



District 5520

Newsletter

Rotary



September 2016 ■ No. 3

District Governor Dave Anderson

www.rotary5520.org

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On Route 5520 ...

with DG Dave Anderson



*'Tis the last rose of summer,
Left blooming alone;
All her lovely companions
Are faded and gone.*

- Thomas Moore, *The Last Rose of Summer*

If you are a gardener, September is not your favorite month. If you are a football fanatic, September is when you spring to life. If you're a Rotarian, you should be refreshed with the start of a New Year, and ready to take on renewed responsibility.

Having visited a number of clubs in the last two months, I am refreshed and overwhelmed with the hospitality and friendliness extended to me. I thank you and I have become a firm believer in the old saying that "When you visit another Rotary club, you are going to meet your newest best friends!"

I have lots of new best friends, and I look forward to adding even more. I am truly blessed with getting to know so many inspiring men and women. It makes getting ready to visit new clubs that much more fun. But there is a flip side to that feeling of euphoria, and I feel it needs to be addressed.



Dave Anderson

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On Route 5520 ... with DG Dave Anderson

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Rotary International

www.rotary.org
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President-Elect: Ian H.S. Riseley
Vice President: Jennifer E. Jones

Rotary District 5520

www.rotary5520.org

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Governor-Nominee: Linda Woodward
Vice Governor: Tom Walker
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Global Awards: Darryl Gregerson
New Generations: Bobby Wallace
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IT & Website: Donette Wagner
Public Image: Craig Altschul
Friendship Exchange: Donna Pedace
Historian: Dan Schulte
International Conv.: H. Peter Krebs
Trainer: Jeffrey Weinrach
Newsletter Editor: Ed Hughes

District Office

Kathy Fuller
Executive Secretary
8 Cielo Montana
Alamogordo, NM 88310
E-Mail:
kfuller5520@gmail.com
Phone: (575) 430-0432
Website: http://rotary5520.org

Preparing for an “official” club visit takes many hours. First, LG Fred Bryant needs to contact the club president to determine the best date for the visit and to arrange any special logistics. He then sets the visit on the District calendar and advises me of the time, date and any special requests. I then begin my detailed research on the club, looking at such things as membership, activities, strengths and weaknesses, Foundation interaction, and involvement in District activities such as PETS and RYLA.

After visiting nearly half of the clubs in our District, several trends have emerged that deserve OUR special attention.

First is basic information. It is surprising how many clubs have not entered even the most basic contact information on the District web site. A few clubs have not even entered their leadership information and a number have not entered any contact information! Club presidents and secretaries have access to enter and edit their club’s information directly on our District web site, or can submit the information to District Secretary Kathy Fuller (575 430-0432 or email to kfuller5520@gmail.com).

Second are goals. Special emphasis was placed on setting club goals during P.E.T.S. I think we all realize that planning is a key element in having a strong and successful club. A vital element in planning is the setting of achievable and measurable goals. Sadly, many of our clubs have not entered their goals in *Club Central* on the Rotary International web site (www.rotary.org). *Club Central* provides an easy method of establishing club membership, member engagement, service and Foundation goals and in and tracking progress toward achieving those goals. I find that our stronger clubs have taken the time to set realistic goals and to periodically track their progress. LG Donette Wagner (505 269-4634 or donattewagner@gmail.com) is available to assist in entering goals if help is needed.

The clubs are Rotary! I firmly believe that my role and that of our District, Zone and Rotary International is to assist the clubs. We are here to help each club and every Rotarian in District 5520. This is very difficult if you haven’t entered your contact or goals information. If we arbitrarily enter District goals without input from each club, I worry that in essence we would be forcing clubs to meet our expectations rather than helping them to meet their own objectives. Please check your club’s information on the District 5520 website and make sure all information is complete and current.

Thank you, God bless, and I remain yours in Rotary!

