

Rotary District 5440
 March, 2009
 Literacy Month

THE COWBOY DIARIES



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Susie and Stu Palmer

Dear Fellow Rotarians,
LITERACY: In this issue of **The Cowboy Diaries** we learn about several projects in the Loveland and Estes Park communities that focus on Literacy. Your club may want to begin a program similar to that in Estes Park of gifting a book to your local children's library to honor the program speaker of the week. By allowing a child to have a book or be read to at an early age develops a healthy imagination and love of the written word that is best begun when very young. As Rotarians, we are committed to many programs to promote literacy. My father-in-law continues to be an active Rotarian in Wichita, Kansas. Fifteen years ago he told me about the "Read to

From the Trail

By DG Stuart Palmer

Me" program and his weekly visit across town to read to 3rd graders. It was a highlight of his week. From that idea, we introduced such a program in Jackson that has been continuing every week of the school year to feed the impressionable minds in our local schools. Not only do the kids love the experience, but my fellow Rotarians derive great benefit from the relationship with the students. HOORAY for all the many Rotarian readers throughout our District 5440!

PDG George and Mary McIlvaine of Cheyenne exemplify our dedication to literacy by ensuring that every school district in Wyoming has a program to award all 3rd graders with a dictionary of their own. **PDG Nancy Pettus** is another literacy hero as she continues the means to fund the **District 5440 Scholarship in Literacy Education** at her alma mater – Univ. of Wyoming. Read more about her efforts on page 4.

DISTRICT CONFERENCE: So far, over 275 have registered to attend the Jackson Hole conference, April 30 – May 2 with more registrations coming in every day.

We've arranged charter buses to start from Ft. Collins/Loveland to stop in Cheyenne and Laramie for the ride to Jackson. Sign up by using the form on the District website.

We've a great line-up of speakers, including PDG Olimpio coming from Brazil to share stories of our many projects (25) over the past ten year in his D4470 of southwestern Brazil. PDG Greg Podd of Evergreen, CO will inspire us with his vast Rotary experience. Rosemary Aragon (Washington State) will share her lessons on the benefits of successful clubs with multi-generational membership.

A real highlight for our district will be the visit by Past Rotary International Director (PRID) Jack Forrest, one of the truly remarkable Rotarians to have served as a director of Rotary. Jack will help us present the **Service Above Self Award** to one of our very own members, an honor given to only 150 Rotarians throughout the world each year. We'll also recognize a club with the **Significant Achievement Award** and one community for their **Rotary's Best Cooperative Project Award**. These are

continued on pg 2

DG Stu takes a day off to do some backcountry skiing in beautiful Grand Teton National Park.



DG Stu's Message continued from page 1

just a few ways we will celebrate the achievements of our clubs and members in our great District 5440, which I last heard was leading our Zone 25 (15 districts) with the largest contribution to the End Polio Now program. Also, who will be our **District Rotarian of the Year**? Find out when you come to Jackson Hole. To register or view the tentative agenda, go on-line to www.rotary5440.org. *(Please consider sending a check with the registration form to save the district that 4.3% cost of a credit card transaction. Ouch!)*



Club contributions to The Rotary Foundation: Every club president made a goal commitment to The Foundation at PETS last spring. Many have achieved this. Other clubs are still generating funds for this all important means to fund our programs; international scholarships, grants and group study exchanges, to name but a few. Of what we give this Rotary year we will see 50% coming back to us in three years to use for our District funding of matching and simplified grants, etc. Please give generously, even in these difficult economic times. Our Foundation is one of the best in the world with an insignificant administrative overhead and a dedicated worldwide staff to further our work of international world peace and understanding through humanitarian assistance to the needy. Don't confuse the work of the Foundation with our End Polio Now eradication program. They are separate and distinct and both deserve our financial commitment.

Thank you for all you are doing as an individual Rotarian toward the success of our efforts this year in District 5440.

