



Reach Within to Embrace Humanity

ROTARY DISTRICT 5450

Jim Halderman, District Governor 2011-2012

MAY 2012

Number 11

What's inside

- 1 Sentimental Journey
- 2 2011-2012 District Awards
- 3 Membership
- 4 History
- 5 Youth Exchange
- 6 Preserve Planet Earth
- 7 Bringing Smiles and Good Health
- 8 White House Honors
- 9 History Committee
- 10 Mission Possible
- 10 PR Tips
- 11 Mark Your Calendars
- 11 Keep Those Stories Coming
- 12 Monthly Quiz



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Sentimental Journey

Rotary Youth Exchange Students at the District Conference

by Rick Wilkinson, Inbound Student Chair, Rotary Youth Exchange Committee, Rotary Club of Brighton, (rwilkinson@q.com)

The District 5450 Conference this year in Black Hawk certainly had its good points and sentimental moments with our Rocky Mountain Rotary Youth Exchange Students.

Our students this year are diplomats, representing 17 countries from around the world. These young high school students left their families and friends nine months ago to embark on an adventure for which few are chosen.

Those of you who attended the festivities

on Saturday morning (April 28) saw the students at their proudest moment, as they paraded to the front of the room, carrying the flags of their respective countries. When the final flag, our Rotary flag, was carried to the front, you could see and feel the pride swelling in each of them. The gleam in their eyes said it all.

At their last rehearsal, on Friday night at 11:00 pm, we had some reservations about this year's Exchange Student Talent Show. Something "magical" must have happened during the night because what we all witnessed the next day was Humor, Music, Dancing, and Entertainment for all to enjoy. Remember the laughter created by the Italian mime,

Riccardo Zanin, understanding that he was in seclusion for 4 years, with monks, to perfect his performance. We were awed by Steven (Shih Tun-Cheng), our student from

Taiwan, and his napkin-folding act, a tradition taught him by his grandmother. And our own District Governor Jim danced with a star, in this case with Linda Baier from Austria.

All of this "magic" sprang from the inspiration of our students and the guidance provided by Ron

Kientz, their director. A great big "Thank you Ron" from all of us!

Most of this year's Youth Exchange Committee was seated in the front row, so most of those in attendance did not see the tears in our eyes as we realized this was to be the last time our students would be together.

Were you inspired, as I was, by the students you met at the district conference? Want to explore the possibilities of having the experience of a lifetime? Learn more about becoming a host family for one of our Rotary Youth Exchange Students by contacting RMRYE.org. We are always looking for people to serve on our Rocky Mountain Youth Exchange committee.



2011-2012 District 56450 Youth Exchange Students at the 2012 District Conference in Blackhawk, Colorado.

[Editor's Note: District Governor Jim is off in Bangkok, attending the International Conference, and is unable to provide his always engaging and thoughtful message. We're certain he would approve offering that space normally reserved for his words to the following distinguished list of this year's District 5450 award winners.]

2011-2012 Rotary District 5450 Annual Awards and Recognition

Active Senior Rotarian Award—Mary Alice Jackson, Rotary Club of Centennial

Helping Hands Award—Rotary Club of Denver Southeast, Debra Fine, President

Ray Jenkins Award—Rotary Club of Parker, Jane Johnson, President

Alana James Diversity Award—Rotary Club of Denver Southeast, Debra Fine, President

World Community Service Award—Rotary Club of Boulder, Ron Secrist, President

Literacy Award—Rotary Club of Commerce City, Amy Neurauter, President

Scott Metcalf Award—Rotary Club of Castle Rock, Ed Brewer, President and Rotary Club of Denver Southeast, Debra Fine, President

Youth Service Award—Rotary Club of Aurora Gateway, Tom Aston, President

George K. Davis Water Award—Rotary Club of Parker, Jane Johnson, President

Les Bevans Pacesetter Vocational Service Award—Kevin Farrell, Rotary Club of Denver Southeast

Family of Rotary Award—Rotary Club of Evergreen, Gretchen MacArthur, President

Vocational Service Award—Rotary Club of Denver Southeast, Debra Fine, President

Preserve Planet Earth Award—Rotary Club of Denver Southeast, Debra Fine, President

