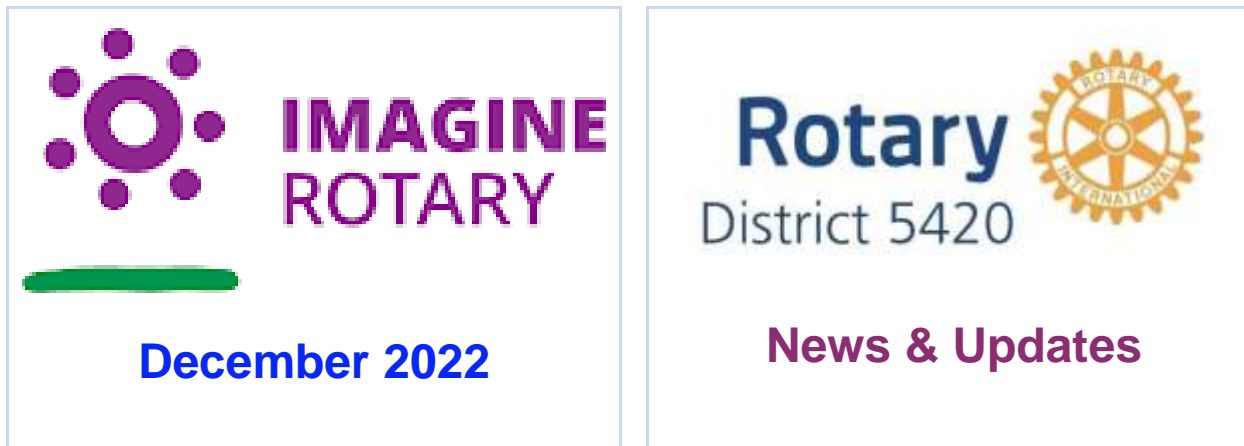


From: Jose Velasco - Utah Rotary District Governor <josevelasco5420@gmail.com@ccsend.com>

Sent: Thursday, December 1, 2022 6:25 AM

To: Baktybek Abdrisaev <ABDRISBA@uvu.edu>

Subject: December Utah Rotary Newsletter



Always check events & resources on utahrotary.org

**The Most Moving Lesson
Taught by Our Students on Thanksgiving**

Mrs. Klein asked her first graders to draw a picture of something for which they were thankful, wondering what little children, who lived in a deteriorating neighborhood, actually had to be thankful for.

She knew most of the class would draw pictures of turkeys or bountifully laden Thanksgiving tables.

What took Mrs. Klein aback was Douglas's picture ... the same Douglas who was likely to be found close in her shadow outside during every recess period. Douglas's drawing was a hand, obviously, but whose hand?

The class was captivated by his image. "I think it must be the hand of God who brings us food," said one student.

"It looks more like a policeman who protects us." "I think," said Lavinia, who was always so serious, "it is supposed to be all the hands which help us, but Douglas could only draw one of them."

Mrs. Klein had almost forgotten Douglas in her pleasure at finding the class so responsive. When she had the others at work on another project, she bent over his desk and asked whose hand it was.

Douglas mumbled, "It's yours, Teacher."

Then Mrs. Klein recalled she had taken Douglas by the hand from time-to-time; she often did that with the children, but that it should have meant so much to Douglas ...

Perhaps, she reflected, this was her Thanksgiving, and everybody's Thanksgiving—not the material things given to us, but the small ways we give something to others.

Published by the Mequon-Thiensville Sunrise Rotary Club, Wisconsin. (November 2018)

"Never underestimate the benefit of every service we provide
in making a difference in someone's life!"

Jose Velasco
Utah Rotary District Governor 2022-2023
josevelasco5420@gmail.com



700 Gather at the Zone Institute \$5 Million Donated to PolioPlus

More than 700 Rotarians from 30 districts in the Western United States and Canada gathered in Salt Lake City for the Big West Zone 26/27 Institute on the second weekend of November. It was the largest gathering of Rotarians and Rotaractors since the Rotary International Convention in 2007 ... and both of these amazing events were hosted by Utah Rotary District 5420.



Highlights of our three days together at the beautiful Hyatt Regency Hotel:

- D5420 Peace Committee's promotion of the 3ClickstoPeace.org website in a central location in the House of Friendship
- Two presentations on Peace: One by Brian Farr (RC of Bountiful) and a workshop by Positive Peace Activator Stephanie Velasco (RC of Midvalley). Stephanie has now been invited by districts in Colorado and Arizona to bring this workshop to their clubs.
- Scott Rosenbush (RC of Salt Lake) presentation on the Refugee Assistance Project.

