

DOING GOOD IN NEW MEXICO AND FAR WEST TEXAS



May 2017 ■ No. 11

District Governor Dave Anderson

www.rotary5520.org

On Route 5520 ... with DG Dave Anderson



A Great BIG Thank You!

A great BIG thank you for all who turned out for our District 5520 Conference in Albuquerque! Rotary requires Districts hold annual Conferences to celebrate, and I think all will agree that we had quite a celebration! Special thanks to Conference Chair Kathie Williams, Co-Chair Donette Wagner, Lt. Gov. Fred Bryant, awards chair Lleta Scoggins, Treasurer John Gordon, District Secretary Kathy Fuller and all those who worked tirelessly to make this a very special celebration.

Our Annual Conference this year was designed to help us celebrate the 100th anniversary of OUR Rotary Foundation and the 30th year of Women in Rotary. A key feature was the award of Paul Harris Fellowships to the many people who have helped make this year so successful. As an added bonus, special incentives were available to attendees wishing to receive or give others Fellowships. Spearheaded by PDGs Randy Gleason and Mark Glen, over 200 Fellowships were generated (Proceeds from the Fellowships will significantly increase our contribution to OUR Foundation this year without cost to the District, as the basis for the Fellowships were donated by District Rotarians)! The award of special "Women in Rotary" pins filled the stage with more than 65 ladies who have served as District Governors, Lieutenant and Assistant Governors and Club Presidents.



PDG Tom Walker is named Leader of Year.

A dozen clubs were recognized for the significant impact they have had on their communities. Rio Rancho Sunrise, Anthony, Albuquerque del Sol and Santa Fe Rotary Clubs were recognized as District Clubs of the Year. PDG Tom Walker's tireless efforts as our District Rotary Foundation Chair and continual volunteering to serve every District and Rotary International need was recognized with a special District Leader of the Year award. (In fact, Tom had to leave early to travel to Rotary International Headquarters in Evanston, Illinois, on RI business).



DG Dave Anderson and Maureen at the District 5520 Conference's Friday Night Cinco de Mayo Celebration.

Continued on Page 3.



Rotary International

www.rotary.org
 President: John F. Germ
 President-Elect: Ian H.S. Riseley

Rotary District 5520

www.rotary5520.org
 Governor: Dave Anderson
 Governor-Elect: Doreen Kelsey
 Governor-Nominee: Linda Woodward
 Governor-Nominee (Designate): Jeff Weinrach

Vice Governor: Tom Walker
 Executive Secretary: Kathy Fuller
 District Treasurer: John Gordon
 District Finance: Lonnie Leslie
 Immediate PDG: Tom Walker

District Action Team Leaders

Lt. Gov.-Operations: Fred Bryant
 Lt. Gov.-North: Yale Jones
 Lt. Gov.-South: Earl Greer
 Lt. Gov.-Central: Tony Pino
 Lt. Gov.-East: John Drusedum
 Lt. Gov.-Southeast: Jim Hatcher

Committee Chairpersons

Membership: Sheryl L. Saavedra
 Foundation: Tom Walker
 Global Awards: Darryl Gregerson
 New Generations: Bobby Wallace
 Alumni: Katie Updike
 IT & Website: Donette Wagner
 Public Image: Craig Altschul
 Friendship Exchange: Donna Pedace
 Historian: Dan Schulte
 International Conv.: H. Peter Krebs
 RYLA: Shane LeMon
 Trainer: Jeffrey Weinrach

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District Governor-Elect's corner

with Doreen Fox Kelsey

My Rotary family

When I think about my Rotary family, I am filled with gratitude. Over the past 21 years that I have been privileged to be a Rotarian, there have been many occasions when my family has shown their support.

Most recently, I had to leave town suddenly when my father became gravely ill. Fortunately, I was able to spend nearly a week with him before he passed away at the age of 88. Rotarians from around the district were quick to share their concern, send cards and e-mails, and phone to express their condolences. The outpouring of friendship made a huge difference during this time of grief.



My Rotary family helped me during another difficult time, almost exactly 10 years ago. When my husband was diagnosed with stage four colon cancer soon after we returned from the International Convention in Salt Lake City in 2007, we were overwhelmed. I will be forever indebted to my Rotary family who responded with advice, comfort and support. Rotarians represent a range of vocations, and those in the medical field helped us find the most qualified doctors and medical facilities. Others helped us with insurance claims and appeals, which helped tremendously. Miraculously, my husband survived. Surely, the abundance of love and support we received from our Rotary family had something to do with that.

