



The Peak

Rotary International
District 5440, Inc.



Chimney Rock National Historic Site, NE

District Governor's Message

By DG Mary McCambridge

In traveling through much of Wyoming during the past month, I have learned much about our district's local and international involvement. Some of our smallest clubs are amazing as they reach out to



DG Mary presented the RI Theme flag to Patty McDonald, President of Jackson Hole Supper RC.

other countries, such as Star Valley in Thayne, Wyoming. Did you know that for the past five years the Star Valley Club has a project in Mongolia which helps supply and educate Mongolian neonatal hospitals? This year they want to supply baby sized resuscitation dolls to educate hospital staff. In Jackson Hole, the Breakfast Club helps with a sled dog race that raises money for local events. AND in Douglas, WY as we speak, all the Douglas Rotarians are at the Wyoming State Fair, slinging

burgers, coloring "Pinkies Purple" and earning money for their scholarship programs, Christmas events and Boys and Girls clubs in Douglas. This is the 30th annual event they have participated in at the state fair. Way to go Rotarians.

Yes, our Rotarians are quite busy "doing good in the world", although I must admit, in visiting the Lander Rotary Club recently, I found that our up-standing Rotarians and a certain past president (by the name of Kirk) were involved in a heist – yes, it is true, they borrowed a certain Rotary Bell belonging to a neighboring town (Riverton) and took it on a trip to several scenic places ~ hope-



DG Mary presenting the RI Theme flag to Elisabeth Trefonas, President of the Jackson Hole Breakfast RC.



DGN Mike flew DG Mary to the Evanston & Kemmerer club visits.

fully in a very short time, that bell will be recovered and returned to its rightful place on the podium in the Riverton club. I hope I am there to witness it on August 16th! What fun – our travels have been so enriched by meeting you all.

The fact is that our District 5440 clubs are vibrant, fun and doing an amazing amount of good work for their communities and also for the international scene. Our world is better because of the work you are all doing! I thank you for the generosity of all the "dollars" collected for our district literacy project – dollars that will benefit your clubs and your programs. Thank you for the red carpet you have all rolled out to Jim and to me! I am proud to be District Governor of such an amazing group of people! Keep up the great work!

Yours in Rotary service,
DG Mary

Volume 1, Issue 2

August, 2011
Literacy Month

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Estes Park in 9th Year of Literacy Program by P Tom Anderson, Estes Park RC



Kids at the library.

The Rotary Club of Estes Park is now in its ninth year of a literacy program, a continuing effort that includes financial and club member support of reading improvement, language and comprehension skills development, and special seasonal interest-generating activities. Under the leadership of Club Literacy Chair Harry Hutcherson these ongoing efforts are directed towards and through the Estes Park primary and intermediate school levels plus the highly popular programs organized and presented by the Estes Valley Library.

Last year, the Library's Summer Reading Camp generated a total of 2,737 reading hours by 270 kindergarteners through 6th graders, and 245 books read by an additional fifty 8th grade students. In previous years Estes Park Rotarians have volunteered as reading "listeners" at the local grade and high schools, as tour supervisors for various school and library programs, and with enthusiastic support of the Club's now-traditional annual financial support of the Estes Valley Library's Summer Reading Camp.

As community awareness and interest grow, our literacy program also continues to mature with plans for the future: We are now looking for positive ways to contribute in the coming year with our support for an Adult Reading Program to be developed and implemented in cooperation with the staff of the Estes Valley Public Library.

