



November 2016 ■ No. 5

District Governor Dave Anderson

www.rotary5520.org

On Route 5520 ...

with DG Dave Anderson



Greetings!

Having survived the Estancia Rotary Club's annual "Pumpkin Chunkin" and finding myself "on the road again," it must be November and time to thank so many of you for your warm hospitality and friendship during my visits. Sadly, If all goes according to LG Fred Bryant's schedule, this will be my last month of continuous travels and club visits. I've often heard that club visits are the reward for serving as District Governor and now I believe it! I am humbled to find myself a part of the wonderful and caring District 5520 "family." I hope you will invite me back!

During my visits I have tried to meet with your Boards to go over administrative details and point out programs and opportunities the might wish to consider. While speaking to the clubs, I have discussed five areas: membership, Rotary roles, Foundation history and importance, community spirit and voluntarism.

Membership continues to be a concern we all need to address. I have asked each Rotarian to think of how they were introduced to Rotary and why they joined. Then I asked each to think of all their friends and acquaintances and ask two questions: First, would this person benefit from becoming a Rotarian? If so, then as the second question, could they be good Rotarians? If the answer to both questions is yes, then why haven't we asked them to come and join us?

I believe Rotary is somewhat unique in the roles each level plays. Please never forget: **ROTARY IS AT THE CLUB LEVEL!** Rotary International, our 34 Rotary Zones and all 533 Rotary Districts exist for one reason and one reason alone – to support our 35,000+ clubs and over 1.2 million Rotarians! It is not about me or any District Governor, it is not about our Rotary President and staff, **IT IS ABOUT YOU!** We are here as volunteers to support and serve you. This is your organization. Think about it and make the most of this wonderful opportunity you have been given to place Service Above Self!

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**Rotary International**

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 President-Elect: Ian H.S. Riseley
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Rotary District 5520

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 Governor: Dave Anderson
 Governor-Elect: Doreen Kelsey
 Governor-Nominee: Linda Woodward
 Vice Governor: Tom Walker
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 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
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 Lt. Gov.-East: John Drusedum
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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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Membership Corner*with Sheryl L. Saavedra*

GREETINGS, from your new District 5520 Membership Chair! Actually, I have officially been the new District 5520 Membership Chair since July of this year, but having just returned from The 2016 Rotary Zones 21b-27 Institute in Salt Lake City, Utah, I am finally comfortable enough with what I am supposed to be doing to address my fellow Rotarians specifically in this newsletter format. Kudos to the former District 5520 Membership Chair Kathie Williams who held the position for 3½ years with amazing expertise. I only hope to accomplish half of what she did for the District. Thank you Kathie for your hard work!

Allow me to introduce myself to those of you that do not know me. I am a lawyer in Roswell, NM, having been in private practice for 25 years, focusing primarily on Family Law. I have been a member of the Pecos Valley Rotary Club for almost 14 years. My positions in Rotary have been President of my Club, Assistant Governor, Lieutenant Governor, and now, District Membership Chair. I have also served on the District Governor Nominating Committee, served as the Grant Chair for the three Roswell clubs and been a RYLA Speaker for several years.



More importantly, let's talk about Membership for a moment. Membership is at the heart of every aspect of Rotary. Without its members, there would be no Rotary. Without a continuous focus on recruiting new members and retaining current members, the public service and humanitarian efforts we strive for will dissipate and falter. Rotary International has new and amazing member recruitment and retention centered programs and training designed to facilitate and maintain our District growth, including the Cadre, flexibility in membership types, E-clubs, Satellite clubs and continued emphasis on Rotaract clubs in colleges and universities and Interact clubs in high schools.

For the first time since 2007, our District has seen an increase in membership. We are finally in the green zone!!!! Congratulations to the hard work of every member of our District. This fiscal year beginning July 2016, showed a 27 member increase in our District! We have only just begun. Join me in continuing our growth by utilizing the Cadre, attending Monthly Membership Webinars and looking for and innovative ways to recruit new members to your club. I'll be in contact with various clubs throughout the year, checking in on your progress, supporting and/or promoting various programs in the District. Contact me anytime. I'd love to hear from you!