Rotary Awareness Award—Rotary Club of Castle Rock, Ed Brewer, President

Ron Prascher Interact Service Award—Castle View High School Interact Club

Best Club Growth Award—(to 30 members): Rotary Club of Fort Morgan, Michelle Nelson, President; (31-60 members): Rotary Club of Centennial, Dan Ruparel, President; (61+ members): Rotary Club of Boulder, Ron Secrist, President

Volunteer in Community Service Award—Dr. Charles Steinberg, sponsored by Denver Mile High Rotary

Governor's Discretionary Awards—Kimberly Armitage, Rotary Club of Aurora, Len Brass, Rotary Club of Aurora Gateway, Mary Kay Hasz, Rotary Club of Highlands Ranch, George Maybee, Rotary Club of Commerce City, Steve Sehnert, Rotary Club of Denver Mile High

Membership Development Award—Rotary Club of Centennial, Dan Ruparel, President

District Service Award for Excellence—Suzanne Hammer and Steve Werner, Rotary Club of Denver Southeast

4-Way Test Award—John Thielen, Rotary Club of Arvada Sunshine

Paul Harris Award for Excellence—Debra Fine, Rotary Club of Denver Southeast

Rotarian of the Year Award—Dick Castleman, Rotary Club of Englewood

Distinguished Service Award for a Polio Free World—Dave Talbot, Rotary Club of Mountain Foothills

Service Above Self Award—Norris Hermsmeyer, Rotary Club of Boulder

Everything Your Club and Your Members Do Is Interconnected With Membership

by Debi Bush, D5450 Membership Chair & Denver Cherry Creek Membership Chair (debi@cherrycreekrotary.org)

We are now in the heart of Spring and our District Membership Team (DMT) is finding that Membership (yes, that's with a capital "M") springs eternal. Just think about it: every single thing that each member, committee and club does ties into membership in at least one way. There is indeed an **interconnectedness**, ranging from actions like how we welcome and engage a prospective member to the vetting of that prospect, to orientation and engagement of the new member, and ensuring that all members are serving their club in one role or another.

Our esteemed RI President Banerjee wrote in the most recent Rotarian about Membership: *"When we talk about building membership, we all recognize that welcoming a new member into a Rotary club is only the beginning of our task. To turn a new club member into a committed Rotarian, much more is necessary – and the first step is helping that new member to get involved."*

My Team and I will be taking this notion a lot further. At the **District Assembly** we will introduce the **6 Phases of Membership**: Recruiting, Vetting, Induction, Engagement, Service & Leadership and Departure. Let this serve as an informal invitation to attend our workshop at the June 2nd District Assembly.

You may be asking yourself: what does "Departure" have to do with membership and why should we be concerned enough to address it?" Just as you want and need to discover why a prospective member wants to learn about Rotary and



District Conference House of Friendship Booth for Membership

consider membership, you also want to find out why a member (fairly new or very tenured) would leave your Rotary club. Work transfers or losing jobs are typical and understandable reasons for Rotarians to leave the fold. However, if disinterest, lack of engagement, or a personal conflict with another member or the direction of the club is the cause for leaving, finding out the reason for losing a member is critical. **Create a process** that includes a 1 on 1 conversation with the Rotarian with specific questions or talking points. Has a member left your club for another club because they disagree, for example, with the increased interest in bringing back business networking? What about a tenured member who didn't like being asked to be more welcoming to visitors and inviting them to sit at his table? Perhaps a change at work prevents a Rotarian from attending the weekly breakfast or lunch meeting – what conversation do you have with that member?

One aspect of Membership that will be touched upon at the District Assembly and explored in depth at our **June 9th Membership Seminar** (please **register NOW** at www.Rotary5450.org and get others to register!) will be the vetting of prospective members. Does your club

take anyone with a pulse or who attends three consecutive meetings just to help increase your numbers? Have you had a new member (less than 6 months in Rotary) leave the club because it's not what they thought Rotary would be or they didn't understand the financial investment, or they were bored? This all comes back to having a solid process for vetting a prospect

as well as orientation with mentoring and engagement.

