



Reach Within to Embrace Humanity

ROTARY DISTRICT 5450

Jim Halderman, District Governor 2011-2012

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What's inside

- 1 Douglas County Rotarians at Work!
- 2 Message from your Governor
- 2 PR Tips
- 3 Zimbabwe 3H Grant
- 4-6 District Conference
- 7 Literacy
- 7 Mark Your Calendars
- 8 History
- 9 Membership
- 10 Volunteers Needed
- 10 Five Points News
- 11 RYLA
- 12 Bangkok Convention
- 13 Monthly Quiz



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Douglas County Rotarians at Work

by Steve Baroch, AG, Castle Rock High Noon Rotary Club (steve@baroch.net)

On March 13th "Douglas County Rotarians at Work" hosted an impressive gala to celebrate the building of a

custom home for a wounded veteran. The project, a collaboration of Rotary Clubs and the National Non-Profit, "Homes for our Troops," will hopefully become a model for other Rotary Clubs across the country. The *first* Douglas County Rotarians at Work-Homes for our Troops construction project is scheduled for

May 11th. During this 3-day event, our crews will take the structure from foundation-stage to a weather-tight shell.

The gala on March 13th attracted over 150 people. District Governor, Jim Halderman, spoke to the group about how Rotary looks at a situation and defines it in the positive. The Douglas County Sheriff's Department was also in attendance and has been of great assistance in raising funds as well as awareness. Sheriff Weaver and Deputy Jay Martin spoke to the crowd. Lexi Vanderhill, Lead Volunteer Ambassador for Douglas County Kids for Our Troops,

told about how her group has raised \$44,000 for the project.

Matt Keil, a veteran wounded in

action, spoke to the group about how his and his wife Tracy's lives have been changed for the better because of his customized home, built to accommodate his specific and special needs.

Nick Orchowski, for whom the next Homes for our Troops house will be built, thanked the participants for helping to build awareness of the needs

of wounded veterans. Milender White Construction Company has volunteered to be the General Contractor on the Orchowski project and displayed design and construction plans for the new home. Douglas County Rotarians at Work Committee Chair, Sarah Vanderhill, reminded the evening's guests there is a great need—for the Orchowski project as well as for future projects—for donations of dollars, for goods and services, and for volunteers, especially skilled contractors.

For more information about this great project, please contact Steve Baroch at 303-909-7563.



Rear: Castle Pines President A J Arnett, Castle Pines Secretary and Homes for our Troops Ambassador Sarah Vanderhill. Front: Tracey and Matt Keil, previous recipients of a Homes for our Troops House and Nick and Jamie Orchowski, future recipients of a Homes for our Troops House.

A Message from your Governor

by District Governor
Jim Halderman
Rotary Club of Golden



Yes, We Make a Positive Difference

One of several human contradictions I've observed over the years is apparent in the very common need to feel valued. Yet, at the same time, we often focus on the one imperfect thing we did, forgetting those 300 positive things we did well. We impose upon ourselves the need to bat .1000, forgetting the big money, at least in baseball, goes to someone batting .300. This concept is the basis of the movie: "It's a Wonderful Life." George Bailey wanted to end his life, focused as he was on the angst he believed he was about to thrust upon his friends. Clarence, the somewhat imperfect Angel, brought George back from the brink by showing him what his community of Bedford Falls would have been like had he never lived. The war hero brother would have drowned were it not for George and

many of the wonderful houses would have been in ruin as he was not there to financially protect the owners from the evil Banker, again, were it not for George.

At our District Conference we will take time to honor some very special projects and programs

that individuals and clubs have performed. Not all the great programs will get recognized, but we will do our best to acknowledge some exceptional efforts by the Rotarians of this outstanding district. One of the greatest joys of a District Governor is to review the programs submitted for recognition. The power of these programs, when combined, is unimaginable, yet I know there are so many more. In my presentation to all the clubs I've used the metaphor of *It's a Wonderful Life*. I believed, then, and continue now to believe it is a valuable metaphor. Now that I've had the opportunity to see a small part of the many lives that have truly benefitted from our actions, I know the world is a better place because of Rotary.