—**Sheryl L. Saavedra**, District 5520 Membership Chair
sheryl@saavedralaw.com

Celebrating “End Polio Now”

Since 1985, Rotarians worldwide have been united in the efforts to eradicate Polio, this deadly disease, and even though it's no longer present in the USA it still exists in a very few countries around the world. It's Rotary's signature “cause”, and we need your help to raise funds to help finish the fight.

Join Albuquerque Del Sol Rotarians on November 9, 2016 from 5:00 pm - 8:00 pm at Rio Bravo Brewing Co. located at 1912 2nd Street NW, Albuquerque NM 87102. All proceeds from the sale of commemorative items or donations at the event will get matched 2:1 thanks to the generous support of the Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation. That's right...for every \$100 dollars raised it will turn in to \$300 of support for global eradication efforts.

So come on down to the Rio Bravo Brewing Company and enjoy your beverage of choice while meeting other great people and supporting a VERY worthwhile cause!



P.S. — Thanks to all District 5520 Rotary clubs who held their own version of “End Polio Now” celebrations. Some were fund raisers, some were informational efforts — to remind the public that it was Rotary and its partners who have spent their time and money in this long battle to defeat Polio.

Greetings! On Route 5520, with DG Dave Anderson

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Last month I addressed support for OUR Foundation. PLEASE consider of OUR Foundation's Annual Fund when thinking of your charitable contributions. Contributions to the Annual Fund not only support Rotary programs around the world, but a portion are returned to District 5520 to use as we see fit in support of our community and world grants. With a very low overhead and so many volunteers, OUR Rotary Foundation remains one of the most effective ways “to do good in the World.”

My last two points concern community spirit and volunteerism. I believe we are a family. We are a wonderful family of over 2,500 here in New Mexico and Southwest Texas. Our extended family numbers over a million! We need to interact more and get to know our family members. Let's start inviting family to share in our projects and social activities and strengthen those common bonds.

Along those same lines, our family needs and relies on volunteers to lead us. We have over 100 District positions to fill each year and we need YOU to step forward and offer to help. I would especially ask that those of you who have already served as Club Presidents consider volunteering to serve at the District level as Assistant and Lieutenant Governors and even as District Governor. From personal experience I can tell you that although the pay may not be great, it is the most rewarding job you will ever hold!

God Bless and thank you for allowing me to be a member of your wonderful family!

—DG Dave

Off to Bolivia: Hobbs, Lovington, Roswell clubs

Hobbs, Lovington, and Roswell Rotarians traveled to Bolivia recently to observe and volunteer in a Global Grant project in Bolivia. We were joined by San Jorge (La Paz, Bolivia) Rotarians while we were in Bolivia. The project is focused on extremely poor women and children in an isolated rural community. Here is a photo of District Governor Dave Anderson visiting with Dr. Sonia Murillo of Lovington Rotary about her experiences in Bolivia. — **Bob Reid**



Del Norte Gala: Former NM First Lady to be honored

For the first time, the Rotary Club of Albuquerque Del Norte's upcoming Gala will honor a New Mexico resident who has lived "Service above Self" throughout their life. Del Norte Rotary will honor Former First Lady, Clara Apodaca, at their fund-raising gala, which will be held at the Isleta Hotel and Casino in Albuquerque on February 18, 2017.

As First Lady, one of the many innovative programs Clara instituted was the Governor's Art Gallery at the Capital Building in Santa Fe in 1975. The first exhibition featured the paintings of Georgia O'Keeffe. Later, Clara served as the head of the NM Department of Cultural Affairs. Clara later moved to Washington DC where she served for eight years as a special assistant to the Secretary of the Treasury. She was recruited to return to New Mexico to serve as the first president of the then newly formed National Hispanic Cultural Center Foundation.



Del Norte Rotary invites other clubs to join in the festivities to honor Clara. For more information, contact gala chair, Donna Pedace, at pedaceabq@aol.com or 505-349-8850. Tickets are \$150 per person. All proceeds benefit the Rotary Del Norte Foundation.



Deming Interact Club aids animals

SkillsUSA at Deming High School has joined forces with the Deming Rotary Club through Interact, a club for young people ages 12 to 18 who want to join together and tackle issues they care about in their community. First on the agenda for the newly formed DHS Interact Club will be seeking donations for the local animal shelter. Deming Rotary and SkillsUSA are collecting shampoo, blankets and towels to assist the animal shelter with their everyday operation.