Interconnectedness would infer "connecting within or between." (I took four years of Latin in high school so it's fun to weave it into conversations or articles such as this.) Ask yourself as well as your fellow Rotarians **how Membership is viewed and what activities does it include**. I hope that you will surprise yourself and be enlightened (even alarmed) at how **Membership is interwoven in every aspect of Rotary life**. When your club is strong in all six phases of Membership, everything else will fall into place – growth, retention, fundraising, projects, Family of Rotary...

Let's all get ready for a new Rotary year and make it **Unbelievable** (I heard the famous author on sales, Tom Hopkins, use this word)! The first two steps in accomplishing this will be for you and other members of your club to register immediately for the June 2nd District Assembly and the June 9th Membership Seminar! Start off on the right foot to position yourself and your club for short and long term success and sustainability!

The History of District 545, 1968 to 1976

by Jay Carpenter, University Hills Rotary Club

In 1968, following Gene Dawson as District Governor of 545—a geographic area encompassing all of Colorado and Wyoming, and part of Western Nebraska—was William E. Reeves of Littleton. Reeves, who joined Littleton Rotary in 1935, served as its President in 1937-38. Reeves own words provide some explanation why there was an extended gap from his service as President to his term as District Governor: “Back in those days Rotary was very strict about their memberships. You had to have your business in the area of your Rotary club. Where you lived didn’t count. About 1948 I moved my business into Denver and had to give up my membership. Then two years later I moved part of my business back to Littleton and my classification was filled and I couldn’t get back into Rotary for about four years. We had a few members that were very jealous of their classification and would not let the bars down for another person to come into the club. That was particularly true of doctors and lawyers.”

Kermit R. Brown, a Casper Wyoming businessman, followed Reeves as Governor of District 545, serving 1969-1970.

Homer P. Rainey, at the time he was District Governor of 545, was also a professor of higher education at Colorado University in Boulder, 1970-1971. Rainey was a 1919 Graduate of Austin College and received his doctorate degree from the University of Chicago. In 1928, he was elected President of Franklin College of Indiana, and then became Presidents of Bucknell University of Pennsylvania, the University of Texas (UT), and Stephens College of Missouri. During his presidency of UT in the mid-1940s, he received national publicity because of his protests over board actions that he believed threatened academic freedom. He was dismissed in 1944 and made an unsuccessful run for

Texas governor in 1946. In 1964 Rainey received Austin College’s Founder’s Medal, and was named to the Austin College Athletic Hall of Honor in 1966. In 1973 he received an Austin College Distinguished Alumnus Award. The Homer P. Rainey Award was established in 1975 by the Board of Trustees to be awarded annually to a member of the faculty or staff for outstanding service to the college.

F. A. Almquist, was the 37th President of the Loveland Rotary Club in 1957, and in 1971-1972, he was the 57th District Governor of 545.

Alan H. Williams, Sr., who worked in his family’s men’s clothing business—a 65-year old business institution—in Scottsbluff, served as DG in 1972-1973. Williams, Sr. had served as the Scottsbluff Rotary Club President in 1965; the club was chartered April 1, 1920.

Dwight L. Sullivan was a Charter Member of the Sedgwick County Rotary Club. However, he transferred his membership to Longmont in 1949. He served as Club President in 1958-1959 and was District Governor of 545 in 1973-74. Sullivan had a 44- year career as a pharmacist, owning his first drug store in Ovid, CO, and other stores in Ft. Collins, Louisville, Lafayette, and Loveland. At one time he handled the concessions for the Berthoud Pass Ski Area and was instrumental in moving the water wheel in Idaho Springs to a more conspicuous location to promote tourism. Sullivan was inducted into the Boulder County Business Hall of Fame.

Sam Portner, the 1968-1969 President of the Ft. Collins Rotary Club went on to be District Governor of 545 in 1974-75. He then became a RI President Representative and also a Rotary Information Institute Counselor. Portner’s tenacity and leadership are remembered to this day in District 5440 (Northern



History contd. on page 11

Platte Canyon Student to Make Historic Trip to Austria

by Paula and Bruce Ward, Past President, Rotary Club of Conifer (bruce@chooseoutdoors.org)

While much of the world focused on dealing with long term international conflict and the threat of war, 31 students from across Colorado spent an intensive weekend May 4-6, in Estes Park, focused on being ambassadors for world peace.

