



Reach Within to Embrace Humanity

ROTARY DISTRICT 5450

Jim Halderman, District Governor 2011-2012

JUNE 2012

Number 12

ROTARY FELLOWSHIP MONTH

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Cycling to Serve

Rotary Cycling Fellowship-A fun fitness path for Rotarians

by David Harrower, Rotary Club of Arvada, david@fitterfun.com



Rotarian cyclists pause for a photo op outside a restaurant in Hygiene, CO. Yes, they did have breakfast halfway through their ride. Notable riders: Norris Hermesmeyer, PDG, Tom Maier, PADG. On the ride, but not in the photo: Mike Oldham, PDG, Ian Engle on his hand-cycle. Ian is executive director of the Boulder Center for People with Disabilities.

Cycling To Serve may sound like a strange concept. How can I serve on my bike? We members of the Rotary Cycling Fellowship think we can.

In this country where two thirds of the population is overweight or obese, it makes perfect sense. If some of us Rotarians can get out, have fun on our bikes and become more fit, perhaps we can induce other Rotarians to do the same. We just might even save a few lives that would, otherwise, be lost to stroke or heart attack.

We could also set an example for young people to maintain normal weight and to be physically fit. Currently, Colorado ranks first as the state with the least obesity, but ninth in the numbers for

overweight and obese children. Our kids deserve better.

We can also further the first Object of Rotary: ***The development of acquaintance as an opportunity for service.*** What better way to form friendships than to meet Rotarians from multiple clubs in an informal way for an enjoyable experience which enhances the fitness of everyone participating?

To become involved in the Rotary Cycling Fellowship, contact Sam Pottinger at 303-664-5101, pottingers@comcast.net

Note: the author is an avid road biker who has just completed a book titled, *Fitter Fun: Changing Butt Time to UP Time.*

A Message from your Governor

by District Governor
Jim Halderman
Rotary Club of Golden



Kalyan Banerjee, Rotary International's current President, often stated, "The difficult we do right away, the impossible will take a little longer." Most have heard this phrase before, but in my past year as District Governor I have had the opportunity to witness the truth and extent of its meaning. It is truly inspirational to see what "busy people" achieve in their "spare" time. Our District, D5450, reaches into all corners of the world, Africa, Thailand, India, Nepal, Nicaragua, Ecuador, to name but a few. Of course, our District Rotarians do not miss the challenges, such as illiteracy and hunger that occur in our local neighborhoods.

John Hewko, RI's new General Secretary, is collecting data through Rotary Club Central in order to document what all clubs give, whether its money, in-kind donations, or hours worked. Rotary Club Central is now on RI's website and is a site that allows all clubs to list their projects and values. The site was constructed to enable us to quantify and publicize the extent of the "good work" Rotary International

performs. Upon joining Rotary one year ago it quickly became clear to Hewko that Rotary International is one of the largest, if not the most impactful humanitarian organizations in the world. Wow! And the world is beginning to take notice, as is

evidenced by very positive articles published in such respected publications as The Economist and Reuter's.

District 5450 remains one of the most dynamic districts in the Zone as well as the world. We are outstanding in our continued growth, our giving, our support of Peace and Ambassadorial scholarships, GSE, Youth Exchange, and the size and number of grant projects. Our District makes a difference in the World. As I've stated in my club visit talks, "Rotary is You, You are the catalyst that brings Hope, Dignity, and Change to the world." It all begins with you, your passion, and your desire to make a difference. As Margaret Mead has said, "Never doubt that a small group of thoughtful, committed, citizens can change the world. Indeed, it is the only thing that ever has."

And, indeed, you do change the world. Our Rotarians have touched lives in so many ways. Donna Petrocco, from Brighton Early Club, told me of an 8th grade student she didn't recognize who stopped her in the

school hall one day to tell her she still uses the dictionary Donna had given her 5 years prior. Deborah Hage and the crew from Summit County make a tremendous impact when feeding 329 people weekly. David Talbot, in his collection and delivery of crutches and mobility devices to many parts of the world brings Hope, Dignity and Change to people's lives. Attending a Water and Sanitation Committee meeting, chaired by Peter Hughes, brings an awareness of some of the largest grant projects bringing clean water to those without. Carolyn Schrader, with the Denver Mile High Club, has changed the lives of so many young orphaned children and widowed women through education and vocational training in Harare, Zimbabwe. The list is seemingly without end.

