



Rotary District 5440
 October, 2008
 Vocational Service Month

THE COWBOY DIARIES



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The Quiet Rotarians

- Casper - Lester L. Crawford
- Rawlins - Copper France
- Laramie Sunrise - Bruce King
- Cheyenne -
 John & Dana Metzke
- Laramie - Ron VanEkeren
- Torrington - Pat Buckhaults
- Cheyenne Sunrise -
 Kevin Guille
- Scottsbluff/Gering -
 Dawne Wolfe
- Morrill - Lacey Willey
- Casper 5 Trails - Joni Kumor
- Craig - Greg Roberts &
 Valarie Rorich
- Steamboat Springs -
 Jeff Swoyer

Shortly after I joined Rotary my club did a Professional Day for the students at the high school. Interested students were assigned to “shadow” a Rotarian for the day at his/her place of work. The students learned a few things and most Rotarians enjoyed being a teacher for the day. It was a simple way to help build business leaders for tomorrow.

Rotarian Nancy Brigden from Greeley, our District Vocational Service Chair, has offered a good article with ideas on how to provide a program or activity that highlights this Rotary Avenue of Service. You will find the article later in this newsletter.

For now, I want to invite you to the upcoming *District Assembly* to be held in Laramie on Saturday, November 8th. It is just a month away so **please plan to attend and get the date on your calendar!** A flyer with more details will be sent soon. The gathering will be for seasoned as well as new Rotarians. We’ve a great speaker coming in from Minnesota to share with us a very successful long range planning process that is a valuable exercise for all clubs no matter their size. Clubs will want to go further than this introduction, but we’ll establish the sig-

From the Trail

By DG Stuart Palmer



nificant value of this training to the future success of our Rotary organization. In addition, we’ll highlight one of my goals for this year – a reemphasis on Ethics. To be successful in our personal and professional lives, we must live the Rotary 4-Way Test every day.

In Laramie we’ll also introduce everyone to our Public Relations and Membership Plan to be rolled out no later than the end of the year, providing we have earned a PR grant from RI. In addition, we’ll update everyone on the

success of our End Polio Now programs and our effort to match the Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation’s \$100,000,000 donation to help Rotary eradicate polio from the face of the earth. At last weekend’s Rotary Zone Institute held in Boise, Idaho, *our District was leading Zone 25* (12 districts) with \$71,000 in contributions to the Gates Foundation match. I was so proud of all the clubs who have so far stepped forward in such a big way.

I hope to see you soon along the trail.....and my kind regards to all.

DG Stu Palmer

Lander Rotarians Support Food Bank Construction

By Ernie Over, Club Secretary

The Rotary Club of Lander mobilized a work crew and helped construct a new building for a community food bank in Lander this past summer. Rotarians rolled up their sleeves, put on tool belts and nailed exterior sheathing to the structure of the new 2,500 square foot building.

"The work supervisor thought we had two days of work for this phase of the project, but with all of us all pulling together, we knocked it off in about three hours. He was amazed," said Lander Rotary Volunteer Coordinator Gary Michaud.

The Care and Share Food Bank serves between 600 and 1,000 Fremont County families each month but was housed in a dilapidated and cramped old house. This spring a fund drive was launched to build a new food bank to better serve the community. The old building was razed in May and volunteer work crews began erecting the new building as soon as a

new foundation was poured.

"Families use this food bank as a last resort and the food we are able to provide will last a family for about 5 to 7 days," said Kelly Inglet, the ex-



ecutive director of the food bank. "We serve a lot of hard working people who live paycheck to paycheck and who sometimes simply run out of food," she said. "With a new larger facility, we're hoping we can serve

these working families more than once a month."

The Rotary Club of Lander donated \$3,500 towards the project plus the in-kind work crew.

In anticipation of the need, the Care and Food Bank was advertised as one of the recipients of proceeds from a benefit basketball game featuring local all-star players against the Harlem Ambassadors played in March. Other recipients of the proceeds from the game included the Lander Valley High School CAN (Change Attitudes Now) Club, a substance abuse prevention group and the LVHS Interact Club for their trip to participate in Lander Rotary's International Project with the Tarahumara people of NorthCentral Mexico.