The students, including Isabella Ward from Pine, Colorado and a junior at Platte Canyon High School, were selected as this year's goodwill ambassadors, as a part of the Rotary Youth Exchange program, and will spend a year abroad in countries across the world. Isabella is the first student from Platte Canyon to receive this honor. All students will live with host families selected by Rotary and attend the schools nearby.

"This is such an awesome opportunity for me and for the hundreds of other students that Rotary supports every year. We never would have been able to undertake anything like this without their support and guidance. I hope to someday become a Rotarian myself so I can find ways to give back to my global community as well," said Isabella.

Isabella, sponsored by the Rotary Club of Conifer, will travel to Austria later this summer and begin her adventure with two weeks at an intensive language camp near Salzburg in "The Sound of Music" country and then connect with her first host family.

She was chosen in the highly competitive process due, in part, to her high academic achievements, involvement in community service



Thirty-one students from across Colorado spent an intensive weekend May 4-6, in Estes Park, focused on being ambassadors for world peace.

work that Rotary has undertaken and how the organization has improved our world for over a hundred years, including the significant progress made toward polio eradication, teaching principles of high ethical standards, improving literacy, and the importance of community and international

efforts, and her previous experience with Rotary Youth Leadership Awards programs. She has been a long time "young Rotarian" and attended the Conifer club's weekly breakfast meetings from a very early age.

As a young ambassador Isabella will teach people about her culture, will share her ideas on how to make this a better world to live in, and ideally will develop a greater understanding of how we are all ultimately alike and share so many values.

During the weekend conference all participants accepted the responsibility to:

- **Act as an ambassador for their home country**
 - **Abide by all program rules of the host Rotary club and district**
 - **Accept the supervision of the host family, club, and district**
 - **Ask questions of the host family and local Rotarians**
- Be an active participant in their exchange**

During their youth exchange weekend, the students learned about the important and diverse

volunteerism.

The students came away from their Estes Park weekend excited, not only about their upcoming ambassadorships, but also with an appreciation for the commitment Rotary makes to young people all over the world. For example, for over 75 years, students and host families have broadened their horizons through Rotary Youth Exchange, as more than 80 countries and over 8,000 students each year participate in the program, which is administered at the regional level by Rotary districts and at the local level by Rotary clubs. Over 1.2 million Rotarians in more than 32,000 clubs in over 200 countries create the extensive network that provides support for Youth Exchange and many other Rotary sponsored initiatives. In addition to the Youth Exchange program, Rotary maintains a strong connection to youth and young adults by way of youth service clubs such as Interact, Rotaract, and RYLA and offers career development and mentoring programs.

Trash Talking with the Rotary Club of Mead

by Marge Mercurio, CoChair, Preserve Planet Earth Committee, Rotary Club of Mead, (rotarymarge@gmail.com)

The Mead Rotary Club (meadrotary.org) likes trash ... in its place. At various times throughout the year you'll see us covered in dirt, carrying bags and pails and picking up trash. After working with the Department of Transportation we watched a safety video, got a sign erected, grabbed a box of plastic vests and orange trash bags, invested in work gloves, put smiles on our faces and headed out to make a difference.

The road cleanup is a very visible activity and like all club activities, we get in, do the deed and get out. The proof we were ever there in the first place... is a long line of bright orange trash bags along the road.

Vehicles loaded with families' whiz by looking, honking, giving the thumbs up, but they don't know anything about these volunteers. They don't realize that this group of volunteers consists of Rotary club members, high school students, managers, real estate brokers, RYLA



Left to right: Mead Rotarians gearing up to fill some orange bags with road trash. Marge Mercurio, Ted Rademacher, Monica Baldwin, Dan Dean, Marni Graham, Carol Davis and (kneeling) Don Gourley.

students, lawyers and everyday helpers.

Mead Rotary has turned its attention to hard-to-recycle items, and with the help of a Rotary District Matching Grant, worked with the community to collect electronics, televisions, cell phones, tape players along with crutches, walkers and wheelchairs.

With one grant under their belt, we decided to write another and promote Zero Waste events and education in our community. We soon turned our annual fundraiser, the Mead Sugarbeet Festival, into a zero waste event and invited vendors who follow that vision as well.