It has been a great blessing for me to meet so many committed, dynamic, and enthusiastic individuals throughout the world and especially around our district. Thank you for permitting me to be your District Governor for a year. It's been a brief but very gratifying ride on a fantastic train. Many have gone before me to grade the road and lay the track, and many more will follow, each bringing their own knowledge and passion. There is no caboose in sight!

We Want Out of Our Basements!

by District Governor Jim Halderman

Our District is currently warehousing its history, valuables, and essential equipment in several basements. We would like to consolidate all of "our stuff" into one space, ideally with enough public space so people can visit. There are many District Awards, historical items, all Past District Governor photos, and other items that would be suitable for display.

We are looking for approximately 100 square feet of floor space and, perhaps an office wall on which to hang district memorabilia. And it needs to be in a temperature-controlled environment. Though we do not need office space specifically, if such were available it could be used as a meeting space, a Rotary Reading Room, and for displays. The location should be in the greater

Denver metro area and does not need to be in a prime real-estate location. As our budget is limited it would be ideal if we could share office space with someone that has more than they can use. Anyone with ideas or suggestions should please call Jim Halderman at 303-989-2284 or email: dghalderman2011@comcast.net. Thank you.

From Bangkok with Love

by Dave Talbot, Mountain Foothills Rotary Club, c4a@crutches4africa.org

After twenty-two hours of flying and layovers and racing through airports my wife, Candice, and I found ourselves sitting with the “missing baggage” person at the Bangkok airport. It’s midnight and our bags failed to make the final transfer from Beijing to Bangkok. But, as promised, everything arrived the next day.

We’d arrived in Bangkok a few days ahead of the start of the convention so as to reset our body clocks and get into sync with “Asian Time.” Friday came and we set up our Crutches4Africa (C4A) booth in the sweltering heat of the not yet “air conditioned” House of Friendship. And we then headed into the city to see what Bangkok was like on a Friday night.

An eight-dollar taxi ride (about one hour into Bangkok proper) took us down to the Chao Phraya River, and from there we caught a “water” taxi that ferried us up and down the river—for a dollar—right through the heart of the city.

In the following days we had the opportunity to meet many Rotarians from all around Asia. What we came to realize is that there is great need for mobility devices (mds) almost everywhere in Asia. We met Rotarians from the U.S. as well as from other countries interested in helping C4A collect mds.

We took the opportunity to explore the House of Friendship and we discovered a remarkable number of projects, all of which focus on helping people. The concept of helping people runs deep with Rotarians and with



Dave Talbot with friends at the C4A booth at the Rotary International Convention in Bangkok, Thailand..

it is an ever-present spirit of joy and hope. The very air seemed to crackle with excitement and enthusiasm and a “can do” attitude.

Our days in Bangkok were filled with sharing with many new friends our vision to help mobilize every person who has been, literally and figuratively, left behind. And our evenings were spent exploring a new city, culture, cuisine, and trying to get a little sleep, too. So plan—now—to go to Lisbon in June of next year, where nothing but great opportunity awaits you.

C4A Update

With help from many Rotarians and friends of C4A, a 40-foot container of mobility devices was loaded and then shipped to Mombasa, Kenya (as of June 12), with a late July, early August distribution scheduled.

We need more wheelchairs for Pakistan! We are about half of the way to our goal of 380 wheelchairs. Please contact Dave Talbot (303-877-2803 or c4a@crutches4africa.org) to schedule a WHEELCHAIR pickup or to join our container loading crew. We will need your help. We are always collecting CRUTCHES, CANES, WALKERS, BABY JOGGERS, and BICYCLE TRAILERS.

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 ten months.

If you have a story to share or an announcement to post, please be in touch with **Marge Mercurio** rotarymarge@gmail.com. The deadline for June submissions is **Monday, July 9**. Please have copy, photos (3” x 4” in pdf or jpg and 96 dpi) with captions to Marge via email by July 9, 2012.

PLEASE NOTE:

With the new Rotary year fast approaching, please note that beginning July 1, 2012, all submissions to the district newsletter should be directed to **Marge Mercurio** **Rotary Club of Mead,** rotarymarge@gmail.com

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2002-2012 Celebrating
10 Years of Service



World's First
Web Based
Rotary Club

Keeping Rotarians Involved, Informed, Inspired and Connected

by eClubOne members, Dave Amen (rotary@da25.org) and Tom Green (Tgreen@masonite.com)

In year 2000, a group of Rotarians in Boulder, Colorado conceived the vision of an all- electronic Rotary Club. After substantial effort and planning the first web-based club, eClub One, was chartered in District 5450 in January, 2002. Having proved the concept's worthiness, the Rotary International Council on Legislation voted to make e-clubs a permanent part of Rotary in 2010. eClub One celebrated its 10th anniversary at the Chop House in Boulder on April 25, 2012.