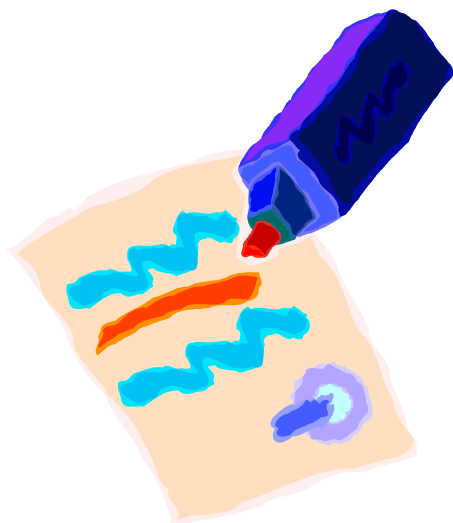
It may be in Africa, Peru, or India; it may be water, literacy, Polio Plus; it may be our hungry neighbors, fire damaged homes,

giving access because of wheelchairs; wherever we see a need and a way to help, we are there. As a fruit tree delivers its bounty indiscriminately, so too do Rotarians give and serve, regardless of differences.

Rotary circumnavigates the globe in over 200 countries, in 34,000 clubs, with 1.2 million members. Rotary is a large organization and as such requires structure and order. Unlike large corporations that dictate from the top, Rotary honors the skills and talents of the individual. We ask each member: "How would you like to help?" The message I wish to convey is that each of you is important. You are Rotary. Rotary is made up of individuals with many personal differences, but each of us comes together with a singular desire to make a difference, to give back, to bring hope to those who have none.

Please don't spend time thinking about what we *could* have done, especially when we have accomplished so much. Pat yourselves on the back. Pat one another on back and know that your Bedford Falls is a much better place for your having been there.

PR Tips . . . from our team to yours



The District PR Committee is looking for Rotarians to join our committee for the 2012-13 Rotary year. As we look to expand our efforts, we want to recruit other Rotarians willing to help promote Rotary in many ways. Among other efforts, we will be seeking ways to work more closely with the District Membership and Technology Committees. No PR experience is necessary, just a willingness

to get involved, share ideas and help promote all of the good things happening in District 5450. In addition we are looking for several people with photography skills who will be willing to serve as "official" photographers for District events. Last but not least, we are a fun group to work with! Contact Tom Hughes, et5530@cs.com or Debbie Lynch, lynch1jd@comcast.net for more information.

Update on 3H Grant Zimbabwe Community Empowerment

Transformation in the Suburbs of Harare, Zimbabwe

by Carolyn Schrader, Chair, Rotary in Africa and Grants Committees, Denver Mile High Rotary Club (schrader407@gmail.com)

The Zimbabwe Community Empowerment Project began in 2009 and is now well into its third year. This project was among the last 3H Grants awarded by TRF. The primary sponsors were Highlands Club in Zimbabwe (D9210) and Denver Mile High of D5450.

This is a critical time for the project; the funding will end in April 2012. The Harare Rotarians, led by District Governor Nominee Stella Dongo, are working with the communities to make a smooth transition to independence and sustainability in the next twelve months.

By the end of 2012, we expect to have taken over 3,500 community members through these trainings. In addition, we will have provided at least 1,000 of these participants with additional leadership and focused business training. The 3H Grant will conclude around the end of April 2013.

The final round of training (for Self Help Group 7) began on March 19. This is a week of intensive training to introduce the participants (about 500 people) to the Self Help Group (SHG) process and train them in the formation and operation of SHGs. I observed the training of eight different groups and talked to them about their experiences. They actively participated in the training and seemed to understand the concepts well. This participation and involvement has been one of the primary elements that make the training so successful. These women and young men are really engaged in the learning and quickly take ownership of the process. Their group names tell something about their attitudes: Bright Star, Burning Bush, The Conquerors, The Hunters. They proudly announce how committed they are to saving and pooling their funds for loans; that they have learned how to do a market survey; and how much



To give you some perspective, the Project Launch was in September 2009 and the training started the following month. To date we have provided training for:

• Self Help Groups	23,00	mostly women
• Youth Resource Centers	400	youths, primarily males
• Youth Computer Training	50	youths
• HIV/AIDS	510	primarily women
Total To Date	3,260	



Training of a new Self Help Group in Kuwadzana, a high density suburb of the capital city of Harare, Zimbabwe

better prepared they are compared to their competitors.