See you down the trail...in Jackson Hole, DG Stu

Voices in the Wind

By DG Stu and Susie Palmer



Our sincere sympathy to PDG Diane Kessel Knight (Ft Collins Breakfast Club) for the passing (Feb. 25) of her father, PDG Milton Kessel, the first recipient in District 5810 of Rotary's highest honor, the Service Above Self Award.

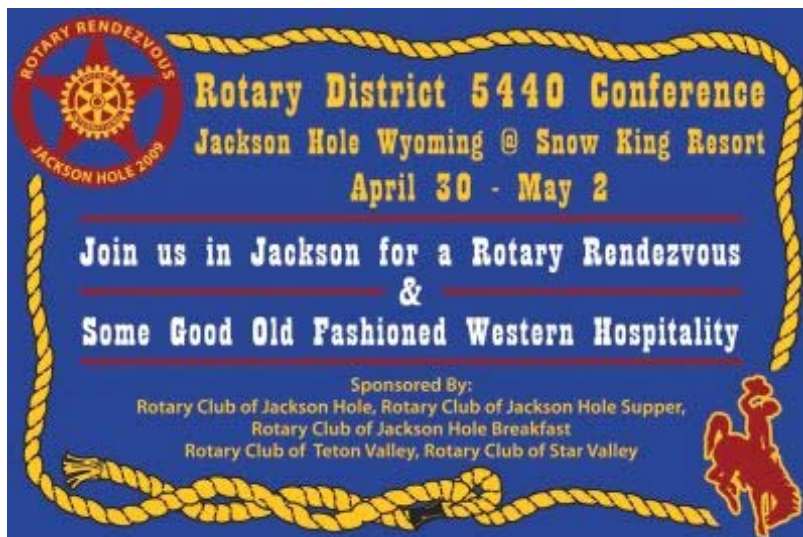
- Congratulations to Cheyenne Rotaract Club for their Charter, presented by DG Stu on Feb. 26 at the club's first dinner event.

- Congratulations to the Sheridan Rotaract Club on their Charter Night Dinner - Feb. 27.

- Lander Rotary Club's Blue Ribbon program to honor the 113 being deployed to the military action in Kuwait from our District, is going strong.

- Our GSE team, led by PP Sandy Evans-Hall (Steamboat Rotary) met in Ft. Collins (Feb 28) for further training and preparation for their upcoming month-long visit to Chile beginning in late April.

- District 5440 is leading Rotary Zone 25 (15 districts) in contributions to the **End Polio Now** program.



Rotary International President-Elect John Kenny, at left, and Assistant Governor Ron Fossen met at the five District PETS held in Denver February 27- March 1, 2009.

Loveland Mountain View will continue the tradition of "Heroes Among Us"

By Josh Miller, Club President



Heroes Among Us

Loveland Mountain View Rotary will continue the "Heroes Among Us" event that was originally started by the Healthier Communities Coalition of Larimer County taking over the event for the 6th annual celebration in April of 2008 and currently planning the 7th annual celebration to be held on April 23, 2009.

The event is a celebration dinner where we recognize and honor adults in the Loveland and Berthoud communities identified by youth as being significant role models and mentors. The student nominates their hero and the nominations are then reviewed by the Mountain View Rotary committee members and narrowed down to 30 finalists.

These finalists are then recognized at a dinner in the spring. The dinner is put on by the Rotary Club and each student and hero can bring a guest and are served by our Community Leaders.

Estes Park Rotary Supports Literacy

By Barb Lister, Club President Elect Nominee

The Rotary Club of Estes Park has embraced one of Rotary International's goals by implementing a Children's Literacy project in support of the Estes Valley Public Library. Each week a book is donated to the Library in honor of the Club's program speaker. A bookplate located inside the cover lists the speaker, date of presentation, and the Rotary emblem.