Here are some of the distinctive features of this particular Rotary Club:

- **eClub One may be best known for providing the ability for all Rotarians to perform a "Make-Up"** – the equivalent of attending a meeting at another club – via the web! Rotarians read one of the dozens of articles or view a video about a fascinating topic, all easily available on www.rotaryclubone.org.
- Less well-known is the fact that **eClub One is also a real Rotary club with members in 5 continents:** Africa, Asia, Australia, Europe, and North America!
- The main criteria for membership include living or doing business in ANY Rotary District in the world, an ability to communicate in English, and circumstances making it Impractical to attend regular meetings at a traditional Rotary club.
- Club members take part in a weekly online Forum, with

discussions on vital topics submitted by different members each week.

Rotary eClub One also holds an Annual Dinner, which generally coincides with the RI Convention where members can meet face to face.

Our intent was never to replicate a 'terra' [land-based] club, but rather to create a club that functions as well as a terra club, then to try to broaden the impact. Club members must complete 12 hours of service every three months and can apply once a year for a \$500 club grant to use toward projects in their home communities. The club also sponsors many international service and disaster relief projects. These projects are brought forth by our own members as well as other Rotarians. We are an active and involved club – not just a group of people periodically looking at a home page on our website.

One member's story:

Dave Amen has been an active Rotarian in the Denver Southeast club since 1998. At his urging, Dave's daughter, Heather, attended the week-long Rotary Youth Leadership Awards (RYLA) conference in 2003. She fell in love with RYLA, and was selected to serve as a Junior Counselor for two subsequent years, then as Head Junior Counselor together with Jason Griffith in 2006. Well, Heather and long-time RYLA officer, chair, and registrar, Kevin Farrell, brought Dave into RYLA to become the registrar. Dave is now responsible for assisting hundreds of Rotarians who select 480 candidates to sponsor out of the 900 applicants.

Enhancing the registration process and making it fully web-based became a very time-consuming task for Dave, such that he was unable to do this, handle his regular job, and have time for weekly meetings at the Denver Southeast club (which he still enjoys attending whenever possible).

Dave's good friend and past RYLA Head Junior Counselor, Jason Griffith, was already a member of eClub One while attending law school. He told Dave about eClub One, which was the ideal solution for Dave. He still enjoys running registration for RYLA, but is now actively involved in eClub One activities with his new friends all around the planet!

Every eClub One member has a wonderful story, such as John Farr, who was involved in founding several clubs but now lives in the beautiful but distant Encampment, WY area, Henry Harrison, who divides his time between Montana and Maryland, Chris Joscelyne, known as the "Voice of Australia", and Jeremy Penner, a Canadian physician providing medical aid to patients in Kenya.

Rotary eClub One is confident about the future and we're convinced that one way to **attract and retain younger members** in their mid-20s to late 30s is through access to virtual Rotary experiences. We're at the forefront of that venue. Members can access articles and discussion topics every minute of every day. We invite you to click on www.rotaryclubone.org and learn more about the exciting ways we are serving across the globe!

Boulder Flatirons Rotary Supports Computer Literacy Project in Boulder

by Kristi Rutledge, President, Boulder Flatirons Rotary Club, rutledgeke@gmail.com



Bob Groening from Flatirons Rotary of Boulder giving an individual Intercambio Computer Literacy class

The Boulder Flatirons Rotary Club received a District Simplified Grant in support of a new project to

student population to improve computer literacy. Computer skills have a significant impact on economic



CU Students also participated in giving Intercambio Computer Literacy classes to immigrants

promote computer literacy in the local immigrant community through the organization, Intercambio. Intercambio offers adult immigrants classes in English and other life situations, such as assistance with finances. Co-Founder, Lee Shanis said, "We began offering computer classes because there was an expressed need from our

sustainability, which is a focus of Intercambio".

Twelve computers were purchased, along with four projectors and will be used in Intercambio's Boulder and Longmont facilities. The program kicked off in the spring with nine classes offered, serving twenty-five adults.