There are many more stories and occasions I could share, and I hope to have that opportunity when I start visiting clubs and joining in the remarkable fellowship of my extended Rotary family throughout our vast district. Rotary has expanded our family; welcomed us to a new community; and, even helped me find work when I returned to New Mexico five years ago.

In closing, I want to express my deepest appreciation for all the kindness extended to me and my family after my father's passing. I will always remember and cherish your thoughtfulness. I am grateful for each of you — indeed, my far-flung Rotary family.

A check for new cancer unit from Del Norte Gala

The Rotary Club of Albuquerque Del Norte tried something new with its big Gala fund-raiser this year to support its Rotary Del Norte Foundation — by honoring a deserving New Mexico individual for a life of “Service Above Self.” In its first such endeavor, Gala Chair person Donna Pedace decided to honor former New Mexico First Lady, Clara Apodaca, for all she had accomplished in support of the arts not only while living in Santa Fe, but also while she served as a special assistant to the Secretary of the Treasury in Washington, DC, and later as CEO of the National Hispanic Cultural Center Foundation.

Yet, just honoring the former First Lady was not enough for Donna. Knowing that Clara was chairperson of the University of New Mexico Cancer Center Board, she worked with her club’s Foundation Board president, Chuck Brown, and his board to see if the Gala could raise an extra \$10,000 which would go to a specific project at UNM Cancer Center, would the Foundation be a willing conduit for such a gift? The response was “go for it.”

And so, after the live auction had ended, and dancing was next on the agenda, Donna orchestrated a “paddle” fund-raising effort to raise funds for the Center Center’s proposed new innovative Adolescent Cancer Center. More than \$20,000 was raised. In March, the Rotary Del Norte Foundation’s Treasurer, David Foster, presented Clara and her son, Jeff Apodaca (a former cancer patient as a youth), a check for \$20,650.



A great BIG thank you!

With DG Dave Anderson, continued from Page 1.

It was our special honor to recognize past District Governor, Rotary Vice President, and Rotary Foundation Trustee Sonny Brown’s 57 years of service with the District 5520 Lifetime Achievement Award. The occasion was even more special as the presentation was on Sonny and Ann Brown’s 60th wedding anniversary!



Kathie Williams, named District Rotarian of the Year.

Rotarian of the Year honors went to Albuquerque Del Norte member Kathie Williams. Kathie has chaired and co-chaired our last two Conferences, served as District Membership Chair, served on the Rotary International Zone Membership Cadre, and literally volunteered to help at every turn during her decade in Rotary.

Having so many people volunteer to help throughout the year, and seeing the remarkable contributions made by so many clubs, made the award selections exceptionally difficult.



Sonny and Ann Brown celebrated their 60th anniversary.

I would like to thank all who have worked so very hard for their support and service above self!

Club and Rotarian award winners

District honors went to 24 clubs, nearly 100 individuals

From opening day to closing night of our District 5520 Annual Conference in Albuquerque, there was a parade of awards given out to some 24 clubs throughout New Mexico and far West Texas, plus nearly 100 dedicated District 5520 Rotarians — including 65 women Rotarians who currently serve or have served as club presidents during the special 30th Anniversary Celebration of Women in Rotary on May 5.

Following are some of the outstanding awards presented:

Clubs of the Year:

Small Club: Rio Rancho Sunrise
 Medium Club: Anthony
 Large Club: Albuquerque Del Sol
 Very Large Club: Santa Fe

District Leader of the Year:

PDG Tom Walker, Albuquerque

District Rotarian of the Year:

Kathie Williams, Albuquerque Del Norte

Lifetime Achievement Award:

Sonny Brown, El Paso

Impact Clubs of the Year: (based on service

projects, in alpha order):

Albuquerque Del Norte
 Albuquerque Metro
 Belen
 Clovis
 Elephant Butte
 El Paso
 Los Alamos
 Marfa
 Ruidoso
 Santa Fe
 Truth or Consequences
 West El Paso

New Members (Growth) Award:

Small Club: Santa Fe Centro
 Medium Club: Angel Fire and Albuquerque Rio Grande (tied)
 Large Club: Albuquerque Del Sol
 Very Large Club: Albuquerque Del Norte

Best Newsletter/Bulletin:

Small Club: Santa Fe Centro
 Large Club: Los Alamos
 Very Large Club: El Paso

Best Website:

Small Club: Santa Fe Centro
 Medium Club: Las Cruces
 Large Club: Rio Rancho
 Very Large Club: Alamogordo