Some of the smaller, day to day changes the club made include:

- Switching from printed newsletters to electronic along with notes, agendas, literature and announcements.
- Organizing Western Slope peach sales in the fall as a way to promote buying local items.
- Collecting coats and books, crutches and canes.

We want your input! Now it's your turn to tell us what your club has done to make the earth a better place! Send an email to the Preserve Planet Earth committee at rotarymarge@gmail.com and get your news printed for all to see!



Mead Rotarians, Art and Jeanette Harris don't mind getting their hands dirty on such a beautiful day!



Denise Rademacher, committee chair for Mead Rotary Zero Waste Project checks the trash at the Mead Sugarbeet Festival.

Bringing Smiles and Good Helath

by Mike Oldham, PDG, Rotary Club of Parker (meoldham@msn.com)

The Playground Project at the Denver Indian Center

The Denver Indian Center (DIC), located on Morrison Road in southwest Denver, serves about 20,000 American Indians from approximately 100 different tribes living throughout the Denver area. The DIC functions as a community center, hosting job search programs, a food bank, cultural and celebratory events, as well as literacy and mentoring classes for kids. Children are always present at DIC, and no one will disagree that children need a place to play. The Center had an outdated playground.

The American Indian Committee of Rotary's District 5450 set out to revitalize the DIC playground, and worked all day on April 7 and one half day on April 21 to make that happen. The project involved removing the decaying rubber and pea gravel surfaces, rearranging and enlarging the playground borders, and infilling the space with over 100 yards of engineered wood fiber. In addition, we repaired, scraped, and painted the playground shed. A concrete pad for the picnic table and a ramp up to the playground for wheelchairs was also added.

It didn't take long to realize the project was a complete success. Not satisfied to wait until we were done picking up our tools on the final day of work, a stream of kids ventured out onto their new playground, laughing, climbing, and jumping—how wonderful to see and hear.

The work rode on a wave of selfless contributions and good will. Rotarians from the Broomfield, Parker,

South Jeffco, Lakewood Foothills, and Mile High Clubs and 14 members of the D'Evelyn High School Interact Club, along with staff from the Center,

in 2011 to plan for and promote a 9Health Fair for the people of the Denver American Indian and Westwood Communities. The Fair was held at the Center on April 14, 2012.

The success of the Fair was the result of work performed by the Denver Indian Center 9Health Fair Committee, made up of Rotarians, the Director and staff of the DIC, and representatives of the Denver Indian Family Health Services.



Denver Indian Center April 24, 2012. The volunteer work crew and the new "wood fiber" playground at the Denver Indian Center.

members of the basketball teams, and other volunteers chipped in with their sweat, fellowship, and good cheer. Contributing significantly to this project was the Ames Construction Company, which supplied five men, a truck and small frontend loader. Without their hard work, the job could not have been done as well, or as efficiently. In addition the Rocky Mountain Recreation Co. provided guidance, design and materials at a significant discount, for which we are very grateful. The project was funded by generous donations from the Rotary clubs mentioned above, along with the Denver and University Hills Clubs, and a matching District Simplified Grant.

Phase II is underway. The plan is to purchase—by way of another District Simplified Grant—and install a new playground system no later than the spring of 2013.

The 9Health Fair at the Denver Indian Center

We all know there is nothing in life like the zing and zest of good health. And there is no more dedicated organization promoting good health than the 9Health Fair. The Rotary American Indian Committee decided

Volunteers from the Rotary Clubs of University Hills, Southeast Denver, Lakewood, Lakewood Foothills, and Parker, nurses from several hospitals and Kaiser Permanente, students from pharmaceutical and phlebotomist schools, doctors, dentists and many lay folks all pitched in. In total, there were an amazing 120 volunteers for the Fair.

We are very grateful to the extraordinary 9Health Fair organization for determining that a 9Health Fair at the DIC would be valuable to the community, and for the wonderful training, encouragement and support provided prior to and during the Fair. We are also appreciative of the sponsorship and support from Denver City Councilman Paul Lopez, whose staff worked at the Fair, translating for Latinos attending from the surrounding Westwood community and providing other invaluable assistance.

Based on the attendance this year, the marvelous volunteer support, and a developing community awareness, it is the intention of the Rotary American Indian Committee and the Denver Indian Center 9Health Fair Committee to repeat the Fair in 2013.