"The technology gap is widening and there are few affordable and accessible computer classes in Boulder," says Lee. "Those who lack computer skills have a tougher time applying for jobs, communicating with schools and family members abroad, or staying informed about community events. Some parents wanted to be able to monitor their children's use of the computer."

The students paid a small fee to participate in the program and classes ranged from one-on-one to small groups up to five. Those who participated reported a 95% increase in their level of confidence when using computers.

Of the nine classes taught, Rotarians taught three of those classes. Instructors received training, including teaching basic computer fundamentals and instructions on how to lead classes and overcome language barriers. Then, each of the instructors was paired up with students based on their language abilities.

"I love seeing the students immediately put their new skill to use," says Lee. "Many have produced high-quality resumes and are now using email for the first time. One student cried when seeing images of their hometown in Mexico on Google Earth".

Intercambio was born in 2000 from a desire to help immigrants in Boulder County improve their quality of life. Co-Founder's Shawn Camden and Lee Shanis initially addressed this need by providing English classes to help bridge the language gap between immigrants and non-immigrants. Their mission is to build understanding, respect and friendship across cultures through educational and intercultural opportunities.

For More Information visit:

www.intercambioweb.org

www.boulderflatironsrotary.org

Partnership between Rotary and International Development Enterprises (iDE)

by Steve Baroch, ADG Area 5, Rotary Club of Castle Rock High Noon, steve@baroch.net

In the past year, Rotary members, especially in District 5450 have come to know of the work of International Development Enterprises (iDE). The work Rotary and iDE performs has so many similarities it is only natural that the two organizations combine their efforts. Both organizations are concerned with giving to those in need the tools to change their own lives in ways that are significant and sustainable.

I am currently exploring the opportunities of developing a partnership project with iDE. We hope to fund this project with a Rotary International Grant in July 2013. We will focus on a project in Mozambique. iDE has a Country Project Manager in Mozambique and there are six Rotary Clubs already established in the country as potential partners. My lovely wife, Ana Ximenes, also a Rotarian, and I will be visiting Mozambique in August to meet with potential Rotary partners, the iDE Mozambique project manager, and visit potential communities to anchor this project.

The vision, as of this writing, is to have Rotary Clubs in District 5450,

and potentially in other districts, work together to produce a multi faceted project, a significant part of which would incorporate the establishment of Farm Business Advisors through iDE. These Farm Business Advisors would teach modern farming, irrigation, water



Children in Africa thanking Castle Rock High Noon Rotary for bringing them books.

storage and food storage methods, so as to improve lives and the incomes of those in the community. A portion of the grant would involve shipping mobility devices, crutches and wheelchairs (with help from Crutches4Africa, a Colorado based non-profit) to improve the lives of those who are mobility challenged.

Another part of the grant would send books and school supplies to the community in Mozambique (through another Colorado based non-profit "Transafrika"). Further, funds from the grant would involve delivering basic medical supplies to the community, hopefully through another non-profit based in Colorado.

This multipart project addresses some of the most basic needs of the community. Our efforts will assist the most challenged individuals by helping to boost their productivity and self esteem. Our goal is to increase the food supply, the quality and consistency of water, and improve incomes. From these basic improvements, it is typical to see health improve (and we will reinforce this with shipments of basic medical supplies), educational opportunities improve (and we will reinforce this with

shipments of school supplies), and overall productivity vastly improves.

For more information or to get your club involved in this potential grant, please contact:

Steve Baroch, steve@baroch.net
303-909-7563

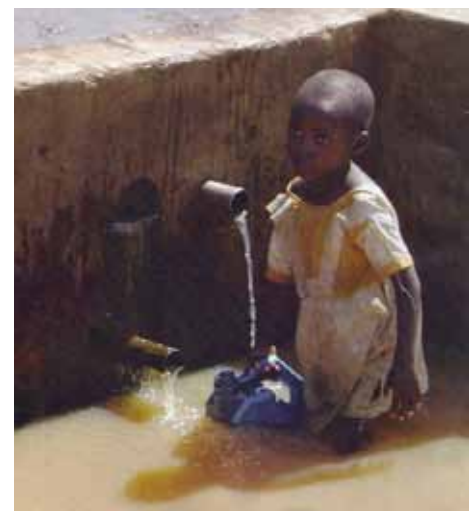
Boulder Rotarian takes 1st place in RI Photo Contest

Darryl Brown (Rotary Club of Boulder) took First Place in the 2012 RI Photo Contest for this moving image, taken outside Kisumu, Kenya. According to contest judge and world-renowned photographer Harry Benson, "This photograph, of a little child trying to get fresh water for the family, is unpretentious and poignant and tells an important story." Brown recalled, "A trickle of water

was coming out of an out-of-business brewery. What a difference clean water will make in the community."

