



SEPTEMBER 9

From the President **JOANNE LATIMER**



Dear Rotarians,

Although we didn't have a meeting this week, our Club did a great deed by delivering the backpacks to the children of Desert View Elementary in Sunland Park, NM.

Contributions from our Rotary Club of West El Paso Foundation and generous businessmen, Mr. Sonny Patel and Mr. Andy Patel, made these children's dreams come true by receiving new backpacks and school supplies. Damon Crossland, our Literacy Chairman, and I had the opportunity to see these children's faces light up with

joy when they saw the new backpacks. Some of the backpacks looked a little bigger than the kids. They felt so proud and grateful for our gift. We received hugs, kisses, smiles and words of gratitude and best of all, that warm feeling that you get when you do something for someone less fortunate.

Elva Autry, Russell Autry's wife, is our contact at the school and she knew what needed to be purchased at Wal-Mart, how many kids we could supply and which kids needed the backpacks the most. Elva is an asset to our Backpack Project, and she is also an asset to Desert View Elementary. She was selected as the Class Room Teacher of the Year for 2012-2013.

I would also like to acknowledge, our Rotarian, Gail Gale, for creating a very informative letter which we placed in each backpack. The letter informed the kids of what Rotary is, our 4 Way Test, our motto, "Service Above Self, our sponsors

for this project and our contact information. Maybe we'll get an Interactor out of this or a Rotarian many years into the future.

After seeing how needy these children are, I would like to ask each of our members to reach out to your friends and family for used or new school uniforms. The children wear a navy blue or baby blue or white polo shirt and navy blue pants or blue jeans. Any sizes will do. Bring them to our meetings and Damon and I would be glad to deliver them to the school.

See you on Monday!



Dear Rotarians:

One of my goals as your District Governor this year is to increase our district's support of the Rotary Foundation and hence the amount available to our district for grants and projects in the future. The Foundation, along with dedicated Rotarians around the world, is one of the most effective instruments for lasting change that mankind has. It is committed, effective and efficient.

How can we do this?

One of the ways by which we can increase District 5520 support of the Foundation and our own grant activities is by increasing the number of Paul Harris Society (PHS) members in our district. Currently, about 50 Rotarians in our district are PHS members. I and our District Foundation Committee have set a goal of enrolling one or more new members per club in the Paul Harris Society this year. This is where we ask for your enthusiastic help as club leaders.

What is the Paul Harris Society?

Named after Rotary International's Founder, the Paul Harris Society recognizes those who have pledged to contribute and annually contribute US\$1,000 or more to the Annual Fund, PolioPlus, or an approved Rotary Foundation grant.

Rotary Direct, Rotary's recurring giving program makes it easy to join the Paul Harris Society. I urge your members to consider making gifts of \$85 per month or \$250 per quarter. \$1,000 may seem like a lot of money and it is, but another way to look at it is that by using the monthly recurring gift process, your contribution is about the cost of one tall espresso drink per day. Isn't making the world a better place worth as much as an espresso?

More information about the Paul Harris Society and an enrollment form for your members is at http://www.rotary.org/ridocuments/en_pdf/099en.pdf.

Why is this important to District 5520?

Funds for Foundation activities are distributed worldwide through the *SHARE* system. This system transforms contributions to The Rotary Foundation into [district grants](#), [global grants](#), [packaged grants](#), and more. At the end of each Rotary year, 50 percent of each district's contributions to the Annual Fund -- *SHARE* is credited to their District Designated Fund (DDF). Thus, 50% of Annual or *SHARE* funds contributed by District 5520 Rotarians are returned to our district three years later to fund our district grants.



In other words, the Foundation uses the World Fund to pay for the worldwide programs available to all Rotary districts, regardless of their specific contributions. Districts use their DDF to pay for the Foundation activities they choose to participate in and fund.

Every year, members of our district's Rotary Foundation Committee, in consultation with Rotarians in our district, decide how the DDF will be used, giving every Rotarian a voice in planning for the future.