Thermopolis Rotary Club Welcomes Florencia Villasuso

By Melanie Valentine, Club President

The Thermopolis Rotary Club will host Florencia Villasuso for a year long exchange. Florencia, age 15, comes from the city and state of Zacatecas Mexico, where she lives with her mother, father, and older sister. Florencia loves animals and enjoys hobbies such as arts, and crafts. She has joined the cross-country team, and participated in her first meet on Saturday, September 13th. Rotarian, Wedge Taylor and his wife, Kathy, have been hosting Florencia in their home since her arrival on August 17th. Florencia's goals for the next year are to learn about our culture, teach us about her's, and make many new friends that she can keep in touch with when she returns home to Mexico. (Next month - see a list of all our exchange students)

Thermopolis Rotary Club Turtle Race

By Melanie Valentine, Club President



The Thermopolis Club held their 3rd Annual Turtle Trek down the Big Horn River on Saturday, August 16th. As their main annual fund raiser, club members sold 1000 rubber turtles that were launched off at the 8th Street bridge on the day of the race, where they made their XXXX MILE trek down the Big Horn River in Thermopolis. The owners of the first turtles across the finish line were the lucky winners of this year's prizes. The Grand Prize was a trip for 2 to Cancun Mexico. Club members created a symbolic finish line above the water just beyond the Broadway Street bridge, but actually caught and removed the turtles from the river using nets with the help of Hot Springs County Search and Rescue Members. Turtle Race proceeds have helped fund local scholarships, town signage projects, RYLA activities, books for babies, and Rotary's polio prevention efforts.

Rotary Club of Torrington Supports Dictionary Project

By Linda Schafer



Torrington President Susan Klemola presenting a dictionary to a Platte County student from Guernsey

The Torrington Rotary has supplied dictionaries to all third grades in Goshen County for the last three years. Platte County does not have a Rotary Club, so Torrington Rotarians adopted all Platte County third and fourth graders into their literacy program this year. Guernsey was the first school to receive the dictionaries, however, Wheatland, Chugwater and Glendo will also receive them very soon.

Family of Rotary Second Annual Barbeque

By Linda Schafer, Torrington Rotary Club

The Torrington Rotary Club joined together with Morrill and Scottsbluff/Gering Rotary Clubs to enjoy an evening of fellowship at the second annual barbecue in Morrill Nebraska on August 28th.



Torrington Rotarians Craig Spencer and Justin Murphy organized and cooked at the event, in which

each club provided a part of the dinner. There were more than 75 Rotarians and family members in attendance with long-time Torrington member George Nash as moderator. This event also fulfilled the "Family of Rotary" requirement for the three clubs.

Club Attendance - August, 2008

ROTARY CLUB	Aug - 08 Attendance	Aug - 08 Members	July - 08 Members	Change YTD	Change Per Mth	ROTARY CLUB	Aug - 08 Attendance	Aug - 08 Members	July - 08 Members	Change YTD	Change Per Mth
Buffalo	58.09	34	34	0	0	Lander	43.84	69	69	0	0
Casper	61.08	196	196	0	0	Laramie	58.20	105	106	-1	-1
Casper 5 Trails	48.75	67	64	+3	+3	Laramie Sunrise	57.00	26	25	+1	+1
Cheyenne	67.00	212	213	-1	-1	Loveland	83.00	186	183	+3	+3
Cheyenne Sunrise	66.00	31	30	+1	+1	Loveland Mtn View	57.80	50	47	+3	+3
Cody	67.00	69	70	-1	-1	Loveland TV	65.19	40	44	-4	-4
Craig	Not Rep'd	19	19	0	0	Morrill	73.00	18	16	+2	+2
Douglas	63.00	41	43	-2	-2	Powell	67.00	28	29	-1	-1
Estes Park	82.60	143	143	0	0	Ranchester/Dayton	89.00	20	20	0	0
Estes Valley Sunrise	90.40	64	61	+3	+3	Rawlins	Not Rep'd	28	28	0	0
Evanston	Not Rep'd	42	42	0	0	Riverton	41.61	49	49	0	0
Ft. Collins	Not Rep'd	187	187	0	0	Rock Springs	61.54	27	27	0	0
Ft. Collins After Work	59.78	23	23	0	0	Scottsbluff/Gering	56.52	116	117	-1	-1
Ft. Collins Breakfast	73.69	67	68	-1	-1	Sedgwick County	78.20	23	23	0	0
Ft. Collins Foothills	63.60	116	115	+1	+1	Sheridan	42.73	131	134	-3	-3
Gillette	36.12	62	62	0	0	Ski Town, USA	91.66	30	30	0	0
Gillette-Energy	83.00	53	54	-1	-1	Star Valley	Not Rep'd	16	16	0	0
Greeley	44.20	153	153	0	0	Steamboat Springs	69.92	88	89	-1	-1
Greeley After Hours	57.29	24	24	0	0	Sterling	50.00	41	40	+1	+1
Greeley Centennial	46.68	114	112	+2	+2	Teton Valley	53.00	37	37	0	0
Greeley Redeye	89.00	30	30	0	0	Thermopolis	67.00	29	29	0	0
High Plains (Eaton)	44.40	30	30	0	0	Torrington	73.00	67	67	0	0
Jackson Hole	54.00	196	196	0	0	Windsor	59.00	35	35	0	0
Jackson Breakfast	67.00	13	13	0	0	Worland	Not Rep'd	39	39	0	0
Jackson Supper	58.00	32	32	0	0						
Johnstown/Milliken	62.00	19	19	0	0	TOTALS		3361	3357	+4	+4
Kemmerer	75.00	26	25	+1	+1						