— DG Dave

Come join us at Rio Grande Academy

What is Rio Grande Academy? Rio Grande Academy is District 5520's implementation of the Rotary Leadership Institute, a Rotary leadership training course consisting of 3 half day sessions, conducted in over 100 districts in the US and 60 countries worldwide. It is conducted as a facilitated discussion rather than a classroom lecture, encouraging all participants to participate and connect with Rotarians from other clubs. We cover a variety of topics, including leadership, vocational service, the Rotary Foundation, grants, attracting members, service projects, strategic planning, international service, public relations, and Rotary opportunities.



Is it for me? If you are a Rotarian, then yes. It is great for everyone from new members to President Elects and incoming boards.

What is the format of the Academy? We are offering Rio Grande Academy in several formats. There are three parts to the program, and traditionally they are taught on three separate Saturdays over a several month span. In a popular alternative, we offer all three parts on a single weekend. Finally we will be offering the same material as an online option for those in remote areas.

How can I sign up? To find out currently scheduled events, go to the district website, rotary5520.org and look at the left column. Under Upcoming Events, you can click on any of the existing sessions to sign up.

Put me on the notification list! If you would like to be notified of upcoming events as they are scheduled, send an email to Jesse Allen at: jesse.austin.allen@gmail.com.

RGA is taught in several parts of the district. To discuss Rio Grande Academy in your area, contact:

North - Susanne Kennedy networkingforintroverts@gmail.com

Central - Rick Akins rickakins1966@gmail.com

East - John Drusdeum john.dru52@gmail.com

South - Jesse Allen jesse.austin.allen@gmail.com



RYLA reminder: Invite campers to your club

Thank you so much for all the hard work and personal time commitment you put into recruiting and sponsoring students to this year's RYLA camp. Both camps were a tremendous success. Please thank all the people in your club who had a part in this process. We are a better District because of the effort they put into this incredible program for the youth in our communities.

Before you close the year on RYLA, please remember to invite the RYLA students that your club sponsored to one of your upcoming club meetings. This will give them an opportunity to tell your members about their outstanding RYLA experience. Encourage them to find a replacement for themselves for next year's camp and then strongly encourage your adult members to consider volunteering their time next year as a counselor.

I especially want to thank our Camp Directors and their staff and counselors for a job well done. Thank you for taking time away from your family and using your precious "vacation time" to serve our youth. You have demonstrated to them that Rotary's "Service Above Self" motto are not just words on a paper. — **Carey**

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Global Grants Training: Online, September 15

On September 15th, from 6:30 to ~8:00PM Mountain Time, we will be conducting an online Global Grants Makeup Training. This would be beneficial for Clubs that plan to be a partner in a global grant and haven't had members already take the training.

We have registration open in the Upcoming Events section on the District website; and I'm including the link as well: <https://www.crsadmin.com/EventPortal/Registrations/PublicFill/EventPublicFill.aspx?evtid=71a53762-1df3-4e22-a89a-48a99890ced9>

In order to participate in the training, it's important that you have access to both video and audio (either a telephone or a microphone/speakers for your computer or laptop).

I'll be sending out the specific information on how to log in and participate in the online training. In the meantime, if you have any questions, please don't hesitate to contact me by phone (505-400-1403) or by e-mail.



— Jeff Weinrach, 2016-17 District Trainer

Global Rewards: Offering discounts to fellow Rotarians

Since the launch of Rotary Global Rewards on 1 July 2015, over 100,000 members have visited the site!

We would like to thank you for supporting the program by spreading awareness of it among your district and clubs.

If you have not visited Rotary Global Rewards recently, we now have over 1,500 offers worldwide. We recommend using the member benefits program both locally and when you travel.

If you'd like to give discounts to other Rotarians, add your own company's special offers to the growing portfolio of Rotary Global Rewards. To date, over 350 offers have been posted by Rotarians.