Fun Club of the Year:

Fort Stockton and Melrose (tied)

New Generations Award:

Bobby Wallace, Albuquerque Del Norte

Service Above Self Awards:

Rick Akins Yale Jones
 Randy Gleason Norm Arnold
 Dick Jones Shane LeMon
 Lonnie Leslie Reg Rider
 Tom Walker Donna Pedace
 Doreen Kelsey Lleta Scoggins
 Fred Bryant

50 Year Perfect Attendance

Ken Abbott, Albuquerque Del Norte

4-Way Essay Award:

Nicholas Candelaria, Mountainair

—Lleta Scoggins, Rotary District Awards Chair

ATTENTION!!!

**District Grant Applications Now Being Accepted
 From Qualified Clubs**

**No Applications Accepted After June 15
 Don't Wait Until the Last Minute!!! Do It Now!!**

District business highlights ...



District business meetings can be a tough way to start a Conference early in the morning, but there was plenty of good stuff that came as information and some as items to be voted on, starting off with a stirring rendition of the Star Spangled Banner sung by Miranda Valdez, a Rotary Youth Exchange student. AG Dave Ring gave a bilingual invocation, and Jimmy Melver of Northeast El Paso led Rotarians in citing the Four-Way Test.

District Foundation Chair Tom Walker noted there were 24 Community Grant projects this past year, totaling \$42,000, plus 8 Global Grant projects totaling \$375,000 — mostly in Mexico and Guadalajara. PDG Rick Akins reported on RI’s Council on Legislation, noting there were 64 resolutions offered and 14 that passed, giving clubs more flexibility in attendance, growth, and bringing Rotaract graduates into Club membership.



PDG Lonnie Leslie was proud to report that the District’s financial books passed muster, and with some shifting of dollars, approved the 2017-2018 budget and approved John Gordon as continuing as District Treasurer for one more year. PDG Dick Jones reported on the changes to the District’s Bylaws which were approved.

Finally, PDGs Randy Gleason and Mark Glenn announced a 3-for-1 match in order to meet DG Dave Anderson’s goal of 100 Paul Harris Fellows awarded at the conference in honor of Rotary Foundation’s 100th anniversary. (Randy later announced they matched over 200 PHFs at the conference.)



Women in Rotary: 65 honored for serving as club presidents



May 4 marked the 30th anniversary of the Supreme Court’s ruling that shook the world of Rotary in the U.S. — allowing women to be members of what had been an all-male club around the world. District 5520 honored all women in Rotary at its All-Club luncheon on May 5, and invited all who were serving or had served as club presidents to come on stage and receive special “30 Years Women in Rotary” pins. Some 65 managed to find

room on the big stage to be honored by District Governor Dave Anderson.

The luncheon — traditionally one that focuses on the Rotary Foundation — also took the opportunity to celebrate the Foundation’s 100th anniversary by having Diane Kessel Knight, of District 5440 (Northern Colorado), to be the keynote speaker.

“In its 110 years of existence, Rotary has lived up to Paul Harris’ dream of doing good in the world through the combined efforts of its members. Paul said there are no bounds of what we can accomplish working together,” said Diane. She noted the success that Rotary has achieved — working with organizations around the world — to eliminate polio. “You can imagine what everyone said when the idea of taking on such a project at a time when there were thousand of children being affected every day in India,” she said. “But we are, literally, this close to make it happen.”



Last call

RI Convention in Atlanta could be your greatest Rotary event!

There still is time — but little time — to register for this year's **ROTARY CONVENTION** to be held in Atlanta, GA June 10-14, and it could well be THE greatest event of your Rotary career!

As reported during the last several months in these pages this will be the rare RI convention to take place in our own "backyard". Therefore no foreign language trouble, no passport and no foreign exchange needed. Just your own good will to celebrate with thousands other Rotarians what appears to be a wonderful gathering of people of with the same objectives like yours !

You probably have spent years in your local Rotary Club "cocoon;" so why not see what the **whole Rotary world** has to offer?

Take advantage of the myriad of offerings available in and around the convention. Get a good look at much more detailed information under www.riconvention.org and by talking to those of your club members who have already attended past RI conventions. There even is a free Rotary Events App for smartphones which can be found in your app store by searching "Rotary Events". It will help you plan your daily schedule, learn about speakers (e.g. Bill Gates !!!) and download session handouts.

Make new friends from all over the world, **support Rotary** and enjoy life with Southern hospitality!