For more information contact: H. L. Hutcherson, 970-586-2103 or hleehutch@q.com

Reducing Crime by Increasing Literacy: A New Jail Library by P Elisabeth Trefonas, Jackson Hole Breakfast RC



The Jackson Hole Rotary Club, Breakfast, with the help of a generous District Grant, donated a new Library to the Teton County Jail in Jackson, Wyoming, this month. There are approximately 20 to 30 inmates in custody in the Teton County jail at any given time, serving sentences of confinement from 1 day to 1 year. It was recently learned that the Jail's Library had books donated over a decade ago, with most missing pages and severely outdated. With the input of various mental

health providers, officers of the Department of Probation and Parole, Drug Court coordinators, the Sheriff, and many Rotarians, a book list including, self-help with an emphasis on addictive behaviors, fiction, the classics, nutrition, health, trades, language studies, religion, and education were donated to revitalize the Jail Library. In fact, over 190 books were donated in English and Spanish. This Jail Library now provides inmates a resource to develop and grow, positively

cope with their incarceration in a productive manner, and provides jail supervisors with a positive incentive tool to reward good behavior. As our literacy and education rates improve, jobs become more attainable, and there is a decrease in crime in our neighborhoods as a result. So, should you be incarcerated in Teton County, Wyoming, we hope you make good use of your time and read! And, please, consider donating books to your local jail.

Reveille Rotary Club in Casper soon to be our 53rd club!



Jackson Hole Supper Club puts Premium on Literacy

by PP Scott Daily, Jackson Hole Supper RC

Since its inception on Feb. 23, 2005, the Jackson Hole Rotary Supper Club (known as the "Centennial Club") has proudly supported a number of local and international literacy programs. As one example, the club annually presents every third grader in Teton County with a third-grade dictionary. "The kids love trying to pronounce the long-

est word in the English language, which is printed on the last page of the dictionary and is 1909 letters long," says project chairman Francis Warziniack. The club also makes a donation on behalf of each of their weekly program speakers to the Teton Literacy Center, which provides literacy tutoring to local children, youth, and adults. Perhaps

most impressively, the club worked closely for two years with local Interact students to help them achieve their dream of trekking to the mountain village of Thame, Nepal to establish that community's first children's library.



Third graders in Moran, WY, proudly display their new dictionaries, presented by the Jackson Hole Rotary Supper Club

Andy and Elmer come to Teton Valley, ID!

by P Isabel Waddell, Teton Valley RC

The Rotary Club of Teton Valley, with a matching District 5440 grant, brought some fun and ethical behavior lessons to our local children this spring. We visited schools and taught the lesson of the 4-Way Test of the Things we Think, Say, or Do by presenting [Andy & Elmer's Apple Dumpling Adventure](#).

This book, and the accompanying lesson plans and coloring books presents the 4-Way test in a story

about a young man who has an idea to start a business. It is tailored to young kids, but is enjoyed by all of those who read it.

We chose this project because we have been having community issues with teen suicide and we have a number of poor children in the valley. Our club thought, "How can we contribute to eliminating bullying and giving something to youngsters who could who could use a great book to

read during the summer?" Each of our graduating second graders were read to and given their very own copy of the book. Also, we gave out coloring books at our local nonprofit fair.

For the teens, we initiated our first 4-Way test essay contest. we still have quite a bit to learn about administering the contest, so please don't hesitate to contact our club. We would love to hear your ideas!



Torrington RC is hot on Literacy!

By PP Dee Ludwig, Torrington RC

Susan Klemola and Dee Ludwig are the enthusiastic literacy co-chairs for the **Torrington Rotary Club** which is involved with a number of ongoing literacy projects in the community. **Books for Babies** presents packets of children's books and reading tips for parents to all babies born at Community Hospital. The **1st Birthday Book** is

mailed to all children whose parents fill out a slip including name and address from the Books for Babies' packets. The **3rd Grade Dictionary Project** is a highlight of the year for Torrington Rotarians who deliver dictionaries to about 250 Goshen County and Platte County 3rd graders each fall. The Club supports **GED scholarships** for testing fees

to needy students testing at Eastern Wyoming College. Torrington Rotary Club has led a **book drive** for the Wyoming Medium Correctional Institution (WMCI) and has collected more than 2000 used books from throughout the community to donate to their library.





