Rotary's 2nd annual Ducks in the Ditch event designed to raise money for civic projects. This year's funding will be directed toward Rotary's partnership with the City of Driggs to improve the local City Park with playground equipment that fits ADA guidelines allowing access for all children. In honor of the 100th anniversary of the Teton County Fair the event started at the fairgrounds in the ditch north of the pavilion and ended in front of the Valley Shopping Center. Over 1200 ducks competed in the swirling waters, passing under Highway 33,



Race managers Aaron Jenkins and his family get the ducks off to a swimming start at the Fair Grounds

brushing with disaster in the weeds, and getting caught in the eddies as they made their way down the ditch. Final winners toughed it out to cross the finish line ahead of the pack.