Grant applications total \$88,581

“Unprecedented” number of requests for funding handled

District 5520's District Grant Application funds have been received for the maximum available of \$88,581. That includes \$1,170 for administration (\$1,095 for Club Runner's Grant Module and \$75 for postage and wire transfer fees). Also, included was \$10,000 for a District Scholarship and \$921 for a second District Scholarship and \$76,490 for 51 District Grant applications. This year, included with the checks, there will be a letter discussing reporting requirements, the necessity to support the Annual Program Fund (APF) and the necessity to enter Foundation Giving Goals.

Thanks to Dom Bernardi, Andrew Garrison and Tom Simon for everything they did to manage the UNPRECEDENTED number of applications and for their efforts to get the unprecedented number of clubs (and members) that qualified! They went OVER AND ABOVE!

—Tom Walker, District Rotary Foundation Committee Chair

Zone Institute: District leaders in Salt Lake City

District 5520 actively participated in the Zone 21b/27 Institute in Salt Lake City October 25-30. The theme was Meeting at the Crossroads referencing both Salt Lake City's position as a crossroads and Rotary in North America's situation at the crossroads of current membership and the future growth of our membership.

Governor-Elect Doreen Kelsey and Tony attended Governor-Elect training and Governor-Nominee Linda Woodward and John attended Governor-Nominee training. District Global Grant Chair Tom Simon (Santa Fe) and District Grant Chair Andrew Garrison (Albuquerque Rio Grande) attended the Emerging District Leader (EDL) training which provides excellent training for people serving outside of their Rotary Club. Membership Chair Sheryl Saavedra (Roswell Pecos



Valley) attended the Membership track and District Foundation Chair Tom Walker and District Grant Chair Dom Bernardi attended the Foundation training. And where would the Zone Institute have been without District 5520's Audiovisual experts Marshall Poole (Las Vegas) and Norm Arnold (Alamogordo)?

There were a number of Membership and Foundation awards presented. Santa Fe's Deborah Simon (photo on the left, with PDG Tom Walker) was recognized with Zone 27's 2015-2016 Alumni Humanitarian Service Award.



Gregg Podd opens the Zone 21b/27 training session in Salt Lake City.

“Be a Mentor”: Taos Milagro Satellite takes on new event

By Teresa Dovalpage

Special to The Taos News

The first “Be a Mentor” event took place Oct. 20 at KTAOS Solar Pavilion. It was orchestrated by the Taos Milagro Rotary Satellite Club — a smaller version of the main club that meets once a month.

“The club is active in helping the Taos Community in whole and the ‘Be a Mentor’ event is an example of their efforts,” said Marc Harrell, past president of the Rotary Club. “It was organized by key club members and must be considered a big success. We brought together 17 local agencies and hundreds of potential mentors.”

The event featured performances by Christof Brownell, local youth artist Justis Daniels and the Taos Youth Ballet students. Marti MacDonald, a member of the satellite club, and Nina Feliz Gonzalez of Taos Education & Career Center, were the main organizers — along with Po Chen, Irene Loy and Kirsten Main.

“We wanted to bring together as many outreach agencies as possible under one roof,” said MacDonald. “The last summer was pretty rough for the community and lots of people were left asking, ‘How can I help?’ So we have here all these wonderful community organizations and programs that people can support by signing up with them as volunteers or mentors.”

“We also wanted to connect representatives from different organizations,” MacDonald said. “They are rarely together, so this is a way in which they can get to know each other and maybe collaborate in the future.”

Claire Coté and Anita McKeown were representing the Questa-based LEAP (Land, Experience and Art of Place) project.

“We are organizing our second annual Dia de los Muertos celebration in Questa at OCHO Arts,” said Coté. “On November 1st, from 4 p.m. to 7 p.m., we will feature students’ artwork, Aztec dancers and traditional foods and drinks.”

Yasmin Haque, CASA (Court Appointed Special Advocates) coordinator at Youth Heartline, encouraged people to contribute to the organization by volunteering, donating and just getting involved. “We are looking for more volunteers to help abused and neglected children,” she said. “Many of our volunteers are [advocates] who offer steady support to children in need. You may want to be one of them. There are many ways to help out.”