A successful first RYLA for D5970

At the end of his term as District Governor for D5440, Stuart Palmer had a few ideas up his sleeve. One of those was to help District 5970 create a RYLA experience just as amazing as our Rocky Mountain RYLA. With the help of excess funds earned by his District Conference, District 5440 donated \$500 to D5970 so that their newly appointed RYLA chair could attend our Rocky Mountain RYLA for observation. PDG Stuart Palmer recently received this email:

PDG Stuart,

You and your whole staff of rmRYLA did it. You are an example of Rotarians helping Rotarians. I just returned from one of the most rewarding Rotary experiences of my life time. The first

week long 5970 RYLA is in the "history books." My comments will not and can not do justice to the comments, expressions of gratitude, accolades, etc. etc. I heard from the 37 RYLA conference young men & women who just today completed their week. You will undoubtedly hear more from Dave and his team. But know it was you and your generosity of sharing and giving that "sparked" Dave and his team to plan, and execute our week long RYLA. We now have 37 ambassadors, recruiters and our own cadre of future "junior counselors," and I might add future Rotarians, (Interact, Rotaract, YE, and eventually community leaders who will become Rotarians). It was masterfully planned and delivered. Ro-

tary's "public image" among these young people and their parents has been raised to levels yet to be determined. I am already getting comments back from individuals (parents, Rotary leaders) who came to the conference center to pick up the students. They could not "stop talking" all the way home. We are indebted to you and all from rmRYLA who so unselfishly shared and contributed. Thanks again. In a few years it will be our turn to serve as mentors.

Roger

Thank you to PDG Stuart Palmer for thinking outside the box and helping make an amazing event come true for young people in another District.

D5440—A Helping Hand to Japan

D5440 accepted donations from clubs and members throughout our District to help the victims of the Japan Tsunami. We were able to send \$8,900 to Soma Rotary Club and PDG Bryan Cooke recently received this email:

Dear Bryan Cooke,

We have received your money . We appreciate your kind supports for the East-Japan disaster on March 11th. It happened suddenly and caused havoc over the sea side area in our town after 40 minutes the strong earthquake we haven't experienced. As the news has been reporting, we had the accident of the Fukushima nuclear power plants, which was so serious. And it is still going. Although we have had this situation, we are working on recovering, especially for the schools in our area. Again, thank you so much for your donation. We will send the photos.

Sincerely yours,

Past Assistant Governor
Yoshiyuki Imamura
(Soma Rotary Club)

Club Name	Not Rep'd	July 2010	June 2011	Gain/Loss June	YTD Gain/Loss	June Attendance %
Buffalo		31	31	0	0	56.00%
Casper		181	182	0	1	45.20%
Casper-Five Trails		60	52	-1	-8	50.57%
Cheyenne		205	213	2	8	61.00%
Cheyenne Sunrise		34	36	0	2	67.14%
Cody		81	82	4	1	52.00%
Craig (Moffat County)		21	21	0	0	75.00%
Douglas	NR	33	33	0	0	0.00%
Estes Park		133	118	-6	-15	83.20%
Estes Park-Longs Peak		30	30	1	0	100.00%
Estes Valley Sunrise		64	69	0	5	73.55%
Evanston		46	47	0	1	70.00%
Fort Collins		187	163	-3	-24	67.00%
Fort Collins (Foothills)		105	108	-2	3	59.00%
Fort Collins After Work	NR	20	20	0	0	0.00%
Fort Collins Breakfast		76	79	0	3	77.69%
Gillette		67	63	0	-4	40.08%
Gillette Energy Rotary	NR	52	52	0	0	0.00%
Greeley	NR	147	147	0	0	0.00%
Greeley Centennial		104	106	-1	2	70.04%
Greeley Redeye		32	30	1	-2	70.00%
Greeley-After Hours		19	20	0	1	90.00%
High Plains-Eaton		29	18	0	-11	78.02%
Jackson Hole		198	198	4	0	43.20%
Jackson Hole Supper	NR	38	38	0	0	0.00%
Jackson-Breakfast		14	14	0	0	59.00%
Johnstown-Milliken		20	27	2	7	81.54%
Kemmerer		24	26	0	2	62.00%
Lander		66	70	1	4	48.00%
Laramie		102	101	1	-1	50.00%
Laramie Sunrise		28	26	0	-2	66.00%
Loveland		167	160	-1	-7	71.38%
Loveland Mountain View		43	35	1	-8	67.05%
Morrill	NR	20	20	0	0	0.00%
Powell		32	22	0	-10	73.00%
Ranchester-Dayton		23	25	0	2	72.00%
Rawlins		32	27	0	-5	40.48%
Riverton		57	47	-4	-10	41.29%
Rock Springs	NR	27	27	0	0	0.00%
Scottsbluff/Gering		112	107	-4	-5	56.12%
Sedgwick County		27	30	0	3	65.00%
Sheridan		126	129	2	3	43.11%
Ski Town-USA		27	28	-1	1	82.42%
Star Valley	NR	18	18	0	0	0.00%
Steamboat Springs		85	83	-1	-2	87.50%
Sterling		37	36	-1	-1	46.70%
Teton Valley		41	27	-2	-14	57.05%
Thermopolis		31	30	-1	-1	58.00%
Thompson Valley, Loveland		33	35	0	2	64.00%
Torrington		65	66	0	1	59.09%
Windsor		32	33	1	1	59.00%
Worland		39	35	-1	-4	47.00%
Totals		3321	3240	-9	-81	