Our district also hosted a service project facilitated by Midvalley Rotaract for DGE partners on behalf of a Native American reservation in Southern Utah and also hosted a very successful Pints for Polio fundraiser.

Certainly the highpoint of our Zone Institute came on Friday night when Rotary International General Secretary John Hewko spoke about the work of Rotary, then invited Sharon Eubank, Director of LDS Charities (the charitable arm of the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints) to the stage. She announced a gift of \$5 million to RI's PolioPlus campaign. As all Rotarians know, this gift will be matched two-to-one by the Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation to a total of \$15 million. [Click here](#) to see the moment of the gift announcement at Rotary Zone Institute 2022.

The Big West Zone Institute was unquestionably a great learning experience and a great opportunity for Rotarians, Governors, Past District Governors, and future governors to learn and socialize together.

Congratulations to District Governor-elect John Redd who completed his training and graduated from education week in preparation for his Governor year in RY2023-2024.

Thank you to Zones 26/27 Director Vicky Puliz for her leadership and enthusiasm for Rotary and bringing Rotary International President Elect 2023-2024 Gordon McNally to Salt Lake City.

And finally, thank you to those who volunteered on the sergeant-at-arms team and who volunteered at this Zone Institute in any way.

Jose Velasco
Utah Rotary District Governor 2022-2023
josevelasco5420@gmail.com

Two Global Grants Need Your Commitment

Governor Jose and the District Foundation Committee encourage every club in the district to participate in Rotary Foundation Global Grant projects. Thousands of dollars are needed. Even a few hundred dollars are appreciated. You can be personally engaged in international service and learn a lot! And remember your donation is matched. Questions? Jerry Summerhays, District International Service Chair, SummerhaysGS@gmail.com.



Peace Global Grant in Northern Colombia

Help us train students and teachers in 19 communities in Colombia to create more peaceful interactions and to resolve conflict in healthy ways. This will spread peace throughout Northern Colombia.

Do you want a club presentation? Ask me for a one-page information flyer. Email me: Kris Swanson, D-5420 Peace Committee Chair.

First Neuro-Rehabilitation Curriculum In North Africa

Sixty per cent of MAIR Clinic patients are kids suffering from cerebral palsy. Other conditions include spinal cord injuries, traumatic brain injuries, stroke, brain and spine tumors, and multiple sclerosis. Please contribute to this global grant to develop a Neuro-Rehabilitation Curriculum and train Moroccan and North African therapists. When can I do a presentation to your club or board Contact me, **Dr. Mo Sbai**,



District's Trails to Peace Display a Success

Thanks to 31 Utah Rotarians for volunteering at the **Utah Rotary Peace Display** at the recent Zone Institute. They helped visiting Rotarians from 30 Western US districts attach their 150 "Pieces of Peace" to the display.

The six-sided display was successful because the theme of this Institute training future Rotary leaders was "Trails to Peace." The Institute's goal: "Everyone leave on Sunday being inspired to take some form of action towards peace."

Thanks to Utah Peace Scholar Brian Farr for creating this Peace Display and authoring www.3clickstopace.org, one of our district's significant contributions to peace.

Go to this website and ponder your own "Piece of Peace". Watch for upcoming peace building efforts in our district and get involved.

Jerry Summerhays
Past District Governor

Grow Rotary - Develop or Update Your Club's Membership Plan

Does your club have a plan that identifies specific goals and actions to retain and/or recruit members to increase your club's membership? If you have one, that's great and perhaps all it needs is updating. If you don't have one, please consider developing such a plan. It doesn't have to be complicated and it needn't be more than a page or two at most.

If you're interested in developing or revising a club membership action plan, please contact district membership chair Scott Florence at srf2624@yahoo.com or 435-673-2513 and he will help get you connected with your regional assistant membership chair to assist.

Thanks for all you do to Grow Rotary!

Scott Florence
District Membership Chair



Utah Clubs - Claim your District Grant Now!

A number of clubs have not yet returned their contracts for their District Grants. If you are going to use your grant, be sure all three people on your grant application have signed it and return it to your District Grant Chair.

If you need to change your project, also contact your Chair. Once contracts are received a check will be mailed. Unused money will be redistributed to clubs who have filed Final Reports and whose projects show need for more funding.