Donations from Ray and Cindy Leaycraft and Gary and Barbara Lister funded this project, which by next spring will add approximately 50 new children's books to the Library's collection. Children's Librarians, Kerry Aiken and Melanie Kozlowski, have assisted the Club by selecting a wide array of appropriate books. As Claudine Perrault, Library Director, states, "These books are greatly appreciated and provide additional reading opportunities for the youth of Estes Park."

This past week District 5440 Governor, Stuart Palmer, visited with the club's leadership team and spoke at the weekly meeting to present the District and International Rotary messages. His program provided a broad perspective of how funds given to Rotary and Rotary International are used to maximize the wide array of service projects undertaken locally, nationally, and internationally to benefit mankind. Polio eradication, clean water, and literacy are the three main avenues of service worldwide.

The Rotary Club of Estes Park serves the Estes Park community through the distribution of proceeds from the Duck Race to local charitable organizations, the funding of scholarships for area youth, road and river clean up days, Rotaract at the high school, and many other community events.



At the conclusion of Rotary District 5440 Governor Stuart Palmer's program a book to be donated to the Library in his honor was presented by Rotary Club of Estes Park President Ray Leaycraft. From left to right: Phil Murphy, Asst. District Governor; Barb and Gary Lister, Donors; Susie Palmer and Dist. Governor Stuart Palmer; Claudine Perrault, Library Director; Ray and Cindy Leaycraft, Donors

Literacy Scholarship Available

By PDG Nancy Pettus

The silent auction at our Cody District Conference had a very special purpose. We were raising money to establish a scholarship fund to assist teachers. Proceeds from the auction were supplemented with some of the funds left over from the conference to establish the *Rotary District 5440 Scholarship in Literacy Education* at the University of Wyoming.

While the scholarship is at the University of Wyoming, it will be available to all current teachers within the boundaries of District 5440 in grades 6-12. The purpose of the scholarship is to assist the teachers in increasing their teaching competency in literacy. The scholarship could be applied to course work which may be applied either toward a literacy endorsement and/or graduate degree or attendance at a seminar or symposium on literacy.

All information and the application for this scholarship is available at www.ed.uwyo.edu. Click on the scholarship tab on the right column, then click on the third bullet—in service teacher scholarships and you will find the Rotary Scholarship. A link is also available on our District website at www.rotary5440.org.

Look for additional items at our annual district conference auctions to support this scholarship.

Loveland Mountain View to Host 2nd Annual Hoedown

By Josh Miller, Club President



Nathan Bainum and Alexis Moore

The Loveland Mountain View Rotary Club is proud to announce the 2nd Annual Hoedown. This event is a joint fundraiser between our club and Think Humanity. Think Humanity is a grassroots, non-profit organization based in Loveland, CO, focused on aid to the Kyangwali Refugee camp in Uganda. Think Humanity assists in the fight against malaria by providing refugees with resources and manpower to provide love, comfort and security to orphaned children, and to make a positive change for

refugees in Africa.

The event will be held at Ellis Ranch on April 3, 2009 beginning at 5:30 p.m. The evening includes a bar, a delicious western dinner, live entertainment and dancing at the end of the dinner hour. Tickets for the event are \$100.00 for an individual and \$175.00 for a couple.



Tom and Shannon Hall

Club Celebrates 50 Years of Hosting Exchange Students

By Chabella Guzman, Staff Reporter for Star Herald



Rotarians Mike Downey, left, and Joe Schon chat with Rotary exchange student Natalie O'Callaghan of Australia, who will be in the community for about a year. Photo by Rick Meyers.

The Rotary Scottsbluff/Gering Club is celebrating a 50-year milestone in its student exchange program. What makes it even more special is they will once again be exchanging students with Myrtleford, Australia.

"We are lucky enough to have an exchange student, Natalie O'Callaghan, 16, as our exchange student from Myrtleford," said Mark Gillam, president of Rotary Scottsbluff/Gering Club. "The program began with an exchange of students with them."

In January 1959, John Rogers, 15, of Scottsbluff took a three day plane trip to Myrtleford, while two Australian students traveled here. As the first club in the organization's exchange program, Scottsbluff/Gering and Myrtleford demonstrated how important and beneficial it was to have the program.