Celebrating 15 Years

by Robin Mundell, Casper RC

The Sue Jorgensen Library Foundation was established in 1996 following Sue's tragic death. At the time of her death, Dr. Jorgensen was the director of the University of Wyoming/Casper College elementary education degree program. The foundation was created to benefit libraries, advance the cause of childhood literacy in Wyoming and to remember Sue's passion for small children and literacy.

Six quality hardback books were selected by a steering committee. Sets of the books were distributed to each first grade classroom in the school district and students were allowed to select a book of their choice. Orders were compiled and placed through a local bookstore. In June the first graders in Natrona County gathered on the campus of Casper College for the first "Casper Cares, Casper Reads" festival and received their own personalized hardback book they selected months earlier.

"Wyoming Reads" began as a Natrona County celebra-

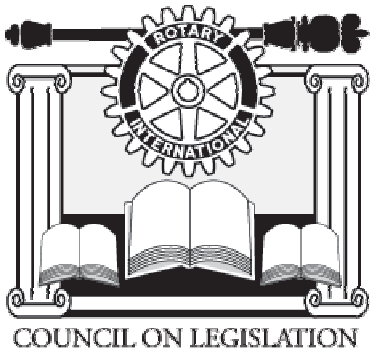
tion and is now celebrated statewide in Wyoming's 35 school districts. All first graders participate in governor mandated "Wyoming Literacy Day". Students receive their own public library card, if they don't already have one, as well as the hardback book and other gifts. In 2011, 7,500+ hardback books were purchased through the Wyoming State Library and distributed with the help of 1,500+ volunteers. The cornerstone of each celebration is the telling of the *Fairy Tale of the Good Queen Sue*. First graders, of the Magical Kingdom of Books, save the kingdom and, in the process, their magic spell teaches the Evil Grinch to read!!

Over the years the concept has spread far and wide. Rotary Clubs in Klamath Falls, Springfield, Sisters and Lebanon, Oregon as well as Eden Prairie, Minnesota hold similar events and a celebration is being planned for Longview, Washington for the spring of 2012. John Jorgensen has been blessed to attend each of

these events annually and share The Good Queen Sue with a new group of first graders. A total of 78,000 first graders nationwide have received their very own hardback books since the inception of the program. The Casper Rotary Club has been a long-time financial sponsor of the local celebration and many Rotarians serve on the Steering Committee.

The foundation has received many awards over the years, most recently the Senator Craig Thomas Distinguished Leadership Award for 2010-2011. Other notable recognition has come in the form of the McMurry Foundation Community Service Award, the Newell B. Sargent Spirit of Philanthropy Award, the Wyoming Education Association's Friend of Education Award and the Wyoming School Board Association's Golden Bell Award.

For more information go to www.natronacountylibrary.org and click on Our Community and then Library Partners.