This year, we have three Grant Chairs:

Southern Region: **Miriam Keener** DistrictGrantsSouth@utahrotary.org

Blanding, Cedar City, Dixie Sunrise, Hurricane Valley, Moab, Monticello, Richfield, St. George, Washington, Zion Canyon and Veterans Rotary Club

Central Utah Region: **Doug Schmidt** DistrictGrantsCentral@utahrotary.org

Bountiful, Hispano-Latinos, Holladay, Lehi, Midvalley, Millcreek, Murray, Orem, Provo, Salt Lake City, Sandy, South Jordan, South Valley, Spanish Fork, Springville, Sugar House, Utah Rotary E-Club, Valley West and West Jordan

Northern Region: **Randy Jensen** DistrictGrantsNorth@utahrotary.org

Brigham City, Cache Valley Morning, Logan, Ogden, Park City, Park City Sunrise, Park City Twilight, Roosevelt, Tooele Valley, Farmington, Centerville-Farmington, Kaysville, Layton, Heber Valley, Mount Ogden





Why I Donate to the Rotary Foundation

This picture of Jose Luis was taken in Chan Ka, Mexico, after receiving food from Rotary International during the pandemic. I just love his smile!

For years I looked upon the Rotary Foundation as the source for much needed funds for my pet projects. District Grants, Global Grants and the precious Club money were some of the main reasons I was in Rotary. Talking to Kris Swanson the other day, I had to reevaluate what Rotary means to me.

Kris said she donated to the Rotary Foundation, not for what it could do for her, but what it has done for mankind. Millions have been saved from the debilitating disease of polio, not to mention the infrastructure Rotary has created to combat dozens of other diseases. In the last year Rotary has provided \$83 million to help provide better health and combat diseases.

The youth exchange programs, RYLA, and Rotaract have changed the lives of thousands, bringing them closer to a better understanding of the world and service. Peace scholars are going throughout the world. Educated by Rotary, they provide needed understanding in a troubled world.

I have just scratched the surface of what Rotary does but, now when I donate to Rotary, I reflect on the impact my few dollars have on the world. Join me in celebrating the huge contributions Rotary continues to have throughout the world. **Donate to the Rotary Foundation** with the assurance it will “do good in the world!” It will make you smile!

Bruce Powell
Utah Rotary District Foundation Chair

This Winter - Rotary Service on a Tropical Beach and More



Mexico Friendship Exchange 2023 Registration

This February come experience the flavor of Mexico and the hospitality of Rotarians from the club of Mar del Sol in Puerto Peñasco Sonora, Mexico.

Enjoy the sun, the sea, the food, the music and the warmth of the population in this northern city by the Sea of Cortez, just one hour south of the border.

We have a great history with this place and the Rotary club in Mexico since 2013. While assisting to form a Rotary club, then in turn, they became a great partner for our 2015 District conference and many service

experiences after that.

Cost: \$1,500 per person.

Trip Dates: February 11-17,2023

Registration Link: <https://forms.gle/yhrxnGvMxxpDCypP9>

For a trip brochure that explains all the facts, email [Stephanie Velasco](mailto:Stephanie.Velasco).

Sign Up for Amazon Smile

If you, like many of us, enjoy the simplicity of shopping online, please also give a gift to Rotary by signing up for Amazon Smile, the program where Amazon donates to the charitable organization you designate at no cost to you.

If you don't have Amazon Smile already:

1. You must be on your Amazon account page just as you would to order an item (sign in if you don't go into your Amazon account automatically)
2. Then go to smile.amazon.com, scroll down to "Pick Your Own Charitable Organization"
3. In the window, type in: [The Rotary Foundation of Rotary International](#)
4. There's a bookmark icon at the bottom of the page you can drag and drop to your bookmark bar in your browser so you can click and go to smile.amazon.com easily
5. To support Rotary, always shop at smile.amazon.com

If you have Amazon Smile already & you wish to change to [The Rotary Foundation of Rotary International](#):

- Click on "Change Your Charity" in the upper left of your ordering screen and follow the prompts.





Dec. 15 the Cost Goes Up for the RI Convention

December 15 is right around the corner ... and that date is important to Rotarians around the world because it is the last day to register for the 114th RI Convention on May 27-31, 2023 **before the cost goes up by \$100!**

So, if you're still looking for the perfect gift idea for your favorite someone IMAGINE the excitement on Christmas morning when s(he) unwraps the gift of Melbourne, Australia!

Don't miss this worldwide Rotary event in the "land down under!" Register today at <https://convention.rotary.org> and together we'll "Imagine What's Next" for Rotary.

Register Today!

Submit Your Best Shots

Rotary International's Photography Contest closes Dec. 31. The categories for submission range from People of Action to Judges Spotlight.

Take a look [here](#) at last year's winners to get a taste of the amazing entries from around the world like the People of Action Winner, right, of members of the Rotaract Club of Kampala South, Uganda.

"This photo is all about capturing the moment," the judges wrote. "The photographer had great timing to perfectly frame the sapling in the air between their hands."

