

Rotary District 5450 Interact Newsletter

A Publication of the District 5450
Interact Committee



Volume 1, Issue 2

District Interactors Select International Projects

On November 11th, District Interact Club representatives met in Parker to select a district-wide International project for the 2006-2007 club year. Presentations were made to the group on several potential, very worthwhile projects. It was nearly impossible to select just one project. The assembled Interactors decided to support two projects: Heifer International and a District 5450 matching grant water project in Kenya.

Heifer International is a 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization working to end world hunger by giving cows, goats, and other food- and income-producing livestock to impoverished families around the world. Heifer partners with community groups that form a development plan with specific goals. Partners learn how to care for animals and grow crops in ways that can be sustained for future generations. Heifer provides expertise in animal health, water quality, gender equity, the environment and community development. Heifer International currently provides 27 different kinds of livestock to families in 47 countries, including the United States. Interactors will be raising money to provide specific animals to needy families. The District Interact Committee has established a gift registry at <http://www.heifer.org/myregistry/interact>. Donations can be made by anyone at that registry.

The second project is going to provide water to the village of Gaitune-Inono, north of Nairobi in Kenya. This village has a population of 2,000 with no readily accessible source of water for drinking, feeding livestock and growing crops. Drought conditions exist between the two rainy seasons. Unemployment is high in the area and the people depend on subsistence farming. Women and children travel 5 kilometers to fetch water to drink and keep animals alive during the long periods of drought. Establishing a continuous source of clean water from the river will allow the villagers to grow crops all year rather than only during the April-May rainy season. The Interact Clubs will raise at least \$500 in support of this District project.

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Interact at a glance:

- **Interactors -
247,043**
- **Clubs -
10,741**
- **Countries -
119**

Denver Health Christmas Party

The annual Interact Denver Health Christmas Party will be held on December 16 at the Denver Center for International Studies (formerly Baker Middle School). The guests will be the pediatric patients from this past year at the Denver Health Center, along with their parents. The Interactors will begin setting up at 10:00 am, with the guests arriving around 11:00. Lunch will be served and the party should wind up about 2:00 pm. Santa Claus, courtesy of the Knights of Columbus, will give each child a Christmas present. The several Interact clubs will provide activities for the guests. These normally include decorating stockings, decorating cookies, pin the nose on Rudolph, face painting, Santa's sack (fish pond), and decorating ornaments. The activities vary each year since the individual Interact clubs select their own activities. This has been a wonderful experience in the past. We expect about 100 kids for this party.



The Four Way Test Program at Granby

Since 2000, the Rotary Club of Granby has been working with the Mountain Panther Interact Club at Granby High School to bring the Four Way Test to the eighth grade class at the East Grand Middle School in Granby. This has proven to be a very positive interaction for all concerned.

The Four Way Test is a very valuable tool for teens and young adults to use in many different situations. The Granby Rotary Club has purchased Four Way Test banners to be placed in the Middle School Office and Counseling Office, and Four Way Test posters to be hung in all classrooms. The teachers and administrators try to use the test to help students realize the consequences of their action and how to make good decisions.

Granby Rotary uses a presentation to introduce the Four Way Test and how to use the test as a decision making tool. The presentation is driven by the Interact club and includes small groups consisting of 8 eighth grade students, one Interactor, and one Rotarian. Pertinent questions are presented and the eighth graders create skits and present them to another small group.

If you would like more information about this program and how you might start one of your own, contact Granby Rotarian Rhonda Farrell at (970) 887-2734

THE FOUR-WAY TEST

Of the things we think, say or do: Is it the **TRUTH**?

Is it **FAIR** to all concerned?

Will it build **GOODWILL** and **BETTER FRIENDSHIPS**?

Will it be **BENEFICIAL** to all concerned?