Congratulations Darryl.

Darryl Brown's image was scanned from the June Rotarian magazine, page 41. Image cropped to fit space.



First Annual District Wide Service Project a Success

by Peter Ewing, DGN and ADG Area 7, Rotary Club of Boulder, pmjewling@earthlink.com

For the past two years the district Youth Exchange Committee has hoped to carry out a service project to thank the YMCA for their support of youth exchange in District 5450. The "Y" has annually provided space for our December outbound candidate interview weekend, and in May hosted our outbound exchange student orientation weekend.

On May 19th our hope came to fruition with the first annual service project involving youth exchange, RYLA, Interact and Rotaract students from around the district as well as Rotarians from several clubs. While we had 56 volunteers sign up for the day at Camp Chief Ouray at Snow Mountain Ranch YMCA camp in Granby, Colorado, the threatening weather and unforeseen conflicts

prevented some from attending.

In attendance were volunteers from eight Interact, Rotaract and Rotary clubs as well as youth



DGN and ADG Peter Ewing, with friends and youthful volunteers on a mulch pile at Snow Mountain Ranch YMCA camp in Granby.

exchange and RYLA students. We began the day with breakfast provided by Snow Mountain Ranch and then split into work groups to erect teepees, build an archery range, clean up cabins, spread pine

beetle mulch, repair paths and walkways, and clean up numerous piles of slash from pine beetle killed trees near cabins. After lunch (also provided by the Y), our afternoon work was cut short by lightening, thunder and a rainstorm. Following the evening meal, a campfire celebration of the work accomplished closed out the day.

All in all, the day was a wonderful success and hopefully the first of many such annual district service days. The hope is for the Interact "District Governor" and the New Generations

District Committee to work together in selecting future beneficiaries of an annual district wide service day involving the youth of Rotary and Rotarians alike.

The Gift of Words

by Marge Mercurio (rotarymarge@gmail.com)

The District 5450 newsletter has helped bridge a gap and unite the 67 clubs with information, photos, updates, history, and connect us in a way we could never have imagined. We have read about changes, strategies, hopes, concerns, and we walked away with insight into a larger organization rather than just what our club experiences.

As Paul O'Rourke steps down from his role as Newsletter Editor, I know that I have huge shoes to fill. His contributions includes editing articles, proofreading,



Mead Rotary is represented at the April District 5450 Conference by (left to right) Monica Baldwin, Dale Rademacher, Marge Mercurio, and Nick Sekich.

suggesting topics, making phone calls, cajoling for a few more photos, focusing on monthly themes, writing content, communicating with the team and so much more.

I am honored to have the opportunity to follow Paul's lead and serve as editor. It is my hope that Rotary clubs near and far want to write and share articles and photos about their events, achievements and activities for the District 5450 Newsletter.

Marge Mercurio (Mead)
970-817-6717
rotarymarge@gmail.com



ROTARY ZONE 27 DISTRICT LEADERSHIP INSTITUTE



YOU ARE THE MISSING PIECE.



ROTARY.ORG



Why was The Rotary Zone 27 District Leadership Institute created ?

The Rotary Zone 27 District Leadership Institute was created to provide the highest quality of annual training to Rotarians serving their District in the roles of District Governor, District Governor - Elects, District Governor - Nominee, District Foundation Chair, District Foundation Subcommittee Chairs, Membership Chair and Public Relation Chair.



Other Rotarians interested in the areas of The Rotary Foundation, Rotary Membership and Rotary Public Relations are also very welcome to attend!