Rotary Clubs Can Effect Change

by RC/PDG Lynne Baker, Fort Collins RC



Does your club have a suggestion on how RI can more efficiently and effectively conduct business?

Does your club question why clubs are required to do what they are required to do? Does your club wish to make changes to the constitutional documents of RI? NOW IS THE TIME.

The Council On Legislation (COL) meets every three years and is scheduled to convene in the spring of 2013 in Chicago. The COL is the legislative body of RI which has the authority to amend the constitutional documents of RI which include the bylaws, constitution and the standard Rotary club constitution. Every district in the world

elects a representative and I am honored to represent every club in District 5440 at the upcoming COL.

But spring of 2013 is a long way off so why should clubs think about this now? RI must receive proposed legislation no later than December 31, 2011. RI receives hundreds of proposals from around the world and processes each one for content, similarity to other proposals, and if they are presented in the appropriate format. The final proposals are then presented to the representatives to COL in the fall of 2012 for review and study before the official meeting in 2013. At the 2010 COL we reviewed and took action upon 219 proposals during a five day period. Timing is critical.

Yes, there is a process to be followed which you can review in the RI Manual of Procedure. Briefly, when a Rotary club

proposes legislation the matter must be presented to the membership by the Board of Directors for adoption. If adopted, the proposed legislation is then sent to the District Governor who in turn submits it to all the clubs in D5440 to receive district endorsement. A ballot-by-mail would be conducted and if the proposal is endorsed by the district then the DG submits the certification form to the general secretary.

I am available to assist you in working through this process and answering or finding the answers to your questions. Not all districts submit legislative proposals but if there is a concern that your club thinks should be addressed let's discuss your options. Please contact me by email: ymbaker@netzero.net or phone 970-593-9134.

Mary's Visits



Dennis Oden, Kemmerer Club President with DG Mary



Evanston Rotarians with DG Mary



DG Mary presented the Lander Rotary Club with a certificate celebrating their 75th anniversary.

Photo courtesy of AG Manny Muniz, Lander RC.



**Service
Above
Self**

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Books for Kids

by Katie Turner, High Plains-Eaton RC

Owning a book of your own is such a special privilege! Most of us don't realize how many young people don't have books of their own. Realizing this fact, the High Plains Rotary Club of Eaton decided we wanted to get more books in the hands of some young beginning readers, so we started a "Books for Kids" project.

This project was initiated at the three elementary schools in our club's area. The club decided to purchase enough books so that each 2nd grader at Eaton, Galeton and Highland Elementary schools would receive a new book of their own.

After discussing the program with the teachers, each of the schools decided to let each student order their own book up to \$3 from the classroom book club. The books were purchased through each classroom's book club so the classroom could earn points to order more books in the future.

After the books arrived each was labeled acknowledging that the book was donated by the High Plains Rotary Club. A time was set up with the teachers involved so a member of the club could go to each classroom to explain a little about Rotary, talk about this book program, read a

little from some of the new books, and then present each student with their book. What a fun time that was.

The students and teachers were very appreciative of the "Books for Kids" Project. We also had some positive feedback from parents about the program. Our club received wonderful thank you letters from the book recipients-some kids even thought we were "Super Cool". This was an enjoyable worthwhile project.

In 2011 High Plains donated books to 216 students.



As a guest speaker at the Star Valley RC, DG Mary signs a book to be donated to their local library.

Dictionaries for 3rd Graders

by P Heidi Roberts, Star Valley RC

The Star Valley Rotary Club has purchased and delivered dictionaries to every 3rd grade student in Star Valley and Cokeville, approximately 70 miles to the south, over the past several years. Club members deliver the books to the classrooms and hand them out to the kids, they are so happy when they realize that the dictionaries are theirs to

keep forever!

In addition to the dictionary project, as an alternative to a coffee mug or a pen as a gift to our guest speakers, we have purchased high quality children's literature to be donated to the local branch library in the name of the speaker. We select a book from our collection and have the guest sign the donors plate in the

front of the book. Each speaker has been very pleased with this idea and eager to attach their name to a fine book and program. After the meeting a club member delivers the book to the local library.