Have a safe trip and be welcome to report your experience in these pages once back from ATLANTA. I am sure Newsletter Editor Ed Hughes will be happy to publish your report in future publications. — **H. Peter Krebs**



A question of guns

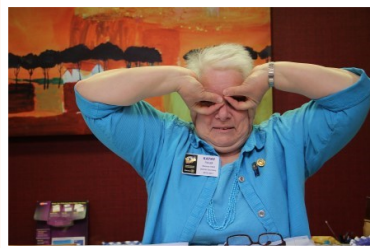
Recently, the Rotary International Board of Directors addressed the appropriateness of clubs conducting activities involving the transfer of guns. Their comments have caused a considerable amount of confusion and controversy. Discussion with the Rotary International staff and past Rotary officers does little to clarify the situation. All indicate activities involving the non-transfer of guns are not affected. This would include shooting events (skeet, target, etc.) and hunter's safety training courses, etc.

Currently the Board's actions are not included in Rotary's constitution, bylaws or other governing documents. Consequently, no enforcement mechanism appears to exist. Several sources indicate that the Board will further address the issue at their next meeting, scheduled for this June. I have been advised that Rotarians and Clubs wishing to challenge the Board's actions are encouraged to write to the Board in care of the Rotary General Secretary, One Rotary Center, 1560 Sherman Ave., Evanston, IL 60201-3698. It may be helpful to prominently indicate "Appeal of Board Decision."

If your club would like to formally petition the Board, the letter should be addressed to the RI Board of Directors, signed by the club president, and indicate the majority of club members requested the petition to be sent. All such petitions can be forwarded to my email address as I'm collecting feedback and petitions to the Board on this issue.

In the meantime, I would ask all not to overreact and wait until further information is received. — DG Dave

District 5520 Conference: A potpourri of photos



Membership Memo ... from Sheryl Saavedra, committee chair

As your District Membership Chair, it is my goal during my term to promote new and innovative ways for members of our community to be Rotarians. The day of the Wednesday noon lunch meeting is not always feasible for the 21st century Rotarian who is constantly on the move.

Membership Incentive Programs are innovative ways of inspiring your club members to actively recruit new potential Rotarians. This article will highlight several Membership Incentive Programs already existing in District 5520. If you see a program that you think will work well for your club, contact that Club President or Membership Chair for more information. If you have a Membership Incentive Program that you would like to share, please contact me at sheryl.saavedra@gmail.com and I will include your program in future articles in the District Newsletter. We all have the opportunity and obligation to share our successes with each other for the betterment of the District!

The following are examples of Membership Incentive Programs already existing in District 5520:

Rotary Club of El Paso: Members of this club organize a “Night out at the Ballpark” where members of the Club are encouraged to bring a potential guest. The Rotary Club of El Paso will also pay the cost of lunch for any guest of a Rotarian invited as a potential member, rather than the Rotarian paying, thus encouraging the members to bring a potential member to every meeting without fear of expense.

Roswell Pecos Valley: The Marketing Committee for this club approved a Membership Incentive Program for their club that rewards members for the number of new members enrolled in the club in a given year. PVR’s Membership Incentive Program has three levels of membership recruitment. The member who brings in the most new members actually enrolled from July 1 to June 30th will be awarded \$500.00 cash, the 2nd place member will receive \$250.00 cash and the third place member will receive \$50.00 cash. The winners each year are awarded at the presidential change over ceremony.

Las Cruces Rotary Club: Las Cruces Rotary Club awards 500 Paul Harris points to every member who recruits one new member a year. The Club also pays for the lunch of any potential member.

Santa Fe Rotary Club: Santa Fe Rotary Club gives a younger member discount to encourage younger members to join and routinely sponsors social gatherings specifically intended to recruit targeted populations such as women and alumni.

These are just a few examples of the new and innovative things clubs are doing to reward their members for actively recruiting new members. I would love to hear from all 68 clubs in the District regarding your Membership Incentive Programs so that I can share them with the District. Remember, if your club does not have a designated Club Membership Chair, please appoint or elect one today and enter that member’s information in Club Runner and Club Central so that they can be easily identified.



Starry-eyed in Brazil

Risse Sanchez, out-bound Rotary Exchange student from Albuquerque, shows off the U.S. Stars-and-Stripes at Iguazu Falls in southern Brazil. During the Summer Olympic Games in Rio, she posed with her host family, also holding up the U.S. flag. You might say she misses the U.S. — or is she just starry-eyed with life in Brazil? She is sponsored by the Rotary Club of Albuquerque Del Norte.