"Rotarians encourage learning and understanding of other cultures and students, and their host families learn and experience so much during the exchange," he said.

In just three short weeks, O'Callaghan has had many experiences as an exchange student.

"I was surprised how big Scottsbluff is," she said. "I had never heard of Nebraska before. After looking it up, I knew it was cold and snowy in January." Though her hometown is also a rural community, it has a smaller population, with 3,500 people, and a much smaller school with only 200 students.

"I like the school here a lot. It's very good," she said.

She also likes the soccer program. "We don't do as much training back home, maybe once a week. Here it is four days a week, and that is fun," she said.

Another difference O'Callaghan has noticed is the length of the classes here compared to her school, but she finds many of the subjects enjoyable. "The classes here are so long, I'm used to 55-minute classes. I'm taking a food and cooking class I really like and an advanced animal science class," she said. "I'm thinking of maybe going into animal science."

O'Callaghan will be staying with the Mike Downey family for a year before going home. Still, she misses her family, parents Brian and Celine and sisters Lauren and Rachel.

During recent wildfires in Australia, she worried about them and their safety, as she was unable to contact them for a few days. "The fires had burned seventy percent of the farm and three hay sheds, one of which exploded. It was very traumatic; I was hearing so many different things from friends on Facebook. Sunday we finally reached each other and I knew they were OK," she said.

Naturally, she wanted to return home. "My parents told me to stay and continue in the program for the experience. Plus, they knew I was safe here," O'Callaghan said.

O'Callaghan has made some friends since she has arrived, but still finds it a challenge. "Fitting in is a major thing. You don't know anyone or your way around, but my host family sister, Sara, 17, and I are pretty close," she said. "We love to go shopping together."

Planning ahead for the year, she hopes to learn as much as she can about American and Scottsbluff history. "There are so many places I've never heard of that I would like to see or learn more about. I'm really excited to be here in the program," she said. Gillam echoes her enthusiasm and says that's what makes the program a success.

"As Rotarians, we're very happy to be able to do positive programs for the club and community, building relationships that can last forever," he said.

Loveland Rotary Club has Brought Healthy Smiles South of the Border

By Bill Eads, Loveland PR Co-chair and webmaster

Loveland Rotary Club has a long history of working cooperatively with local Rotary Clubs in Mexico to do something lasting and important. What began as an effort to provide dentures to 15 needy people has today become a program of installing portable dental clinics staffed with trained local dentists who oversee dental care for children.

With the dedication of local dentists and other Rotarians and the contributions from both the local and district Rotary organizations, the program has been formalized and is called **Sonrisas Sin Fronteras** or **Smiles Without Borders**.

To date, the Loveland Rotary program has provided 12 dental clinics that are staffed by 24 full-time dentists that are provided by the Benemerita Universidad Autonoma de Puebla's dental university in Tehuacan. The clinics are being deployed two to a school and each clinic will be manned by two dentists. The program will not only provide dental services but will also give toothbrushes and instruction to children. Dentists will also involve parents in understanding the importance of dental care and instructions on using a toothbrush. The children will brush their teeth twice a day while at school in hopes that this will become a lifetime habit. In addition, the Sonrisas program includes comprehensive training to students in dental hygiene and care. Costs of the clinics is privately funded through donations to the Loveland Rotary Foundation and the Sonrisas Sin Fronteras Foundation.



Dentists in the Sonrisas Sin Fronteras Clinic performing checkups and dental work on Tehuacan, Mexico children.



Dental students showing Tehuacan children how to correctly brush their teeth using an oversized brush and giant teeth.