First-ever Rotary Day at White House Honors 'Champions of Change'

Exemplary Rotary club volunteers recognized at historic D.C. event April 20

EVANSTON, Ill., April 18, 2012 /PRNewswire via COMTEX/ --

The White House on April 20 honored ten U.S. Rotary club members from across the country as **Champions of Change** for their volunteer work to improve the lives of others during the first-ever **Rotary Day at the White House**.

The day-long event for the first time combines two weekly White House public engagement programs — Champions of Change and the Community Leaders Briefing series — to recognize the contributions of a single organization: the humanitarian service group Rotary International.

"Rotary International and Rotary Clubs across America are not only affecting change in their hometowns but improving the lives of others in countless communities abroad," said Director of the Office of Public Engagement, Jon Carson. "Rotarians' commitment to service perfectly captures the spirit and mission of Champions of Change."

"Rotary International is honored to be a part of the first White House Champions of Change awards to Rotarians who have helped make a difference in lives and communities around the world," said Rotary International President Kalyan Banerjee, who will attend the day's events with Rotary International CEO John Hewko and Director Elizabeth Demaray. "Rotary club members are grassroots volunteers, successful business and professional leaders who want to give back to make the world a better place. Champions of Change could not be a more appropriate description of what Rotary is all about."

Rotary's Champions of Change are:

- Terrence Allen, St. Joseph, Mich.: A member of the Rotary Club of Lakeshore, Allen and his wife Liz devote their volunteer time to the Children's Safe Water Project, which

provides clean water to thousands of families in the Dominican Republic. His volunteerism has inspired other Rotary clubs to become involved.



Ten Rotarians were honored as Champions of Change. Photos by Monika Lozinska/Rotary Images

- Jim Fulgham, Arlington, Texas: A member of the Rotary Club of Arlington, Fulgham has been a driving force behind the Rotary Scholarship Program at Webb Elementary School. Focused on helping children from disadvantaged families, the program provides a scholarship to every sixth-grader who goes on to finish high school and enroll in college. So far, 150 students have gone on to college.
- Noelle Galperin, Coral Gables, Fla.: A member of the Rotary Club of Coral Gables, Galperin has spearheaded her club's Haiti recovery efforts in the aftermath of the devastating earthquake. She also has helped raise more than \$325,000 for polio eradication, Rotary's top priority, and has led teams of Rotary volunteers to India to immunize children against this paralyzing infectious disease.
- Anil Garg, Simi Valley, Calif.: A member of the Rotary Club of Simi Valley, Garg has led multiple teams of Rotary volunteers to his native India to immunize children against polio. He also is a strong advocate for literacy and has worked as a tutor in adult literacy programs. He also

teaches Hindi to elementary school students.

- Richard J Kemme, Greeley, Colo.: A member of the Rotary Club of Greeley, Kemme uses his background in orthopedic surgery to train orthopedic surgeons in the southeast African nation of Malawi. He also launched a Rotary-supported micro-loan program that now serves nearly 22,600 Malawians.
- David Kester, Anchorage, Alaska: A member of the Rotary Club of Anchorage East, Kester and his club have been instrumental in the success of the Mobile Food Pantry of Anchorage, which has provided more than three million pounds of produce, dairy products and other perishable foods to thousands of Alaskan families in need over the past six years.
- Henry Lowentritt, Metairie, La.: A member of the Rotary Club of New Orleans, Lowentritt led his club's effort to renovate and reopen historic Warren Easton High School after it was nearly destroyed by the flooding that followed Hurricane Katrina. The reopening of the 100-year-old, predominately African-American school was an early and significant sign that the city was on its way back after its devastating losses.
- Carolyn Crowley Meub, Rutland, Vt.: A member of the Rotary Club of Rutland, Meub heads Pure Water for the World, transforming a small Rotary club project into an effective international charity that has brought clean water and sanitation to thousands of families in Honduras and Haiti.
- Fary Moini, San Diego, Calif.: A member of the Rotary Club of La Jolla Golden Triangle, Moini has led her club in a series of successful projects to increase educational opportunities for girls and young