Debra Sherry, HEART of Taos board vice president, was spreading the word about the relatively new organization that provides assistance to homeless women, as well as their children and pets.

“HEART stands for hope, empowerment, advocacy, respect and transitional housing,” she said. “We are not just giving shelter. We actually have a whole support program that includes counseling and many other services so these women can get their lives back. The organization was launched in February and has already offered 1,800 nights of shelter and helped over 150 women in different ways.” *(Reprinted with permission by Taos News)*

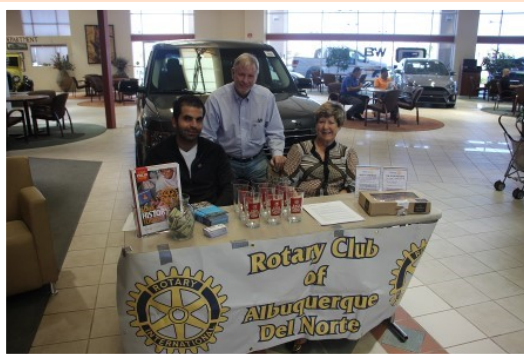


Debra Sherry of HEART of Taos.

District 5520 doings: A potpourri of photos



Attendees from District 5520 at the Zone Institute held in Salt Lake City.



Above: Albuquerque Del Norte Rotarians promote Rotary's "End Polio Now" campaign with an information table on the showroom floor of Chalmers Ford in Rio Rancho.

Right: Members of Hobbs, Lovington and Roswell Rotary clubs get ready to deliver supplies to the village of Quime, Bolivia, as part of their joint venture to aid women and children.



Rotary Club of El Paso President Kathrin Berg and El Paso Mayor Oscar Leeser present the Distinguished Service Award to Marlene and James Stewart who accepted for the late J.O. Stewart on October 6.



DG Dave Anderson was present to charter the new Interact Club at Hobbs High School, sponsored by the Hobbs Rotary Club.



News Briefs ... from the District Office

Governor-Nominee nominations sought

The District Nominating Committee, headed by PDG Tom Walker, is requesting the assistance of each club in recommending qualified candidates for District Governor in 2019-2020. The committee will meet in Las Cruces next February (during PETS) to select the 2017-2018 District Governor-Nominee. Qualifications for District Governor-Nominee will be provided in next months' District Newsletter — or you can go to the district website.

Foundation/Grants Training set for December 10

Annual Foundation/Grants Training will be conducted Saturday, December 10, 2016, 9 a.m. – 11 a.m. via Zoom webinar. All-Star cast includes: Christine Grodecki, The Rotary Foundation Annual Giving Officer for Zone 21B and 27; PDG Tom Walker, District Foundation Chair; Dominic Bernardi, District Grant Committee Chair; PDG Rick Akins, District Operations Advisor; and, Yale Jones, District Foundation Paul Harris Society Chair. Discussions will focus on: Club TRF Representative duties and the resources available to them and the Club President; Annual Giving; Annual Foundation Report; the newly revised FY18 District Grant Program; and, the current status of Rotary's Polio Eradication efforts. This is an important meeting!! Those directly involved in Foundation activities should make every effort to attend and participate.

IRS Filing deadline is November 15 for some clubs

November is the beginning of the holiday season; sorry to say, on November 15, it is also when those D5520 Rotary clubs, who have requested an extension on filing their IRS Forms 990, must complete their filing. All D5520 Rotary Clubs recently received emails from District Secretary Kathy Fuller and Rotary International emphasizing the need to file their IRS 990. Timely filing of the IRS 990 maintains your club's tax exempt status as well as allows you to participate in D5520 Grant programs. This is serious stuff; a number of years ago one club in the District missed a filing deadline and was subject to \$35,000 in fines and penalties, later averted by the club's accountants. Contact District Treasurer John Gordon or District Secretary Kathy Fuller with questions.



Standing up for Veterans

Albuquerque Del Norte Rotarian Sarah Jones, daughter of PDG Dick Jones, helps a military veteran get outfitted with a winter coat at the annual "Stand Down" sponsored by the New Mexico Veterans Integration Center in downtown Albuquerque on October 27. Rotarians helped guide veterans to find clothing, shoes, bedding, showers and assistance from many non-profit agencies that help vets.