Sonrisas Sin Fronteras is the result of hard work, dedication and the caring spirit of a number of Loveland Rotarians as well as the commitment of the Rotary club itself. The idea for the program began with a Loveland Rotarian dentist, Dr Richard Schilling, who gathered other Rotarians to develop a pilot project in Mexico. Key to getting the program started besides Dr. Schilling were John Turnage, pastor and translator, Helmut Retzer, oral prosthetics maker, and engineer Ron Hogan. More than 25 trips have been made to Mexico as the project took shape and began to grow to include first more children and eventually adults as well. Loveland Rotarians have worked on this project with the Manantiales Rotary Club, dentist Dr. Tono Bulas, and dentists and students from the university.

As the Sonrisas program developed in Mexico, the combined team traveled to Nicaragua in 2006 and contacted the Managua Tiscapa Rotary Club about creating a similar program in that area. Eventually, the team, including some from the Mexican venture, expanded the program into Nicaragua. Funds for the Nicaragua program were derived from Loveland Rotarians with a matching grant from Rotary International.

Ron Hogan, who has been involved with the Sonrisas program since its inception, explained, "our main goal has been to empower indigenous dentists so they can deal with and improve dental health of children in their own communities." He added, "this is what Rotary is all about: helping people whether locally or throughout the world. People in Loveland can be proud of the role the Loveland Rotary Club is taking to improve children's lives and to build peace and understanding."

Estes Park Sings Dinner Theater Fundraiser for Rotary Scholarships

By PP Julie Phares, Estes Park Rotarian and Assistant Governor

The 6th Annual Estes Park Sings “Through The Decades” will be performed in Estes Park on March 27, 28 and 29. The event is a Rotary fundraiser for scholarships for local students.

The show will be staged at the Park Village Playhouse which is located at the intersection of Moraine Ave. and Mary’s Lake Road.

New this year is a dinner theater show with a delicious dinner prepared by The Other Side Restaurant. Dinner choices will include London Broil, Salmon or Vegetarian entrees. Local Rotarians will act as your hosts and servers for the evening. Sit down to a fabulous dinner with the show for only \$40 or you can purchase ‘show only’ tickets for \$20. On Friday and Saturday, the bar will be open at 5:00 p.m. with meal service beginning at 6:00 and the show starts at 7:30 p.m. On Sunday, March 29 there will be a matinee show only performance at 2:00 p.m.

Tickets for the show are available at Macdonald Book Shop, Linden/Bartels & Noe Insurance and the Estes Park Convention and Visitors Bureau all located in Estes Park. Call Julie Phares at 970-586-5368 for information on how to purchase tickets from out of town.

The theme this year is “Through The Decades” There will lots of great songs as well as the usual antics of the semi-dysfunctional Flugge family as they attend their high school reunion in Estes Park amidst music, dancing, and lots of laughter.



Just some of the songs you’ll enjoy are: “Thriller,” “My Guy,” “YMCA,” “60s With A Twist” a medley of 60s hits, “Boogie Woogie Bugle Boy,” “Can’t Take My Eyes Off Of You,” “Proud Mary,” “The Rose” “Tom Dooley,” and a host of other memorable songs as well as television theme songs and favorite commercials.

The show’s Director and Producer is Past

President of the Rotary Club of Estes Park, Julie Phares with Music Direction by Julie Varilek. Julie Phares said, “This year we’re offering something new, dinner theater. We’re very excited about this and know it will be a great evening of wonderful food and entertainment, all for a great cause.” Phares continued, “Rehearsals

are going very well” and she added “I guarantee anyone they will have a very, very enjoyable evening listening to some of the best musical talent in the Estes Valley.

All of the money from ticket sales goes right to our future, the youth of our community in the form of scholarships. Thanks to community support last year, The Rotary Club of Estes Park had the privilege of presenting \$31,000 to our graduating seniors of 2008. Get your Estes Park Sings tickets today, and help support our kids. Don’t miss your chance to see this exciting musical extravaganza, in beautiful Estes Park, Colorado. For our out of town guests, why not make a weekend of it?

As we are going to press, we were hoping to get final confirmation that the Russian Folk Music Group, **Souvenir** (from Saratov) will be performing at the District Conference. I saw their concert last April in Russia and they are an exciting cultural experience.