Submit your entries at rotary.org/photoawards Find out how by going to this [Rotary Magazine article](#).



The Club Hub

Get ideas, support other clubs! Send your service projects & fundraisers to Newsletter Editor **Lola Beatlebrox** for this monthly section of the newsletter.



How to Raise \$1,200 with Rocks

The **Parowan Interact Club** is a new club at Parowan High School started by the **Cedar City Rotary Club** in October. Straight out of the gate we had so many service opportunities, starting with painting rocks. Our rocks had patriotic themes for a rock garden at the Veterans Park in Cedar City. The rocks were then sold at the Veterans Day celebration to raise money for local veterans services. The event included two other Interact Clubs whose students painted rocks too. We raised \$1,200.00!



Cache Valley Morning Rotary Club works with Centro Familia to support local Hispanic families throughout Cache Valley. For over 16 years club members have reached into their own pockets to ensure that hundreds of children enjoy the thrill of Christmas gifts. But the legacy project goes well beyond Toys for Tots. Centro staff provides a computer printout of detailed information as to age, gender and needs of children from each of their 50



Park City Sunrise Rotary stuffed and donated 50 backpacks for homeless teens at the Volunteers of America teen shelter this holiday season. Rotarians purchased warm hats, gloves and scarves, wet weather ponchos, deodorant, soap and other items to support youth ages 15-22 living on the street for a variety of reasons. Sunrise Rotarians have gotten

families. Purchasing gifts is a family affair for Rotarians as our own children (and grandchildren) take part in the magic of “giving” to those in need. Our members meet to place over 500 wrapped gifts into giant family bags...a process that is total Chaos! Our Spanish speaking Santa then appears at the annual Christmas Dinner to hand out gifts with children on his knee.

to know some of the teens by preparing and serving hot dinners every month at the VOA center, where teens receive shelter, meals, education and housing assistance and employment services. Our club service director negotiated the purchase of 50 backpacks for one dollar each from Walmart so the club was also able to purchase gift cards for the teens.



Members of the **Murray High School Interact Club** chose to decorate a Charlie and the Chocolate Factory tree to donate to the 2022 Festival of Trees, which raises funds for patient care at Primary Children's Hospital. The festival will take place at the Mountain America Exposition Center November 30 – December 3. Rotarians who attend can look for this fun whimsical creation and make a bid to purchase it for your office or home.



The **Ogden Rotary Club** was thrilled to host Addison Redd at one of our recent club meetings. At just 17 years old, Addison is the National High School Rodeo Association Queen for the 2022-23 year. She spoke about the importance of making and keeping commitments and recognizing the good that comes into our lives. She also taught us a lot about giving back! It was a perfect meeting for us as we go into the holidays. We are reassured that our community is in great hands with youth leaders like Addison!



The **Heber Valley Rotary and Wasatch High School Interact Clubs** collected new or gently used coats, gloves, hats and winter boots ranging in sizes for children and adults. Saturday afternoon was spent sorting and distributing hundreds of coats and other warm winter garments at the Community Thanksgiving Dinner Celebration held Saturday, November 19th. This celebration, that is always a huge success, is sponsored by the Wasatch Community Foundation. Many grateful residents of the community appreciated the gift of food and warmth. Thanks to everyone who helped make this coat drive a success. Without your help, this program would not be possible.



Hurricane Valley Rotary supports the Hurricane Valley Food Pantry all year. Families throughout the region are helped greatly by the food pantry's support.

The Rotarians most recently showed up in force at the food pantry November 21 to pack boxes with food and sort through donations to enable speedy packing.

Club members packed more than 100 large boxes of food. In addition to the service to the community, club members benefited from a great team building opportunity.



Layton Rotary is in the midst of their biggest fundraiser of the year. The city sets up beautiful light displays in the park, and Layton Rotary sets up their hut, from which they sell hot cocoa and churros. In the past they ran the hut Monday, Friday, and Saturday nights at the end of November and through most of December. But this year they're going all in, and will be open nightly Mondays through Saturdays.

This event is a huge one for the club's Interact friends too. Each night has at least one Rotary adult and often 2-3 Interact youth helping out.

And! This year, for one week only, they'll sell tickets to ride their train through the lights.

Five Utah Valley University Rotaractors and the past president of the Orem Rotary Club were highlighted in the 2021 Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations Annual Report on Sustainable Mountain Development p.25, for their work in promoting sustainable mountain development in the state of Utah and globally. Among the fourteen member UVU delegation which contributed to this success were delegation members who contributed to the 65th Session of the Commission on the Status of Women in March 2021 and hosted the 12th annual International Mountain Day at UVU in December 2021. For more information, please visit [here](#).