But there is so much more than just training going on. Two weeks ago, the Youth Center leaders in Budiro (one of our communities) hosted a sporting event with over 400 participants competing. They made all the arrangements, negotiated a venue and provided t-shirts with the project logo to all participants. Despite the many logistical and political obstacles, the event was a success.

The local Rotarians have also been very busy this year. They are increasingly active in the role of mentors to the SHGs. To help achieve sustainability of the project, Past

District Governor Chris Molam has started to establish Rotary Community Corps in the communities. Two have already been created (with 35 to 40 members each) and are working to become registered with RI. Two more

Corps are in the early stages of development; the plan is to establish at least seven RCCs, most of them with two Rotary Club sponsors. The RCCs are the best way to maintain the energy and activity within the communities. There is much enthusiasm among the members, who already have plans for community enhancement projects that the Corps will tackle.

Another remarkable development is that the Budiro youth are in the final stages of being awarded a grant by Old Mutual of Zimbabwe, an in-country financial institution. The grant will provide all the equipment needed to open their proposed Internet Café in Budiro. It will include 19 computers with fast Internet service, large screen TVs for pay-for-view events, Xbox and other games, business services and a café. The Budiro youth will create a non-profit organization that will use the revenue earned by the Internet Café to open similar sites throughout the communities. The Old Mutual representative said that their proposal, which they submitted a year ago, was one of the most well developed proposals she had ever seen.

There is much more to tell—stories throughout the eight communities and among the Rotarians. There has never been a project like this in Zimbabwe, and it is the pride of District 9210. It is the pride of District 5450 as well. What exciting places these communities have become. Everyone in Harare sends greetings and an invitation to come see for yourselves this amazing example of what Rotary, in partnership with the community, can achieve.

District Governor
Jim Halderman
and the
Rotary Club of Golden
invite you to the
2012 Rotary
District 5450 Conference



Celebrate all that is Rotary
Hear renowned speakers on important topics
Enjoy the company of fellow Rotarians
Experience a world-class resort hotel
Recognize club and individual achievements



April 27-29, 2012
Ameristar Resort Hotel
Black Hawk, Colorado

~Conference Highlights~



Katie is Director of Learning and Program Development, Red Robin Restaurants. She brings a new light, a new energy, and new way of looking at Rotary, ourselves, and all we can be.

Katie Ehlis
New Approaches to Rotary



Corey is Prof. of Ethics and Law at the University of Denver. "Authentic Success" means we have solid character, a true contentment, and strong personal relationships.

Corey Ciocchetti
"Authentic success" message



Dr. Kalfuss is RI's Training Leader and has spoken on Rotary subjects around the world, including the 2009 International Convention. A truly dynamic and knowledgeable gift to our Conference.

Helene Kalfuss
Rotary as a World-Changer

SPECIAL ATTRACTIONS

- Rachael's Challenge-Hear the moving story of the first person killed at Columbine High School on April 20, 1999. Rachel Scott's acts of kindness and compassion coupled with the contents of her six diaries have shown many how to live life by seeing good in others.
- Celebration of eClub One's 10th Anniversary—40 members from around the world expected to be in attendance
- Celebrating with our Youth Exchange students
- Optional guided tours of the Black Hawk/Central City area, and MUCH MORE!

THE SITE

Ameristar Resort Hotel is Colorado's only AAA Four Diamond Casino Hotel. Featuring hot tubs, fire pits, indoor rooftop pool, full-service spa, salon and fitness center. Plus four dining options in the hotel. 55,000 sq.ft. casino, live entertainment, and more. Located in the historic Black Hawk/Central City area.



CONFERENCE REGISTRATION

Conference registration fee of \$160 includes all conference events. Meals include heavy hors d'oeuvres on Friday evening and breakfast on Saturday and Sunday. Other meals are "on your own". There are four dining areas in the hotel and many others nearby.