Their costumes are fabulous, their music is fun and delightful. The group of 8 performers also hopes to perform in several D5440 communities prior to their visit in Jackson. We need your help. If you would like **Souvenir** to perform in your community, please call PDG George McIlvaine at (307) 631-0136.DG Stu

Loveland Mountain View to host Harlem Ambassadors

By Josh Miller, Club President



Loveland Mountain View Rotary is proud to host the Harlem Ambassadors in an entertaining basketball game Friday, April 17th at the Thompson Valley High School in Loveland. The mission of the Harlem Ambassadors is to deliver a quality basketball show to their audiences throughout the United States and internationally. The show is designed to be fun for customers of all ages. In addition to having a fun-filled and action packed-game, The Harlem Ambassadors promote the values of staying in school, staying off drugs and fostering racial harmony. The challenging team playing against the Harlem Ambassadors will feature community leaders, teachers, and former athletes from all around northern Colorado.

The game will act as a fundraiser for the Loveland Mountain View Rotary club with a portion of the proceeds benefiting a local charity organization as well as Rotary's fight against Polio.



Club Attendance and Membership - January, 2009

Let us work hard to maintain positive growth in membership!

ROTARY CLUB	Jan - 09 Attendance	Jan - 09 Members	July - 08 Members	Change YTD	Change Per Mth	ROTARY CLUB	Jan - 09 Attendance	Jan - 09 Members	July - 08 Members	Change YTD	Change Per Mth
Buffalo	65.91	33	34	-1	+1	Lander	41.15	66	69	-3	+1
Casper	42.72	194	196	-2	0	Laramie	62.27	104	106	-2	0
Casper 5 Trails	45.00	66	64	+2	-2	Laramie Sunrise	59.00	28	24	+4	0
Cheyenne	57.00	209	213	-4	-2	Loveland	86.00	188	183	+5	-1
Cheyenne Sunrise	74.00	31	30	+1	0	Loveland Mtn View	71.99	43	47	-4	-1
Cody	71.00	71	70	+1	+3	Loveland TV	93.64	37	44	-8	-4
Craig	Not Rep'd	21	19	+2	0	Morrill	Not Rep'd	18	16	+2	0
Douglas	Not Rep'd	38	43	-5	0	Powell	76.00	27	29	-2	-1
Estes Park	87.40	146	143	+3	+2	Ranchester/Dayton	73.00	23	20	+3	+2
Estes Valley Sunrise	99.23	66	61	+5	0	Rawlins	57.94	31	28	+3	0
Evanston	73.00	42	42	0	+1	Riverton	54.56	49	49	0	0
Ft. Collins	64.00	195	187	+8	+4	Rock Springs	62.50	29	27	+2	0
Ft. Collins After Work	44.57	23	23	0	-1	Scottsbluff/Gering	Not Rep'd	115	117	-2	0
Ft. Collins Breakfast	77.82	70	68	+2	0	Sedgwick County	79.30	23	23	0	0
Ft. Collins Foothills	Not Rep'd	111	115	-4	0	Sheridan	50.47	130	134	-4	-2
Gillette	41.91	69	62	+7	0	Ski Town, USA	81.66	30	30	0	0
Gillette-Energy	58.00	54	54	0	0	Star Valley	48.00	16	16	0	0
Greeley	50.93	158	155	+5	-3	Steamboat Springs	71.55	86	89	-3	+1
Greeley After Hours	65.22	23	24	-1	0	Sterling	32.68	39	40	-1	-1
Greeley Centennial	69.75	106	112	-6	-1	Teton Valley	61.00	38	37	+1	+4
Greeley Redeye	88.25	32	30	+2	+2	Thermopolis	60.00	29	29	0	0
High Plains (Eaton)	Not Rep'd	28	30	-2	0	Torrington	67.00	70	67	+3	+3
Jackson Hole	Not Rep'd	197	196	+1	0	Windsor	66.00	34	35	-1	-1
Jackson Breakfast	81.00	15	13	+2	+2	Worland	Not Rep'd	39	39	0	0
Jackson Supper	58.00	36	32	+4	+1						
Johnstown/Milliken	73.30	16	19	-3	-1	TOTALS		3368	3356	+12	+6
Kemmerer	86.00	26	25	+1	0						