How you can help.

I ask each of you to offer your members this information and the opportunity to become Paul Harris Society members. I and our District 5520 Foundation Committee would be happy help you in any way we can or to speak to your club about this if there is interest. Feel free to contact me, our Foundation Chair PDG Tom Lindsay (Deming, NM - tnl54th@gmail.com), Carolyn Mitchell (Roswell, NM - csmitchell8@gmail.com), or Yale Jones (Taos, NM - yijonessf@gmail.com).

Thank you for your help and your Rotary Service.
Sincerely,

Kit Turpen, Governor – District 5520

***September is New Generations Month -
Emphasising Rotary's commitment to
youth.***



RYLA is an official activity of Rotary International. The program was first developed in New Zealand and Australia in 1959 to fulfill a need to recognize and develop outstanding young people.

RYLA was later adopted by Rotary International and is now held throughout the world. RYLA programs are held in Asia, India, Africa, Europe, South America and North America

RYLA is Rotary's leadership training program for young people. RYLA participants can be ages 14-30, however our district and clubs choose to focus on Juniors in high school. [RYLA Camp](#) emphasizes leadership, citizenship, and personal growth. It aims to demonstrate Rotary's respect and concern for youth; provide an effective training experience for selected youth and potential leaders; encourage leadership of youth by youth, and recognize publicly young people who are rendering service to their communities. The Rotary Club of West El Paso participates in the District RYLA camp, held at Manzano Mountain Retreat, every July. We have sponsored many future leaders, and provided numerous camp counselors from our membership. Click on [RYLA - District 5520](#) for additional information, including application; items to bring; information for clubs; and map & directions to the camp.

From Rodrigo Sanchez

El Paso Outbound Student to Switzerland

I AM HAVING THE TIME OF MY LIFE!!!!
There are no words to express how I feel. I have been in Switzerland for three weeks and it's going pretty fast! Since the second I saw my host family at the airport, I

felt very welcomed. I have the best host family!

In the weeks that I've been here, I have traveled a lot! I went to Zurich, Brunnen, Basel, Lucerne, and I was even in France to pick up my host sister at the Euro Airport! My host Rotary club meets every Monday at 7pm. I was there the first Monday I was here. I have visited two clubs already and gave my home club flag and District 5520 pins! We had our Inbound Orientation on August 18.

My school has the most Exchange Students, there are 13 this year. I love my school and my classmates. Every morning from 9:30 to noon, all the exchange students and myself have German class and in the afternoon we go to regular class. We all have different classes. We stay with the same class in all of our classes so I like it more because I get to know my classmates better and make friends easier! Every day I take the bus to school and the train back home. All the Rotary exchange students are given a GA, which is a card that allows you to travel ALL around Switzerland by any public transportation method (Bus, Train, Boat & Tramways.) This card is awesome! You can travel anywhere in Switzerland whenever you want! I already went to Zurich and Lucerne with other Exchange Students by train and even got on a boat at the lake.

My counselor, Cornelia is very nice. She has also taken me to a lot of places. She invited me to her house at the lake and we got on her boat and had dinner at the lakeside.

Once a week, Rotary clubs in my area organize a trip for the Exchange students in my school. It's so cool because we don't have to go to school one day a week!



Yesterday we went hiking to the highest point of Zug (the state where I live in) and had dinner with Rotarians. Next week I will go camping with my school

and in September we have a lot of events with Rotary and Rotex!

SEPTEMBER SPEAKERS



Sept. 12—Dee Margo
Board Pres. EPISD



Sept. 23
Jim Murphy
Development Dir.
History Museum



Sept. 30
Bob Moore
El Paso Times

Our Goal—100% Attendance!

“Always dream and shoot higher than you know you can do. Do not bother just to be better than your contemporaries or predecessors. Try to be better than yourself.” — William Faulkner



Service above Self

Rotary Club of West El Paso

P.O. Box 13164 El Paso, TX 79913 Phone: 915-239-3116
westelpasorotary@elp.rr.com