We have also added two new and exciting global travel offers, [a hotel discount center](#) and [an airline discount center](#), which provide great discounts and give up to 10 percent of your purchase back to Rotary.

See www.rotary.org/globalrewards for details. Spend less, give more.



— Rotary Global Rewards program team

Angel Fire Oktober Fall Harvest Festival

Rotary Club event features music, free pumpkins and pie contests

The Angel Fire Rotary Club is once again hosting a fabulous Oktober Fall Harvest Festival on Saturday, October 15, at our beautiful new Frontier Park located in the heart of Angel Fire in northern New Mexico.

Live entertainment from four different popular musical groups will be provided all day from 11:00 AM to 6:00 PM. Enjoy the sounds from Tommy Kear, Donohoe & Grimes, Robert Varner and Ry Taylor. The beer and food tent will feature many local beers and fall food specialties.

There will also be lots of activities for kids. Visit the pumpkin patch and pick up one free pumpkin for each paid entry while supplies last. There will be a Kids Zone featuring a climbing wall, bounce house, face painting and many other fun kids' activities. Local non-profits will promote their organizations and offer a variety of games and contests like a pumpkin painting contest and pumpkin pie contest.

The local first responders who will benefit from this event will all be bringing their special vehicles and kids can sit in the trucks in a unique event called "Touch a Truck".

Adults will have plenty to do also. There We will be roast-ing Hatch Chiles and fresh fall produce will be available for sale. An exciting Smokejumper film and exhibit will be available and try your skills at various forestry activities like a manual 2-person log sawing competition, or the carved stump competition. The morning will feature a golf tournament at our beautiful mountain golf course to close out the golf season in Angel Fire. A ticket for the golf outing includes free admission to the Fall Festival.

Adult tickets for the Festival are \$15 in advance or \$20 at the door. Kids ages 4-12 are \$5; ages 13-20 are \$10. They can be purchased online at <https://www.angelfirefallfestival.com> where you can also get more details about this event.

Proceeds from this event will benefit local first responders.

Fall 2016 Lodging Specials are available at the Angel Fire Lodge. To book, visit angelfireresort.com. So please, support the Angel Fire Rotary Club, visit beautiful Angel Fire and see all the fall colors. — **Debby Welker, Angel Fire Rotary Club**



District Rotary Day: Monday, October 24

Our 2016 District Rotary Day, October 24, is only a month away. This year's goal is participation by more clubs and funds to make this year polio's last year on this earth. Lofty goals, but goals that Rotarians are not afraid to challenge. The Rio Rancho club is hosting a "Pints for Polio" event on Rotary Day in partnership with a local brew bub. This should be a fun event that demonstrates how clubs can work to raise awareness of Rotary and our End Polio Now program.

Please email me at earl@rioranchomagazine.com and let us know how your club is participating. Remember be creative and have fun. We want to introduce Rotary to your local community, raise funds for our fight against polio, look for new members, and have fun. — **Earl Waid, Rio Rancho Rotary Club**

RFE from Oregon, No. CA: Looking for host families in 2017

We will have an RFE group visiting us from Oregon and northern California from March 22 - April 5, 2017, and we are looking for host clubs/families.

Their area has mountains and the high desert of Bend, the wonderful Oregon coast with lighthouses and jet boat rides, Crater Lake National Park, the redwoods of northern California, and the university towns of Eugene and Corvallis. The world class Shakespearean Festival in Ashland is another part of their lovely district. But — before we visit them, we are hosting their group in our district, so may I ask you to talk to your club leadership and membership to see if you are interested in being a host club?



It would be wonderful to have some clubs volunteer who have not hosted for a long time - or ever. I can almost promise you that it will be fun for your hosts and other members. For a club to volunteer, we need someone within the club who will agree to be the coordinator to identify hosts and to plan the schedule of events. We ask the clubs to do all they can to be creative in keeping the costs down for our guests, but it is acceptable to ask them to pay for some things. I will be happy to work with the coordinator to work thru it all.