Conference registration must be done online only, and it's simple—go to www.rotary5450.org and click on the District Conference link.

HOTEL RESERVATIONS

Contact Ameristar at 720-946-4100 to make your room reservation. Indicate that you are attending the Rotary District 5450 conference April 27-29, 2012. Our group code is GCRCD12.

The hotel is holding 100 rooms at a special conference rate of \$149 (plus taxes) per night. You must make your reservation by April 11, 2012 to receive this rate. It is strongly recommended that you make your room reservations early as the 100 rooms will go quickly, after which the rate may be higher. And please note that the hotel often fills up completely on weekends.

**Join your fellow Rotarians and experience the
2012 District 5450 Conference, April 27-29, 2012!**

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District Literacy Projects in the news

by Hal Kuczwara, District Literacy Co-Chair, Arvada Sunrise Rotary Club

From the Boulder Rotary:

The Boulder Rotary is looking for clubs to become partners in their International Project, Bead for Life (BFL). The club has established an ongoing relationship with this non-profit and would like to partner with other clubs in the district to enhance and continue their support of this important program.

The BFL program in Uganda focuses on poverty eradication. The program includes a strong literacy and numeracy component for women in their own languages. Each year, BFL works with approximately 1300 women. Of these approximately 60% select literacy classes which are taught once or twice a week. Thus far, the program has concentrated on income generation and agricultural opportunities. BFL currently has 120 participants in this program and intends to expand the literacy program for this group in 2012. A literacy group in Uganda has developed BFL's extensive and multi-lingual curriculum. Rotarians wishing more information about this program should contact Pat Engstrom pgengstrom@gmail.com or Mark Bodnarczuk (mark@breckenridgeinstitute.com) with the Boulder Rotary.

From the Evergreen Rotary:

Dr. Theodore Ning of the Evergreen Rotary is looking for assistance with The StarFish One by One program. Young Mayan women whose potential has been unlocked during Starfish (SF) One by One program will break the cycle of poverty and exclusion and positively transform their families, communities and country into more just, healthy and equitable entities. The SF program, according to Ted, is doing well in its 5th year, with 210 students enrolled. Dr. Ning is hoping to raise both awareness of and funds for this project in his upcoming presentations to the district's clubs. Ning anticipates

applying for a \$62,000 Global Grant, with help from the Greeley Centennial Club (District 5440) as the International Sponsor. The Guatemala Metropoli Rotary Club, District 4250, has agreed to be the Host Club. The majority of the funds will come from District 5450 Rotary Clubs. For information on this project—which was presented at the last District Literacy Conference—contact Theodore C. Ning, Jr., MD HL.D (hon), <http://www.starfishoneyone.org> or call 303-670-7171.

From our partner, the Colorado Council International Reading Association:

The Colorado Council International Reading Association (CCIRA) is reaching out to other literacy-promoting organizations for funding in order to provide scholarships to deserving teachers so they may attend the annual CCIRA Conference on Literacy (The 2013 Conference, "Heroes for Literacy," will be held at the Marriott Denver Tech Center, February 6-9, 2013.) The Literacy Committee is looking for Rotary Clubs to join forces with CCIRA to support teachers. Scholarships will make it possible for teachers to attend this internationally recognized conference and enhance their teaching "super powers." Returning to their classrooms, they will be ready to continue doing the good work of teaching literacy, saving their world – one child at a time.

For additional information about the scholarship program, CCIRA, or its annual conference, please contact Mary Jo Ziegman, the 2013 Conference Chair, at maryjo.ziegman@ccira.org, or call her at 970-222-5096. Please check out their website at <http://www.ccira.org>.

For more information on any of these three programs, you may also contact Hal Kuczwara, District 5450 Literacy Co-Chair at hal@funlosophy.com or call 303-421-5747.

Mark Your Calendars

All of the events are listed on the District Web site under the "Upcoming Events Section" Registration will be available on the district web site for all of the following events May 1st.