District Updates

By DG Stuart Palmer

- **Matching Grants cut short** - The Rotary Foundation has not been immune from the recent economic fallout. Due to unrealized losses, the funding for this year's matching grant program was cut short and a few of our club sponsored projects that were still in the pipeline have been eliminated. This simply means the project can be resubmitted after the new Rotary year begins in July, but new club and district committee signatures will be required before submission.

- We have one open slot for a Female Senior Counselor at the **Young Rotary Youth Leadership Award (YRYLA) camp** this summer. **What is Young RYLA?** YRYLA is a leadership training program sponsored by Rotary Districts 5450 and 5440 that promotes, encourages and rewards outstanding young people that are going into 8th grade. SC Training (Required) July 12th (Fort Collins, CO) YRYLA Camp is - July 25th – 31st near Castle Rock, CO, south of Denver. Contact YRYLA Chairman Dave Boon, at dyboon@comcast.net or (970) 484-7031 if interested in helping with this great Rotary program.

- **Membership:** Does your club have an active membership chair? Are new member forms available at each meeting? Is your club's membership committee pro-active and meeting regularly?

- **District Newsletter** - Is your club providing this newsletter at your meetings with copies on the tables for your review so you will be up to date on current Rotary events?

The Rotary Club of Greeley Centennial Helps Man Fight Poverty in Peru

By Roseann Guyette, Club President

If you give someone a cookie, they'll ask for a glass of milk. The Rev. Philip Devlin will not hand you a cookie. Instead he will give you dough, point you to an oven known as "The Beast" and expect you to buy your own milk.

Members of Greeley's Centennial Rotary Club have spent the past four years helping to fund the Fe y Alegria No. 25 School in Lima, Peru. The school's vocational program was developed and implemented by Devlin, with help from the group from Greeley Centennial and the Rotary Club of Brena in Peru.

Devlin's nephew Bernie Blach, a Centennial Rotary club member, introduced his fellow Rotarians to his uncle's project in 2006. It sparked a relationship that would prosper on two continents for many years to come. Blach died last May of amyotrophic lateral sclerosis, also known as Lou Gehrig's disease.

Devlin recently visited Greeley and attended a Centennial Rotary club meeting in Greeley, to commemorate his work and the memory of Blach. The project was coordinated via the Internet to create the \$10,000 grant to help fund the bakery. Devlin rode his bike through the busy streets of Lima just to get to a computer.

Devlin, who has spent almost 40 years in Peru, became the director of Fe y Alegria's vocational program in 1992 after becoming frustrated when he repeatedly saw the children from the school standing on street corners, lacking vocational skills needed for employment. The program Devlin designed requires all students to complete at least one vocational class. A bakery was the first program to be offered.

"If you can bake, you can always find a job," Devlin said.

This belief outlines Devlin's foundation for the program — learning applicable skills to get kids off street corners and out of poverty. With the Greeley club's effort, what began as one bakery has expanded into 15 different vocational programs, including computer skills, sewing, auto mechanics and silk screening. Nearly 2,000 students are learning skills that will help them create a stable income.

"Now I never see kids on the street," Devlin said.

Devlin will take a robotics kit back with him when he returns to the school. He said he continues to study what skills are needed for the time and what skills will always apply.

Whether students find a place in the computer lab or the bakery, Devlin said, basic skills and effort can always create a cycle of change.