Rotary Zone 27 Training Event
July 27, 2012 - Optional Dinner and July 28, 2012 - Training Day



**PLEASE VISIT THE ZONE 27 DISTRICT
LEADERSHIP INSTITUTE WEB SITE TO
REGISTER AND OBTAIN HOTEL
RESERVATIONS**

WWW.ROTARYZONE27.ORG



ROTARY ZONE 27 DISTRICT LEADERSHIP INSTITUTE



Where

Embassy Suites Denver - International Airport
7001 Yampa Street, Denver, Colorado
Telephone : 1-303-574-3000

Click [HERE](#) for Hotel Web Site

(Rotary International Rate of \$ 99.00 per night)

Rotary Zone 27 Training Event
July 27, 2012 - Optional Dinner and July 28, 2012 - Training Day

Proposed Agenda

See Full Agenda at www.RotaryZone27.org

DATE	TIME	
Friday July 27, 2012	6:00pm to 7:00pm	Complimentary Cocktails
	7:00pm to 8:30pm	Optional Dinner (Speaker -RIDE Mary Beth Growney Selene) - "One Rotary"
Saturday July 28, 2012	7:00am to 8:30am	Complimentary cooked to order breakfast
Saturday July 28, 2012	8:30am to 12:00pm	Joint Preliminary Session The Rotary Foundation (Transition to Future Vision), Membership, Public Relation Breakout Sessions
Saturday July 28, 2012	12:00pm to 1:00pm	Lunch
Saturday July 28, 2012	1:00pm to 3:30pm	The Rotary Foundation (Transition to Future Vision), Membership, Public Relation Breakout Sessions



COST:

OPTIONAL DINNER \$ 30.00

**TRAINING EVENT (INCLUDES
LUNCH AND ALL TRAINING
MATERIAL) \$ 45.00**



Rotary History by Jay Carpenter, Rotary Club of University Hills

The History of District 545 from 1976 to 1984

By Jay Carpenter, Chair-District History Committee, Rotary Club of University Hills, jay@carpender.biz

C. Howard Kast, CPA, was



District 545 Governor in 1976.

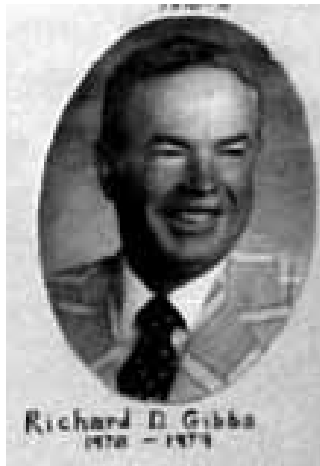
He was a partner in charge of the Denver Office of Haskins and Sells, an international public accounting firm and was active in civic affairs, including service on the boards of many organizations including The Denver Foundation, The Boys and Girls Club of Metro Denver, the YMCA of Denver, and the Salvation Army. He was Treasurer of the Denver Chamber of Commerce and was on the board of The Billy Graham Evangelistic Foundation. Kast was President of the Denver Rotary Club in 1973-1974. He also received a Distinguished Service Award from Drake University, his alma mater.

Doctor of Veterinary Medicine, John D. Fuhr, served as president of the Aurora Chamber of Commerce and was active in the Aurora March of Dimes and the Aurora United Fund. He was President of the Aurora Rotary Club in 1964. He served four terms in the Colorado State Legislature and was the Speaker of the House in Colorado between 1971 and 1974. In 1977, he became the DG of 545. He also is the recipient of the Distinguished Alumni Award from Colorado State University. [An Oral History Interview of John D. Fuhr is one of more than 90 recorded transcripts of noted Coloradoans for entertainment, history, and education and is available through Colorado libraries and the Internet.]

initiative that has vastly improved living conditions in impoverished areas worldwide. Gibbs was an avid golfer, a master photographer, an accomplished musician, and a certified Arthur Murray Dance Instructor.



Kansas Native Ray L. Patterson was a standout athlete in college and became a teacher and coach in Loveland. He became involved in the community and Rotary. He was President of the Loveland Rotary Club in 1946. He later served on the City Council, and was elected Mayor. In 1978, Loveland dedicated the high school football stadium in his honor; the stadium is used by three Loveland



Utah Native and Eagle Scout, Richard D. "Dick" Gibbs, took a job as an equipment engineer in Casper Wyoming with the Mountain Bell Telephone Company. He joined Rotary in Casper; and later transferred his membership to Cheyenne when he became the District Manager of all phone company equipment operations in the State of Wyoming. He was elected President of the Cheyenne Rotary Club in 1973. In 1978, he served as District Governor and was instrumental in organizing the Health, Hunger and Humanity relief program of Rotary International, an



History continued on page 11

History continued from page 10

area high schools. In 1979, he served as District Governor of District 545. In 2004, Iowa Wesleyan College selected Patterson to be included in their Athletic Hall of Fame.