Saturday, June 2

District Assembly

Front Range Community College

7:30 am to 12:30 pm

Sunday, June 24

District Transition Dinner

Glenmoor Country Club

5:30 pm to 9:00 pm

Sunday, July 15

Rotary Family Fun & Fellowship Day

Denver Zoo

11:00 am to 5:00 pm

Keep Those Stories Coming

Your District Governor appreciates the many engaging and inspiring stories and those important notices that have filled the pages of the district's newsletter during the past nine months.

If you have a story to share or an announcement to post, please be in touch with Paul O'Rourke (mopo85@gmail.com).

The deadline for April submissions is Monday, May 9. Please have copy, photos (3" x 4" in pdf or jpg and 96 dpi) with captions to Paul via email by May 9, 2012.

District 168 Renamed District 545 in 1957

by Jay Carpender, University Hills Rotary Club

Northwestern Mutual Life Insurance Agent and part time farmer Harley W. Shaver of Scottsbluff, Nebraska started off the newly named District 545 in 1957. Shaver was the first of 34 district governors who represented the new district, which covered the same territory as the old district 168, that being all of Colorado and Wyoming as well as a small portion of Western Nebraska.

Beginning his term in 1958 as DG was Harold R. Smethills of Golden, Colorado. While Rotary International had been involved in Student Exchanges unofficially since 1927, Smethills is noted as having arranged the first recorded exchange of students into District 545 from Australia. The two Rotary Clubs involved were from Myrtleford, Victoria, and Scottsbluff, Nebraska (the home of Smethills' predecessor, Harley Shaver, who initiated the conversations). Smethills was a Regional Director of the Small Business Administration.

Following his term as President of Denver Rotary, Ray Jenkins took a year to prepare to be the District Governor during the years 1959-1960, when there were 48 clubs to visit. His enthusiasm for the Rotary International Foundation lives on today with the Ray Jenkins Award, which is presented to the District Club with the highest per capita contribution to the Rotary International Foundation for the current fiscal year. For two years, starting in 1965, Jenkins served as a Director of Rotary International, and was planning coordinator for the 1966 International Rotary Convention.

Professor W. D. Armentrout, PhD., was on the faculty of the Colorado Teachers College and later served as vice president and director of instruction at the Colorado State College of Education. During this time he took time to serve Greeley, Colorado as president of the Chamber of Commerce and also the Greeley Rotary Club as its president. In 1960,

Armentrout served District 545 as its Governor.

John P. Ilsley, lawyer, Bar Association President, and District Judge residing in Campbell County (Gillette), Wyoming took time from the bench to be 545 District Governor in 1961.

Eric P. Wendt of Brush, Colorado was District Governor for the Rotary Years 1962-1963.

Ernest Altick was DG for 1963-1964. His club, the Rotary Club of Estes Park, was the 2,346th club to join Rotary International. Altick served as Club President prior to his position as District Governor.

Long-time Casper Attorney, William J. Wehrli, after serving the Casper Rotary Club as President, ascended to DG on July 1, 1964. There were 54 Clubs active in the District at that time.

Earl Reynolds had the privilege of serving as the Host District Governor for the International Rotary Convention that was held in Denver in 1966. The convention showcased Denver and the Rocky Mountain Region. There were 12,929 registrants from 67 countries in attendance, not counting 1,845 persons under the age of 16.

In 1931, in Torrington, Wyoming, Lewis A. Colyer became an Eagle Scout and received a Harmon Foundation Scholarship of \$100. Adding to his honors, still in Torrington, he won the Ed Bemis Award in 1945 (a District Award for excellence in writing bulletins). Colyer became President of the Torrington Rotary Club in 1948, and in 1966 he was selected as District Governor for 545.