Honor Vocational Service Through Rotary

By Nancy Brigden, District Vocational Chair

Nancy Brigden serves as our District Vocational Chair and she has these suggestions on how a club can emphasize vocational service through Rotary.

October, Vocational Service Month in Rotary, offers an opportunity to do additional good things in the name of Rotary through your business or profession. Often our actions can add a dimension in ways for all employees in our businesses to show responsibility to those less fortunate and to take an active part in our communities. Such activities can occur on an individual basis as Rotarians or through club-centered efforts within Rotary.

Here are a few ways in which Rotarians and Rotary Clubs can initiate an active program in vocational service while building goodwill through your business.

- Establish a Tag Along Professional Day at The Workplace *Invite young students from all sectors of the community to follow Rotarians for a day and observe what goes on at the workplace. Invite these young participants to attend a Rotary meeting and be recognized during their professional day.*
- Set up a Volunteer Day For Employees To Work At Their Charity of Choice *Work with United Way or your community volunteer coordinators to identify options where your employees can serve on this day without losing pay or vacation time.*
- Promote a Hunger-Fighting Day To Raise Money or Donate Food *Invite clients and employees to bring non-perishable foods or donate funds that will help support food banks or storm relief projects. Sell tickets to a Dress-Down-In-Jeans day or to a Meal-Prepared-By-The-Boss event with all proceeds to the Hunger Fund.*
- Volunteer at Your Neighborhood School *Talk with teachers or administrators about ways in which you or your employees can spend a day or more in the classroom sharing information about Rotary's 4-Way Test. Speak to students at the school about your vocation giving examples of how business ethics come into play each day.*
- Run a Mock-Job-Interview Panel for Young People *Help community youth hone their job-interviewing skills.*
- Honor Employees or Public Servants with Vocational Service Awards *Identify employees who have demonstrated high ethical standards, good business practices or strong community service. Invite them to attend a Rotary meeting and provide them with a Rotary recognition award.*
- Run a Rotary-Sponsored Courteous Citizen Contest *Award employees who demonstrate the most courteous good business practices in the community and publicize how it meets Rotary's high ethical standards.*
- Recognize a Service Above Self Rotarian *Honor a member who shows that he or she performs the job in a way that in turn exemplifies Rotary goals.*

Additional information on Vocational Service can be found in **The Rotarian** magazine, October 2008 issue or contact Nancy Brigden at brigden@comcast.net for more information to assist your club.

Estes Valley Sunrise's Autumn Gold was a Huge Success

By Steve Mitchell

Crowds thronged Estes Park's Bond Park to eat freshly cooked bratwursts, listen to live music and drink ice cold beer at Sunrise Rotary's 16th annual Autumn Gold festival held on September 20-21, 2008.

"We cooked 2500 brats and emptied 17 kegs of beer," said Sunrise Rotary's Bruce Johnston, the event organizer.

The highlight of Autumn Gold is the popular reverse raffle, which featured more than 100 valuable prizes, including a grand prize of \$5,000 awarded to the last ticket chosen. Dennis Breeding from Littleton won the grand prize.