Robert W. Sears attended Colorado State University, gaining a degree in Forestry. Using that degree, he became involved in the lumber business, later becoming an owner of Sears Trostel Lumber. He was elected to the Ft. Collins City Council in 1955 and became Mayor, serving the term 1957-1959. He was chosen as the 1980 District Governor for 545.



Missouri Native Richard L. Neel attended Greeley Central High School and then Colorado State College (now the University of Northern Colorado). His early activity in Rotary included being the first Treasurer of Rotary Youth Leadership Awards (RYLA) Program. His business in the feed and grain industry, the Rocky Mountain Brokerage, started in Greeley in 1954. He was active in the Chamber of Commerce. He became president of the Colorado Grain and Feed Association in 1969 and served on its board of directors. He was also chosen to serve on the Board of Directors of the National Grain and Feed Association, and was active in the group's legislative committee. Neel was President of the Greeley Rotary Club in 1976 and led a Group Study Exchange Team to India in 1979. His term as District Governor was 1981-1982.



Duane R. "Dick" Barsness was President of Cody Rotary in 1968 and District Governor in 1982. To this day Dick still participates in the "Cody Minstrel Show", a fund raising event staged by the Cody Club for the past 57 years. Former United States Senator and past Cody Rotary President Alan Simpson has said that there were some real characters in the early shows and there wasn't any thought about so called "correctness". He went on to say, "Rotarians today could never do some of the things we did 50 years ago."



Historic and informational articles [like this one] have been greatly made possible by the 69th District Governor of this Rotary District, George E. Mendenhall, Jr., who served during the Rotary year 1983-1984. Mendenhall, the 27th DG of 545, passionately sought—and continues to seek—to record and provide a factual, historic development of all clubs

in the district [History of District 5450]. Mendenhall, a 1947 graduate of Denver University, not only continued his professional growth as a Certified Public Accountant; he also maintained a broader scope with maintaining a perspective of when things happened and their relevance to the Rotary World. George served with the First Army in Europe from Normandy to Weimar Germany, and developed a tenacious sense about keeping things organized, not only for him but also for others. He has helped the business lives of many in commerce and industry, maintaining integrity with governmental compliance, and being knowledgeable on all types of taxes, from the excise taxes of World War II to the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act of 2009 and the Health Care and Education Reconciliation Act of 2010. He also brought his organizational skills to Rotary by helping to initiate the President Elect Training Seminars and other Rotary multi-district meetings. He served as Littleton Rotary President for 1979-1980, and maintains a growing inventory of Rotary memorabilia, that is both interesting and inspiring. George is Chair Emeritus of the District 5450 History Committee.

Seven more District Governors served 545 through 1991 when it transitioned to the new, smaller—and current—District 5450, which includes thirteen (13) counties in North Eastern Colorado. More will follow on the remaining District Governors through to today.

If you have a contribution to make on historic information presented, or interesting information on District Governors yet to be highlighted, or any relevant historic information about District 5450, please contact the District 5450 Rotary History Committee.

[some of the information in this article is drawn from The Rotarian, George E. Mendenhall, Jr.'s History of District 5450 (see at 5450history.wikidot.com/) and District 5450's records]

Eagle Scout and Rotarian Project Honors Service Dogs

by Steve Jensen, Rotary Club of Golden, jensen.guziak@comcast.net

Foothills Animal Shelter—a true resource for the pet community in Jefferson County—hosted a “Service Dog Memorial” unveiling ceremony on the morning of June 12. A large bronze sculpture of a German Shepherd, crafted by local artist and Golden Rotarian, Pat Madison, was officially dedicated at the occasion and honors service dogs and their many contributions to mankind.

The project has been a two-year collaboration of the Rotary Club of Golden and the Boy Scout “Eagle Project” of 15-year old Grady Guziak from Troop 130, who acted as Master of Ceremonies at the unveiling.

“Service Above Self is the motto of Rotary International,” Grady reminded the crowd of nearly 100 people, “and the Boy Scouts of America’s slogan is do a good turn daily.” The memorial recognizes both the service and good turns performed by all service dogs. Four local service dogs—three of the four were in attendance at the event—will be showcased on permanent storyboards surrounding the sculpture. The four stories will educate the community about the wide spectrum of service dog work in the areas of law enforcement/

arson, therapy, guide, and search and rescue.