After he earned his teaching degree at Kansas State Teachers College, Eugene E. Dawson joined Rotary in Pittsburg, Kansas. He continued his education, ultimately gaining a divinity degree with a PhD in Psychology. Dawson served as an American Baptist Minister in Pittsburg where he became President of the Pittsburg Rotary Club. In 1957, he came to Denver to serve as President



Harley W. Shaver
1957-1958



John P. Ilsley
1961-1962



Harold R. Smethills
1958-1959



Eric P. Wendt
1962-1963



Ray Jenkins
1959-1960



Ernest E. Altick
1963-1964



W. D. Armentrout
1960-1961



W. J. Wehrli
1964-1965



Earl E. Reynolds
1966-1967



Lewis A. Colyer
1966-1967

History contd. on page 9

Transformation in Membership brings diversity

by Sharon Maybee, Commerce City Rotary Club Membership and Club Service Chair and D5450 Membership Team Member (gkmaybee@aol.com)

Traveling throughout District 5450 and other Districts in the U.S. and foreign lands, a person can soon sense the Rotary clubs that have the **mindset to embrace positive diversity and change**. These clubs are a reflection of their community, whether it is due to profession, age, gender, religion, race, or ethnicity. These are **dynamic clubs** that embrace and exude a sense of **team spirit, energy, and enthusiasm**. They welcome visitors with an open mind and arms and embrace new members and their energy and ideas.

In stark contrast, there are some clubs that are still living in the past. Have you ever attended another Rotary club where women are sitting at one table and the remaining tables are all men? Or, have you—when visiting another club—and are ready to sit down when someone says “Oh, that is Henry’s place; there is an open space at the next table, that’s where our guests sit?” One last issue: have you seen a visitor come into the meeting room and not one member greets the person and s/he is left standing by him/herself? In this day and age it still happens. Not all clubs have a positive outlook on someone looking different than they do, and some Clubs still retain the OLD system of classification.

An important membership *transformation* is upon us. Rotary International is promoting member diversity as one of Rotary’s strategic goals, and this is emphasized in the RI Statement on Diversity in the Rotary Code of Policies, which encourages clubs to reflect their community in professional and business classification, gender, age, religion, and ethnicity.

Approximately 15 years ago, my Commerce City Rotary Club, although relatively the same size as it is now, looked extremely different. The club was predominantly older,

white males, with less than 6% women as members; the median age of the club was 68 years old. Today, the **Club looks and thinks quite differently**. This did not come about overnight, however. Six years ago several young professionals and grads from Adams County High School in District #14 were inducted into the club and a **positive change** began. These young members gradually became involved on committees, chairing committees and Avenues of Service. Currently, the Rotary President is one of these graduates and in 2013 other young leaders are in succession to become Commerce City Rotary Presidents and will lead us into the future. These young professionals are also participating in the District Leadership Institute.

This year another milestone occurred in the Commerce City Rotary Club, resulting in a growing and diversified membership. With the help of the Club’s membership team, the **club grew by 23%** from 35 to 43 members. There is a **positive attitude among all members**. Whether they are a retired member of 39 years or a young professional member of 39 days they are bringing in many prospects, which have turned into numerous enthusiastic members. **Membership has become infectious**. Each new member changes the Club’s dynamics in regards to fresh ideas, talent and skills.

The difference is, Commerce City Rotary is becoming a **Club relevant** to the community we serve. New Rotarians have enhanced the financial resources, broadened its perspectives and leadership to have more opportunities to begin changing the lives of children around the world, starting in Commerce City. The Club’s current membership is comprised of two-thirds male

and one-third female, with the **median age of 51 years young**. The Commerce City Rotary Club has extended their family both internationally and multi-culturally by making great advances in promoting diversity. In addition to members with disabilities and the gay community, the club has cultures of East Asian-Indian, Hispanic, Ethiopian, and African-American. The Club is now 58% diversified with 27% multi-cultural and over 39% active members under the age of 45. Most important, the Club is a **FAMILY** of 100% **ROTARIANS!**

History contd. from page 8

of Colorado Women’s College, and he continued his membership in Rotary. In 1964, Dawson was selected President of the Denver Rotary Club. In 1967, he was selected District Governor. Eugene Dawson later retired to Estes Park.

Twenty-six men held the position of District Governor of 545 through 1991, when 545 became District 5450, as it is now. There are more individual histories to follow.

If you have an interest in recording the history of the clubs, individuals, and projects of District 5450, please contact Jay Carpender at jay@carpender.biz.