White House contd. on page 8

The History of the District 5450 History Committee

by Jay Carpender, Chair, District History Committee, Rotary Club of University Hills, (jay@carpender.biz)

District 5450 and the clubs in it have a rich history. PDG George Mendenhall (Littleton), Chair Emeritus and founder of history awareness in the District, started recording basic information on each club he visited in the District during his term as District Governor in 1983. He accumulated over 200 pages of basic information on many clubs at that time, including chartering information, charter members, presidents to date and years of service, exchange students, club highlights, and traditions or unusual highlights of the club—and in some cases, relevant comparative news events of the time. One of the clubs PDG Mendenhall visited was the Jackson Hole, Wyoming Club where Jay Carpender, Current Chair of the District 5450 History Committee was President. The visit started a lasting relationship that now involves an on-going interest in archiving and maintaining pertinent information on the District and all the District's Clubs—even some of the clubs that were in the District before it became 5450.

Through the help of Brian Thornton (Thornton), the process of recording the history became digital—on the Internet. Thornton helped establish a Wikidot space on the Internet, "District 5450 History" which became the repository for those initial "200 pages" started by PDG Mendenhall. Together and with help



University Hills rotarian Jay Carpender and PDG George Mendenhall from the Littleton Club.

from others, like Loy Dickenson (Mile High) and Mike Hayes (Westminster), the historic information has been entered on-line for all clubs that have ever been in this district, starting back when the district was numbered as District 7 in 1910. Gary Fletcher provided some guidance to ensure that the information "not be open to the public to modify" and that only members of the history committee should control the updates. "There is

definitely a need to update many of the clubs' information. However we need more worthy scribes (new members to the District 5450 History Committee)," Carpender (now at University Hills) noted. "We are not a paid staff. We operate on the "service above self" premise, and all the information is processed in hopes that someone will benefit from it sometime and someplace in the future".

Club Bulletin Editors are currently the most important historians in the clubs as they record the weekly meeting activity, and the bulletins then becomes the living history. As a general rule, clubs are urged to save their bulletins for future reference. Some members could digitally scan them into "pdf" files and put them on the Internet for all members—even others—to access and read. "Maybe it can happen through a coordinated effort of the District History Committee."

Some clubs are making audio tapes, or video productions with charter members as featured personalities in order to save stories and information to later entertain or to educate future Rotarians.

Carpender also noted that District 5450 needs a "bricks and mortar" location sometime in the future as there is a lot of interesting Rotary memorabilia that if displayed in one place would prove valuable, inspirational, educational and fun.

White House contd. from page 8

- women and enhance the training of health care professionals in Jalalabad, Afghanistan.
- Fred Thompson, Manakin-Sabot, Va.: A member of the Rotary Club of Innsbrook, Thompson led his club in the expansion of the Coal Pit Learning Center, which provides enriched pre-schooling opportunities to children from low-income families

Prior to the afternoon Champions of Change program, more than 160 Rotary club members will attend a morning round of Community Leaders Briefing sessions in which Administration experts will speak on a variety of relevant topics, including maternal and child health, disease prevention, economic development, youth and education, water and sanitation, and peace-building.

Rotary is a global humanitarian

organization with more than 1.2 million members in 34,000 Rotary clubs in over 200 countries and geographical areas. Rotary members are men and women who are business, professional and community leaders with a shared commitment to make the world a better place through humanitarian service. Rotary's top priority is the global eradication of polio. For images and broadcast quality video visit Rotary's Media Center.

Mission Possible

Evergreen Rotary "Delivers" at the District Conference

by Kimra Perkins, Rotary Club of Evergreen, (kimraperkeins@hotmail.com)



Evergreen Rotary is the talk of District 5450. A standing ovation greeted the 30 Evergreen Rotarians who donned black and white "Men in Black" secret agent attire to kick off the District Conference's awards presentation show. And what a show it was! Regrettably, a few special agents were on assignment when the photos were taken.