A few of you have asked me why we have been doing more domestic RFE trips and fewer international trips. The reason is a lack of response from international partners. Just this year, we have had South Africa and two different districts in Italy cancel previously scheduled trips - in each case concern about finances was the reason given. Out of the last 15 inquiries I sent out about doing an RFE, only 3 responded with a positive interest. I have discussed this issue with other districts here in the U.S. and most of them are also seeing a drop-off in interest from international clubs, so they are scheduling more domestic trips, too.

We do have international trips planned over the next year, but I am also scheduling domestic trips to areas that I hope will be of interest to our members. Many members have expressed an interest in seeing/learning a little more about our own country. RFE's make it an easy and less expensive way to see fascinating parts of North America. — **Donna Pedace, District RFE chair.**

Heads up! 2017 District Conference to be in ABQ again

The 2017 District 5520 Conference will return to Albuquerque, New Mexico, this time to be held at the Sheraton Uptown Hotel in Uptown ABQ. The dates are May 4-7. The conference will be co-chaired by Kathie Williams and Donette Wagner of the Del Norte Rotary Club and will include a traditional Cinco de Mayo Fiesta Party plus celebrating 30 years of women in Rotary.



District 5520 doings: A potpourri of photos



District 4110 Gov. Aviel Garza of Juarez presents a framed photo of the "World's Largest Rotary Wheel" to District 5520 Gov. Dave Anderson at the Bi-District Conference in El Paso.



President Ofelia Mletzko and her entourage of West El Paso Rotarians board their club float prior to the Veterans Parade in downtown El Paso in August.



Rio Grande Academy graduated a host of Rotarians who attended the RGA classes in Silver City.



North East El Paso Rotarians and members of their Interact Club provided back-to-school kits to needy kids in El Paso.

Rotary Golf: USGFR Tournament September 24-28

The 37th Annual **USGFR Tournament**, sponsored by the U.S. Golfing Fellowship of Rotarians, will be held over a three-day period (54 holes) during the weekend of September 24-28, at the Santa Ana Course north of Albuquerque. Overnight accommodations are available at the nearby Hyatt Regency Tamaya Resort & Spa. For more information, contact Jim Easley at jimeasley5612@comcast.net.



Executive Secretary's Report from the District Office

As the District's Executive Secretary, the most common question I am asked is for the contact information for another Rotarian in the District. You might be surprised, but you have several directories right at your fingertips!

Once you're logged in at the **Member login** of the District website at Rotary5520.org, let your mouse wander back to the upper right-hand corner and click on **Member Area**. That will take you into all the inner workings of the District's database.

On the right-hand side of the page under **For Members** you will see a couple of resources to include **District Directories** (reports of various sorts), as well as **Search Member eDirectory** (which is exactly what it sounds like). Trust me – it's very easy to use, unless you don't know the spelling of a person's name.

One other resource is located on the homepage of our website: [Club Directory and Contacts](#) (left-hand side). (Visiting Silver City and want to join that fun-loving group for lunch? Do you want to talk to the President of the Angel Fire Club about a service project? Check out the Directory!)

By the way, I use the same database (ClubRunner) that you use to find someone. If the contact information is not in the District database, I truly don't have any magical powers to locate that person. [Unless you moved to New Mexico and far-west Texas to get away from everyone (not likely as a Rotarian), please be sure to keep your contact information updated and correct! – Go to **Edit My Profile** and help us keep in touch!]

Adios, and Fair Sailing until next month!



— Kathy Fuller, District 5520 Executive Secretary



Salute to Vietnam Vets

Members of El Paso West Rotary Club lead a parade of floats in downtown El Paso to honor Vietnam veterans during the first ever Welcome Home Vietnam Veterans Parade in El Paso. Rotarians also walked alongside Vietnam veterans in the parade. The event was held on August 28.

ROTARY SERVING HUMANITY