Raffle ticket sales support vocational scholarships and grants to deserving Estes Park youth. This year the Sunrise Rotary

Foundation awarded 15 scholarships for more than \$10,000 to Estes Valley high school students.

Food and beverage revenue from the event goes to fund the club's other projects, including the Peru Clean Water Project with the University of Colorado chapter of Engineers Without Borders.

In addition, Sunrise Rotary helps sponsor After Prom for local high school students, raises money for local non-profit agencies such as Restorative Justice and makes the holidays a little brighter for local families by supporting the Thanksgiving Day Feast and Bright Christmas.

2008 Zone Institute in Boise, Idaho

By DG Stu



DGN Bryan , DG Stu and DGE Dave at the Rotary Zone Institute in Boise, Idaho.

At the Zone Institute Rotarians gathered to learn the latest on our programs and to meet the future leaders of Rotary. RI Pres-Elect John Kenny and his wife, June, were there from Scotland. He's a tremendous speaker and so well organized for his year ahead. And speaking of being organized, there were several days of training

for our District Governor Elect (DGE) Dave Scriven from the 5 Trails Casper Club and District Governor Nominee (DGN) Bryan Cooke of the Greeley Rotary Club. Each was taking in a lot of excellent information in preparation for their respective DG years ahead with their classmates from 26 other districts (Zones 25/26). Past District Governors from D5440 in attendance to help train and inspire Dave and Bryan were Past Rotary International Director Lynn Hammond (DG 89-90), John Vandell (DG 99-00), Lynne Baker (DG 01-02), Bill Pettus (DG 02-03), Mike Tormey (DG 03-04), Bill Muldoon (DG 04-05), George McIlvaine (DG 06-07) and Nancy Pettus (DG 07-08). Each of these DGs continues to give generously of their time, talents and treasure to ensure the success of Rotary tomorrow...all on their own nickel. I'm most grateful for the help they also give me as your District Governor. The next training for DGE Dave and his wife, Janice will be the International Institute in San Diego in January where next year's 520 district governors gather for a solid week of intensive Rotarization.



Torrington President Susan Klemola and DG Stuart Palmer presenting the Service Above Self award to Rotarian George Nash for 45 years of service.



Douglas Rotarians Linda Lake and Linda Wolfe flipping burgers on a very busy Saturday afternoon during the Wyoming State Fair. The Douglas Rotary Club grossed almost \$30,000 for scholarships, YE students, RYLA, Christmas gift project and other international and community projects.

Directory Corrections

Morrill has a new club treasurer, **Lacy Willey** and she can be reached at P.O. Box 11, Morrill, NE 69358.
 Loveland president elect **Dick Lubinski** has a new email: dlubi@q.com.
 Casper secretary **Peaches Lynch** has a new email: peachesjlynch@msn.com.
 Ski Town USA has a new club president elect. **Kevin Kaminski** can be reached at kkaminski@bkdistributing.com.
 District YE Committee members Bill & Gentry Moellenhoff have a new email: bgmoe2@q.com.

Reminders: Please share in the achievements of our D5440 while attending the upcoming District Assembly in Laramie on November 8th. **ALSO** For anyone thinking of being a District Governor, please know interviews will take place January 24, 2009. Contact District Nominating Committee Chair PDG Mike Tormey (mctormey1@comcast.net) for details of the interview and selection process.

Voices on the Wind

Our thoughts and prayers are with Col. John Guy of the Powell Rotary Club. John has inoperable cancer and is in a coma. John will be recognized by the University of Wyoming with the Distinguished Alumni Award during homecoming weekend, October 10-11, 2008.

Our thoughts and prayers are also with Jo Sufko of Rock Springs Rotary Club on the passing of her husband, Bill, who battled cancer for a long time.

Wishing former District Ambassadorial Scholarship Chair, Lucie Osborn, a quick recovery from recent surgery.

Congratulations to the Hager family in Rock Springs on the adoption of their new baby girl, Chloe Marie!

Brazil - Matching Grant Opportunities

District Gov. Stu Palmer has set as one of his goals the involvement of every district club in an international project. As a convenience, he has arranged three matching grant opportunities in District 4470 (southwestern Brazil) that need funding and participation.