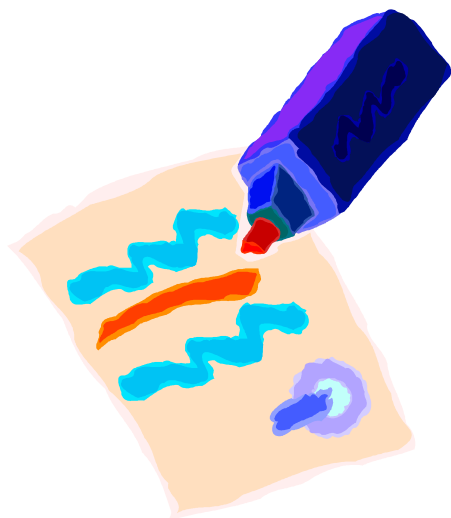
The after party in the Evergreen

Party Suite was a hoot. Over 200 pancakes were served as well as a "need to know only" amount of adult beverages. Thankfully, the pictures of the after party, and after, after party were somehow mysteriously blurry and not available for blackmail purposes. Upon checking out of the hotel, the bellhop said our hospitality room now holds the record for "the most bellman trips to a single room" in the hotel's

history (seriously, as they keep records for all sorts of things in a hotel). Indeed, something to be proud of..

Evergreen Rotary won three awards at the gig: the District Family of Rotary, The RI Changemaker Award, and the RI Presidential Citation. A strong showing to be sure.

Well done Evergreen Rotary Agents of Peace and Goodwill. Mission Accomplished.



PR Tips. . . from our team to yours.

The end of the Rotary year offers several opportunities to promote your club and its members. The Denver Post and Denver Business Journal both offer very short announcements, with pictures, about people changing jobs and both report on nonprofits. Announcing your new president will attract attention. Both accept information via e-mail as noted at the end of this note. Your Hub and local community papers offer similar opportunities in special sections or as part of their community calendars. Stop by the PR Session at the District Assembly June 2, 2012 and pick up a sample press release and tips on developing a story on your new leader or leadership team that will attract attention!

Debbie Lynch, Rotary Awareness: debbie@lupuscolorado.org

Denver Post: business@denverpost.com

Denver Business Journal: bizjournals.com/Denver

Click on People and follow prompts

History Contd. from page 4

Colorado and Wyoming) with the Sam Portner "Hang On And Row Like Hell" Award. A decorative "Oar" (with an acknowledging plaque) is presented to the District's Club "That Best Overcame Adversity During The Past Rotary Year."

An architect by training, Morris C. Jones served as University Architect for the University of Wyoming in Laramie. He was President of the Laramie Rotary Club in 1973-74 and was District Governor, 1975-1976.

Fifteen more District Governors served 545 through 1991 when it transitioned to the new—and current—District 5450, which includes thirteen (13) counties in Northeastern Colorado.

More will follow on the remaining District Governors for 545 and then those DGs through to today. If you have a contribution to make on the historic information presented, or interesting information on District Governors yet to be highlighted, please contact Jay Carpender (jay@carpender.biz) and 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 and District 5450's records.]



Mark Your Calendars

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 ten 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 June submissions is Monday, June 9. Please have copy, photos (3" x 4" in pdf or jpg and 96 dpi) with captions to Paul via email by June 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

The Rotary District 5450 Governor's Newsletter is published monthly by Rotary District 5450, Colorado USA

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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.

May Quiz

The baseball season is underway. I'm a baseball fan. (I won't mention the name of my favorite team, as they aren't the Rockies. Though I will say, proudly, they won the World Series last year.)

Branch Rickey made baseball history in 1945 by signing Jackie Robinson to a contract with the Brooklyn Dodgers organization, breaking the sport's color barrier. The Rotary Club of Denver established the Branch Rickey Award to annually celebrate a major league player's off-the diamond humanitarian accomplishments.

This month's three-part question:

How many years has the Branch Rickey Award been in existence? Who was this past year's winner? And what is his nickname?

APRIL'S three-part, four-answer stumper was, apparently, a stumper: 1. In what year did Muhammad Yunus introduce the concept of microcredit? 2. What was the name of the lending institution that first managed his microcredit program? 3. What two prestigious awards did Yunus win for his work? The answers are found on page 31 of April's the *Rotarian* magazine: 1. 1976 2. Grameen Bank 3. The 1999 Rotary Award for World Understanding and Peace, and the 2006 Nobel Peace Prize.

Congratulations to Eli Buzas and Bill Fernow, co-winners of the April quiz.



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 Himmelsbach (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 Manger

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)