[Some of the information in this article is drawn from *The Rotarian*, George E. Mendenhall, Jr.’s *History of District 5450* and District 5450’s records]



Eugene E. Dawson
1907-1988

Volunteers Needed for District 5450 Service Project

Please reserve Saturday, May 19th for the first annual district-wide service project benefitting the YMCA Camp of the Rockies at Snow Mountain Ranch in Granby, Colorado. The relationship of the YMCA and Rotary has been "beneficial to all concerned" for some time. Rotary Youth Exchange has used their facilities to hold interview and orientation weekends at little or no cost. In recognition, District 5450 Rotary Youth Exchange and Snow Mountain Ranch will be hosting a volunteer day to benefit Camp Chief Ouray at Snow Mountain Ranch.

We are asking all youth exchange students (current inbound and our "12-'13 outbound class and any previous exchange students), any RYLA and Young RYLA students, all Interact clubs, and Rotaract clubs within our district to provide volunteers.

WHEN: Saturday, May 19th breakfast at 7:30 AM

WHERE: Snow Mountain Ranch in Granby Colorado

WHAT: Volunteers will construct a new archery range, install a new swing set with landscaping surrounding the set, do trail maintenance around the grounds and cabins, paint cabins and other projects. If inclement weather, all projects will be indoors. Work will prepare Camp Chief Ouray for the summer opening. Work to begin at 9:00AM and finish by 5:00 PM:

PROVIDED: Volunteers may stay free at Snow Mountain Ranch either Friday or Saturday night. All meals (breakfast, sack lunch and dinner) will be provided for volunteers on Saturday. Volunteer day will conclude with a campfire ceremony, including S'mores and camp songs.

Those wishing to stay an extra night, either Friday night before, or Saturday night after, may do so for an additional \$49 and meals beyond those listed above will be at cost. We are joining the annual volunteer day of the Snow Mountain Ranch. We are asking for 60-70 volunteers. Rotarians are also needed to provide supervision as well as labor.

For more information or to volunteer, contact Peter Ewing, Assistant Governor, at pmjewling@earthlink.net or call 303-449-4795. YMCA of the Rockies, Snow Mountain Ranch is also asking that all volunteers contact them to register as a volunteer for that day. You may also then register to stay overnight. Contact information to register as a volunteer with them is: (970) 887-2648 or e-mail chiefouray@ymcarockies.org. Please contact me so that I will have an accurate count of our Rotary volunteers. For more details about the service day and jobs planned, please visit our web site www.rmrye.org and look for "volunteer opportunities".

News from the Rotary Club of Five Points

by Rosie Branstetter (rosie@fiveseed.com)

The Rotary Club of Five Points' first-ever Ping Pong for Polio Tournament was a huge success, with donations totaling nearly **\$500** for Rotary International's Polio Plus campaign. The event saw participation from a wide range of players, including Rotarians, friends, and families.

Everyone had fun playing ping-pong and socializing. The tournament was quite competitive, with the final set being played between Thor (Sky High) and Jonathan H., with Jonathan ultimately capturing the 1st Place Trophy.

Thanks to everyone who participated. We look forward to seeing you at the tables in 2013!



Rotary Youth Leadership Awards

RYLA is a leadership-training program sponsored by Rotary International that promotes, encourages and rewards outstanding young people.

An all-expenses paid six-day conference that brings together a special group of young men and women from Colorado, Wyoming and Western Nebraska to share ideas about becoming better leaders.

An action-packed program of activities that helps build confidence and leadership skills (like problem solving games, challenge course, skits, group discussions and teambuilding activities).

An adventure that just might change your life!

If you:

- Will be a junior or senior next fall
- Have demonstrated leadership in your school, community or place of worship
- Would like a chance to meet and talk to other teens from different schools
- Are interested in making new friends
- Want to become a better leader



...Then you should come to RYLA!

Where: YMCA of the Rockies, Estes Park, Colorado

When: Sunday, July 22 - Friday, July 27, 2012

Cost: Paid by your local Rotary Club

To apply: Please see your school guidance counselor or a representative of a local Rotary club. Or, better yet, just apply on our web site:

www.rmRYLA.org

You will find details on your local rotary club contact information there as well.