RYLA

RYLA (Rotary Youth Leadership Awards) is a life-changing leadership training program for young men and women where leadership skills and principles are learned, developed and enhanced in an atmosphere of trust and respect. The purpose of RYLA is to encourage and assist current and potential youth leaders in methods of responsible and effective leadership. Rotary clubs in districts [5440](#) and [5450](#) sponsor students to participate in this 5-day leadership conference for 240 participants, held at the [YMCA of the Rockies](#) in Estes Park, Colorado normally in July. These two Rotary districts cover Northern Colorado, Wyoming and Western Nebraska.

Any high school sophomore or junior may apply. Generally, the applicants who are selected have excelled in one or more areas of high school involvement and have potential or proven leadership experience. Applicants **MUST** be able to stay for all 5 days of the conference.

You may apply online at the Rotary District 5450 Website, www.rotary5450.org, under People. When you click on the **Apply** button, your completed application is automatically e-mailed to you. Print the application and get your parent's signature. Then contact your local Rotary Club for more information regarding the selection process and to set up an interview. For more information on Rotary clubs and who to contact, see your school counselor, or contact the District RYLA Committee through the District Website.

Brighton Charter Interact Club Delivers Safe Drinking Water

The outgoing and incoming Presidents of the Brighton Charter Interact Club closed out the school year with an act that will bring safe drinking water to over 30 families and over 230 people in the Dominican Republic. **Haley Mundy** and **Priscilla Padilla** along with teacher advisor **Taimi Clark** met with Denver Tech Center Rotarian **Peter Hughes** on Tuesday, May 30, 2006 to deliver a check for \$750.00. This donation will be matched by the Denver Tech Center Rotary Foundation and be used to purchase 30 Bio-Sand Water Filters. The sand filter removes the solids in the water. Over a short period of time-perhaps two weeks-the sand also develops a desirable biologically active layer in the top two inches. This is a benign film which digests the organic materials and the pathogens of the raw water poured in. With the addition of three drops of chlorine to a five-gallon container of the filtered water, a woman in the poorest barrio in a developing country can make her own water, which meets or exceeds North American municipal drinking water standards.

TJ Interact Club Provides School Supplies to Tanzania

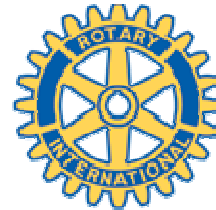
The Thomas Jefferson Interact Club, under the leadership of **Alisa Gandin** and **Jerome Jackson**, collected pens, paper and cash during February, 2006 and presented them to Tanzanian Rotarian **John Ahlenius**, when he visited the DTC Rotary Club in early March. John delivered the school supplies to a local school for students with special needs. The experience was an excellent one for the students, showing how Rotary serves around the world.

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Interact activities at the district level provide opportunities for joint projects between Interact clubs, training of new club officers, sharing ideas for strengthening club service, and promoting Interact extension to new areas. The district Interact committee is dedicated to publicizing the Interact program and promoting the organization of new Interact clubs. The committee offers assistance to clubs by sponsoring Interact district meetings and providing leadership training for Interact club officers and others.

The 2006-2007 District 5450 Interact Committee members are: Bill Fernow, Troy Graham, Ty Melton, Nancy Taoka, and Marion Trummer



SERVICE Above Self



Make your donations to Heifer International at
<http://www.heifer.org/myregistry/interact>

Interact Resources and Information

There are number of sources of information and resources available to district Interact clubs. Here are a few:

Interact Posters and Interact brochures can be obtained from the District Interact Committee Chair. Contact Bill Fernow at wfernow@comcast.net or (303) 805-5039. These are also available online at

<http://www.rotary.org/programs/interact/resources/merchandise.html> along with the Interact Handbook and membership ID cards.

The Interact e-Newsletter is electronically distributed monthly by Rotary International. It is designed to keep you informed of the latest Interact developments world-

wide and provide information and resources to enhance your Interact program. You can subscribe at <http://rotary.org/programs/interact>.

District Interact information is available on the District 5450 website - <http://www.rotary5450.org/>, scroll down under "people".