Perhaps your club would be interested in any of the following:

1. Valparaiso Grant - obstetric tables (2) for rural community hospital that caters to many homeless people. Additional funding is welcome, any amounts up to \$1500. Sponsor is Rawlins Rotary.
2. Campo Grande Child Day Care - 150 children ages baby to 5 years. Equipment purchase with additional funding needed in amounts up to \$2,500. Sponsor is Laramie Rotary Club with other partial funding.
3. Rio Pardo Rotary project - physical therapy equipment for Children's Center with 52 boys and girls. Sponsor needed and funding in amounts up to \$2,000.

Please contact PP Patrick Bols, (patbols@gmail.com) D5440 WCS Chair or DG Stu Palmer (stupalmer@rmisp.com) for details on any or all projects.

Progress on the Club Visit Trail

Susie and I have visited 41 of our 51 district clubs and have traveled close to 12,000 miles since July 11th. Everyone has been so generous in their hospitality during our visits. We are proud of the worthy programs and activities being conducted throughout the district by our 3,300 Rotarians. We look forward to visiting the rest of the clubs, but please remember to ask a friend, ask a neighbor or acquaintance to join you at Rotary next week. Membership is so important to the future of Rotary!



Torrington Rotarian Dr. Tim Pieper helping patients at a free dental clinic in Mitchell Nebraska on Friday, Oct 10. The clinic helped over 600 people in one day with \$250,000 of free dental work done.

Notice:

All clubs should have held officer elections, specifically to name a President-Elect Nominee by December 31st. Results should be sent to D5440 Exec. Sec. Kellie Tovar immediately following the election at rotary5440@yahoo.com

District Emergency Funds sent to Guatemala

Many of us remember the friendly Rotarians from Guatemala who attended our District Conference in Cody last June. As a response to the massive flooding from heavy summer rains in Gualan, Guatemala, the Rotarians in Ft. Collins spearheaded an immediate aid effort. The majority of club presidents within District 5440 voted to send \$2,000 from our District emergency funds for this cause. We wish to thank PP Chuck Rutenberg for leading

this humanitarian aid effort.

Chuck has reported back that, **“The need in Gualan will last a long time, but the generosity of the Rotarians in District 5440 is remarkable. With the \$2,000 from the District, we were able to send \$6,000 to our friends in need. I know I speak for all the victims in Gualan and Chiquimula when I thank you and all the Rotarians who have come to their aid.”**

DISTRICT CALENDAR

To submit articles for this publication,
please contact Stuart Palmer or
Kellie Tovar.

October - Vocational Service Month

- 1-5 - Zone Institute, Boise, ID
Governor Elect Training Seminar
- 5 - Inaugural Ceremony for Loveland Thompson Valley Interact Club
- 15 - 2009-10 Official Directory Data forms mailed to club secretaries

We're on the web
www.rotary5440.org

November - The Rotary Foundation Month

- TBA - GSE Team Member Selection
- 8 - District Winter Assembly in Laramie, WY at Hilton Garden Inn, 10:00am-3:00pm
- 15 - Distinguished Service Award nominations due to TRF
- 16 - 2008-09 SHARE mailing sent to DG, DGN, PDG and DRFC chair

December - Family Month

- 1 - Hold club officer elections and report results to district secretary and RI
- 31 - End of calendar year-all contributions/gifts must be received by 31 December 2008 to receive 2008 tax receipts

January - Rotary Awareness Month

Information for the 2009-10 Official Directory due

- 16 - Rotary Foundation Dinner, Denver, CO
- 18-25 - International Assembly, San Diego, CA

February - World Understanding Month

- 14 - Avenues of Service Citation due to RI from club presidents
- 23 - World Understanding and Peace Day
- 27-March 1 - PETS, Marriott TechCenter, Denver, CO

March - Literacy Month

- 31 - RI Presidential Citation and District Governor Citation forms due to DG
- 31 - Ambassadorial Scholarship, Rotary Grants for University Teachers and Rotary World Peace Scholarship Application Deadline
- 31 - Last day for receipt of Matching Grant and 3-H Grant applications; Simplified grant funds request due at TRF.

April - Magazine Month

- TBD—District Training Seminars
- 30-May 2 - District Conference, Jackson, WY

May - District Convention Month

- 1 - Memo of club visits due from Assistant Governors

June - Rotary Fellowships Month

- 15 - Nominations for Citation of Meritorious Service due
- 21-24 - RI Convention, Birmingham, England
- 30 - End of fiscal year - all gifts must be received at TRF by 10:00 am in order to count towards 2008-09 Rotary year.