For more information, contact:

**Gloria Reynolds, algereynolds@aol.com
303.349.9332**

Application deadline: April 30, 2012

Rotary International is an organization of business and professional people united worldwide who provide humanitarian service, encourage ethical standards in all vocations and help build goodwill and peace in the world.





Make plans now to visit Thailand . . . the “Land of a Thousand Smiles”. The RI Board selected **Bangkok**, the vibrant capital of Thailand, as the site for the 2012 Rotary International Convention. Known as the “City of Angels”, Bangkok’s culture, cuisine and traditions attract millions of international visitors annually and have earned it the top rating of “**World’s #1 Best City**” for the past three years by *Travel + Leisure* magazine.

Thailand is ready and waiting to welcome you to their amazing country. The Thai government has rolled out the welcome mat for Rotarians worldwide by providing Rotary International with a \$9.4 million grant to help underwrite convention expense resulting in the lowest convention registration fee in 25+ years **(\$160)** if you register by **Dec. 1, 2011**.

Why attend a Rotary Convention?

If you ask Rotarians why you should attend an International convention, you’ll get many opinions but in almost every case they’ll tell you it is an unparalleled opportunity to do the following:

- Learn about successful and innovative projects that your club can replicate.
- Learn firsthand about all of the changes that are happening in Rotary
- Be inspired and motivated by internationally known speakers
- Build lifelong friendships with people who share your vision for a better world
- Experience the true “internationality of Rotary” in a place where the entire Rotary world comes together.

Visa Requirements

Rotarians from the US and Canada visiting Thailand will be able to do so with no difficulty. First, make sure your passport is current and won’t expire either just prior to or during your trip. Second, the US and

Canada are on the list of countries that are “exempt” and do not require an entry visa as long as your stay in Thailand will **not be more than 30 days**. If you are planning an extended stay, an appropriate entry visa must be obtained in advance (4-6 months is recommended) from a Thai diplomatic or consular mission.

Get the “basics” out of the way

Be sure to take care of the following very important tasks early to insure your convention experience will be everything you anticipate once you arrive. If, in the end it is not possible for you to attend, you can cancel everything as long as you do so before March 1, 2012.

- **REGISTER ONLINE:** (using Member Access) before December 1 to be sure you’ll receive the early registration discount (\$160). After this date, registration increases significantly. Register online at <http://www.rotary.org>
- **RESERVE YOUR HOTEL ROOM!** This is very important. Some hotels are already sold out. Hotel rates in Bangkok are much lower than for the past few RI conventions. Book your reservation now to ensure that you will get the hotel that you want.
- **ORDER YOUR HOC EVENT TICKETS:** Visit the Host Organizing committee web site <http://www.rotaryconvention2012.org> to order tickets for the various events that the HOC is planning. These, too, traditionally sell out early so reserve them early.
- **MONITOR AIR FARE:** Sign up to get notifications of fare changes on a web site like <http://www.airfarewatchdog.com> and be sure to use the RI Convention discount with United and the Star alliance partners.

Your Monthly Rotary Quiz

Be the first to respond (to Paul O'Rourke, mopo85@gmail.com) and receive a "prize" from District Governor, Jim Halderman, and an opportunity to publicize a project or program in which you,



your committee, or your club is currently engaged or has recently completed. And remember, all questions are taken from this month's *The Rotarian* magazine.

This month's puzzler:

Muhammad Yunus is known worldwide as "the banker to the poor." In what year did Yunus introduce the concept of "microcredit?" What was the name of the lending institution that first managed his microcredit program?

Yunus won two prestigious awards for his work. What were they and in what years were they awarded?

March's Winner—Due to the fact the editor switched his email address in early March, responses to the March Rotary quiz were sent to two e-locations, resulting in—you guessed it—two winners. Congratulations to Mary Alice Jackson (Centennial) and Diana Royce Smith (Boulder), a winner for the second time, for correctly—and promptly—answering the question:

A well-known music personality is much involved with efforts to advance literacy. What is this person's name; what is the name of the organization he/she helped found; and in what three countries does it perform its good work?

The answer, found on pages 53-55 in last month's the *Rotarian* magazine: Dolly Parton, Imagination Library, and the U.S., Canada, and the United Kingdom.

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