The Rotary Club of Holladay and the **Hispano-Latino Rotary Club of Salt Lake City** recently united to run a children's winter coat drive.

The collection culminated in an event attended by 78 families and provided warm winter coats to 200 boys and girls.



November 2022 found **St George Rotary** busy with "service above self" projects including repairing 50 donated bicycles for Christmas for kids in the tribal community of Halchita; weaving four sleeping mats for homeless men and women in our community using 1200 recycled grocery bags; and, posting our nation's colors on the graves of more than 2000 veterans interred at 3 local cemeteries. Following our service project on the Saturday before Veterans Day, we gathered at the park for a Dutch oven breakfast served up by SGR's board of officers.



Westminster Rotaract raised \$682 with their End Polio Now Fundraiser. The club would like to thank Rachael Palmer for speaking at the End Polio Now Pizza Social. Thank you to everyone that participated.



The **Hispanic Latino Club of Salt Lake City** recently held a very successful celebration of the clubs 15-year Anniversary.

The club thanks to our Governor Jose Velasco and our sponsor, the **Murray Rotary Club**, for their support.



Richfield Rotarians have donated more than \$48,000 to help establish District 5420's endowed Native American scholarship at Snow College. The scholarship has now raised over \$60,000 with \$40,000 placed in a permanent endowment. This fall four \$2000



Orem-Lindon Rotarians and **UVU Rotaractors** delivered 254 coats to children in need at 8 elementary schools in Orem.

This marks the tenth-year of Orem-Lindon Rotarians contributions of efforts and funds to the service project, "Coats for Kids" and the third year to do this jointly with Rotaractors.

scholarships were awarded to Native Americans to attend Snow College at the Richfield or Ephraim campuses. The Richfield Residential Hall (Navajo dormitory) provides free board and room to the N.A. scholarship recipients. Once a month members of the Richfield Rotary Club help assemble food kits for the Backpack Club who distributes about 100 kits each Friday to food-insecurity students to take home for the weekend.

During the 2022 Rotary Zone Institute, UVU Rotaractors volunteered to run the Utah Peace Committee's Display by encouraging Rotarians to contribute "Piece for Peace."

Both projects encouraged UVU students through the Student-Engaged Learning model to serve rural and mountain communities in the state of Utah and worldwide.



Did you enjoy your Thanksgiving meal with all your favorite dishes? **St. George Sunrise Club** in conjunction with Washington Noon Club passed out 650 meals from the Mobile Food Bank to citizens of Washington needing food. Across town in St. George, 44 volunteers gave out 900 meals. Although the meals are healthy and filling, Pres. Dave Nelson hopes that next year we can improve with more donations similar to the turkey or ham that have been distributed in the past. The 69 volunteers helped to make 1550 families Thanksgiving Day better. Isn't that a privilege of being a Rotarian?



Every year the **Bountiful Rotary Club** supports the Evergreen Safe Harbor Christmas Benefit by sponsoring one or two tables.

Our member Jill Allsop works with them heavily and we are so proud of all her efforts!

Safe Harbor Crisis Center provides shelter, supportive services and advocacy to survivors of domestic abuse and sexual assault, as well as education, awareness and resource to our community.



Like all clubs in our District the **Rotary Club of Sandy** is a very service-oriented club. As such, we have been able to add six new members in the past six months. We plan at least one service project each month but quite often have more. Last week (for example) we served a Thanksgiving lunch to senior citizens at the Sandy Senior Center, and then purchased non-perishable foods (pasta, tuna, macaroni and cheese,), and stocked the shelves for the Sandy Boys & Girls Club. Next month, we plan a Sub-for-Santa for needy families, and then “ringing the bell” with the Salvation Army. Also, as part of our annual Christmas party we will have a “silent auction” and use the proceeds 50/50 for the Rotary Foundation and for our Club. We are also involved in several international projects including a clean-water well in Ghana and a literacy project in Colombia.

Save the Dates

December 2022

Dec. 16 Registration for RI Convention in Australia increases to \$575

February 2023

Feb. 10-17 Utah Friendship Exchange to Mexico

March 2023

March 3-5 High Country Presidents-elect Training in Denver

April 2023

April 8 Hurricane Valley Easter Car Show

May 2023

May 4-6 District Conference, Taylorsville

May 27-31 RI Convention in Melbourne, Australia

June 2023

June 24 Foundation Gala dinner

Coming in 2024

Friendship Exchange to Colombia



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Thanks for Making this Newsletter Possible



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District Blog



District Facebook - members only

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