2008-2009 Rotary Simplified Grants as of 3/2/09

Submitting Club/ Contact	City/ Country	Project Description	Amount Requested	Running Bal- ance \$25,704	Date Approved	Comments
Ft. Collins Breakfast	Larimer County	School Supplies for low income youth	\$2,000	\$23,704	8/21/09	
Ft. Collins Breakfast	Ft. Collins area	Portable Dental Chair	\$2,000	\$23,704	Declined	Requested \$2,000 –Club has already one DSG this year
Estes Park	Kenya	Manual irrigation pump	\$2,000	\$23,704	Declined	Requested \$2,000-felt a pass through
Laramie Sunrise	Saratov, Russia	Translation of books & notes into Russian for teaching purposes	\$1,500	\$22,204	9/15/08	
Ft. Collins After Work	Umuahia, Africa	Shipping container rental for medical equipment	\$2,000	\$20,204	10/3/08	
Scottsbluff/Gering	Cordoba, Veracruz,	Equipment to aid the blind	\$2,000	\$20,204	Declined	Inappropriate for DSG
Ft. Collins	Larimer County	Literacy Support Tools	\$2,000	\$18,204	12/26/08	
Jackson Hole Breakfast	Jackson Hole	Spanish Language School Books	\$1,000	\$17,204	12/26/08	
Transfer of \$12,000 from DSG to Match- ing Grants			\$12,000	\$5,204	1/22/09	
Ft Collins Breakfast	Larimer	Dental chair unit	\$2,000	\$3,204	2/2/09	
Teton Valley	Teton Val- ley Area	Food supplies for Food Bank	\$2,000	\$1,204	2/5/09	
Ft. Collins Breakfast	Ashapaco, El Salvador	School Supplies	\$1,204	0	3/2/09	

District Designated Funds (DDF)

District Designated Funds (DDF) are the monies that Rotary International sends to our District in a three year cycle, therefore, the funds being used this Rotary year to fund our Ambassadorial Scholar, District Simplified Grants, Matching Grants, etc. is 50% of what our clubs donated to the Annual Programs fund of The Rotary Foundation in 2005-06.

For information on how our District has used this year's DDF, visit www.rotary5440.org.

DISTRICT CALENDAR

March - Literacy Month

31 - RI Presidential Citation and District Governor Citation forms due to DG

April - Magazine Month

TBD—District Training Seminars

3 - Ambassadorial Scholarship, Rotary Grants for University Teachers and Rotary World Peace Scholarship Application Deadline

25 - Ambassadorial Scholarship, Rotary Grants for University Teachers and Rotary World Peace Scholarship Interviews in Greeley/Fort Collins area.

30-May 2 - District Conference, Jackson, WY

May - District Convention Month

1 - Memo of club visits due from Assistant Governors

2 - Estes Park Rotary Club 21st Annual Duck Race - Ducks drop at 1:00 pm

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.

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

We're on the web
www.rotary5440.org

2009 PETS Huge Success

by DGE Dave Scriven

The 2009 PETS was a huge success with a highlight being our Saturday night speaker, President Elect John Kenny. He lit up the hall and gave a very inspiring talk with the focus being this years theme, The Future of Rotary is in Your Hands. The lineup of speakers for this years PETS was outstanding. Our Friday speaker was Steve Wilcox who invented the club visioning concept which D5440 is about to embark. He also spent time in our District Breakout and the PEs were excited to get back to their clubs to introduce the concept and start the facilitations.

We rolled out our plans for 2009 to take the End Polio Now campaign to the communities. We have set a date of Oct 24th, the end of National Polio Awareness Week to have a District wide blitz having every club in the District do a community fund raiser. The program has spread to all five Districts at PETS and we are working to take it all the Districts in our two Zones. Start thinking about what you can do in your communities.



**Be a part of history and celebrate
the 100th Rotary convention, which
will take place in Birmingham, the
heart of England!**

**Information available at this link just copy
and paste into your browser:**

**[http://www.rotary.org/en/Members/Events/
Convention/Pages/ridefault.aspx?housead](http://www.rotary.org/en/Members/Events/Convention/Pages/ridefault.aspx?housead)**