Grady expressed his gratitude to all in attendance—including Golden Rotarians, local law enforcement,



Posing with the Service Dog Memorial are (left to right) Bob Neukirchner, Pat Madison, Steve Jensen, Grady Guziak, and DG Jim Halderman.

judicial, and government agency representatives—and to many who provided ongoing physical, financial, and artistic support of his project. In particular, Grady thanked

sculptor Pat Madison, Jim Dickson of Century Bronze, who completed the bronze work on the sculpture, Golden Rotarian, Bob Neukirchner, who functioned as site engineer, and

District 5450 Governor, James Halderman, who was responsible for the finished stonework at the base of the sculpture.

In explaining the genesis of his project, Grady recalled the time when he was a cub scout, and I was his pack master. “One of the monthly (scout) programs I enjoyed the most,” Grady said, with a slight chuckle, “was when they suited up my dad in protective gear and had the K-9 unit apprehend him.” Obviously, Grady was impressed with service dogs at a young age.

Foothills Animal Shelter offers pet adoption, spaying/neutering, vaccinations, microchips, licensing, dog-training, and community room rental. The

shelter moved to a brand new 33,000 square-foot facility near 6th Avenue and Indiana (on the Jefferson County Fairgrounds) in August of 2010.

For more information visit: www.FoothillsAnimalShelter.org.

Mark Your Calendars

Saturday, August 4 - 7:00 a.m.
District Grants Seminar
Red Rocks Community College

Saturday, October 6 - 8:00 a.m. - 03:00 p.m.
Rotary Leadership Institute
Location to be determined

Saturday, September 15 - 8:00 a.m.
District Literacy Seminar
Location to be determined.

Saturday, October 13 - 8:00 a.m.
Colorado Rotary Water Conference
Location To Be Determined

Your Monthly Rotary Quiz

Be the first to respond
(Marge Mercurio
rotarymarge@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.

June Quiz

As June is Fellowship Month, let's pose a four-part question related to the diverse nature of Rotary membership worldwide.

In what year did the Supreme Court rule that Rotary clubs could not exclude women from membership? In what year did the (Rotary International) Council on Legislation eliminate the requirement that membership be limited to men? What is the percentage of Rotary clubs (worldwide) that have female members? And what percentage of U.S. Rotarians are women?

May's three-part stumper

"How many years has the Branch Rickey Award been in existence? Who was this past year's winner? And what is his nickname?" proved to be a no-brainer for Dan Himelspace (Rotary Club of Denver Mile High) and Eli Buzas (Rotary Club of Niwot).

There were two correct answers to last month's question (found on pages 16 and 17 of May's *Rotarian* magazine), as it turns out. The Branch Rickey Award was "created" in 1991 but first presented in 1992. Thus, the correct response to the question: how many years has the award been in existence is either 21 or 20 years. Shane Victorino, the "Flyin' Hawaiian," won last year's award.



Reach Within to Embrace Humanity

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DISTRICT 5450 LEADERSHIP

District Governor

Jim Halderman (Golden)

District Governor-Elect

Mike Klingbiel (Denver Southeast)

District Governor-Nominee

Dan Himmelspace (Denver Mile High)

Treasurer

Dick Castleman (Englewood)

Secretary

Patricia Fiske (Castle Pines)

Past District Governors

Karen Sekich (Longmont Twin Peaks)

Mike Oldham (Parker)

David Beall (Littleton)

District Trainer

Karen Briggs (Denver Southeast)

District Events Resource Team Chair

Gary Fletcher

Rotary Awareness

Bill Fernow (Parker)

Membership Chair

Bob Walsh (Denver Mile High)

Service Projects Chair

Craig Essex (Smoky Hill)

The Rotary Foundation Chair

Ann Tull (Denver Mile High)

Rotarians at Large

Mary Kay Hasz (Highlands Ranch)

George Maybee (Commerce City)

Carol Carper (Conifer)

District Office Manager

Beverly Mendel

ASSISTANT GOVERNORS

Steve Sehnert (Denver Mile High)

Steve Mast (Denver)

Ted Cluett (South Jeffco)

William (Bill) Downes (Evergreen)

Steve Baroch (Castle Rock High Noon)

Jo Kirkenauer (Niwot)

Peter Ewing (Boulder)

Rose Chamberlain (Longmont St. Vrain)

Kevin O'Connell (Brighton Early)

Dan Hershberger (Arvada)

Dan Green (Golden)

Al Johnson (Parker)

Bob Martin (Highlands Ranch)

Susan Jurgensmeier (Summit County)

Mark Lund (Winter Park)