

C THE COLORS OF ROTARY

DECEMBER 2011

ROTARY DISTRICT 5500



Reach Within to Embrace Humanity

Greetings at the Holidays

Wherever you spend the holiday,
We hope it's spectacular in every way;
And know that no matter what you do,
Our very best wishes will be with you!



Happy Holidays from District 5500

Meet Your Fellow Rotarian

JOHN Beatty has been a Rotarian for 45 years. Originally from Baltimore, Md., John received a degree in chemistry from Clemson University. In 1945, he began a 42 year career with Coca Cola Corporation. He retired in 1987 after working for many years in South America.



JOHN BEATTY

John joined Rotary in 1967 while with Coca Cola in Beckley, W. Va. When he moved to Tucson in 1974, John joined the Saguaro Rotary Club and served as President in 1982-83. John then helped form the Tucson Sunset Rotary Club and served as Charter President in 1983-84. He is still a valued member of Tucson Sunset

and is an Honorary Member of Saguaro.

The best part of Rotary? It is the fellowship and friendship. "Oh my God yes," John says. One of his most memorable and rewarding Rotary experiences was enlisting the support of many Tucson clubs to receive a matching grant to aid a medical clinic in Machada Moderna, Equador, a community he knows well.

A champion of women in Rotary, John sees a bright future for Rotary. "We can do so much good in the world."

One of John's many friends in Rotary is District Governor Michael Drake, whom John sponsored as a Charter Member of Tucson Sunset in 1983.

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SEND ARTICLES TO
TONJA GREENFIELD,
NEWSLETTER EDITOR, AT
TMQ1973@GMAIL.COM

ARTICLES SHOULD BE SENT AS
MICROSOFT WORD ATTACHMENTS.
PHOTOS SHOULD BE SENT AS
JPEG FILES.
DEADLINE FOR SUBMISSION IS
THE 1ST OF EACH MONTH.
PUBLISHED AROUND THE
5TH OF THE MONTH.

Rotarians from around the world participate in El Tour de Tucson

By Gary Hirsch

ON Nov. 19, Rotarian cyclists, friends and family took to the roads in the 29th annual El Tour de Tucson, riding distances of 42, 60, 85 or 111 miles. This was the third year that Rotarians would participate in El Tour. Helped in part by an article and photo by local Rotarian Gary Rumack in Rotarian Magazine, more than 85 cyclists from 27 clubs in 10 states and four countries outside the United States participated in the ride and helped raised funds toward our ambitious goal.

In 2009, thanks to the work of Michael Harris, Rotary's End Polio Now campaign was designated an official El Tour beneficiary, which meant that Rotary could enroll cyclists who would gather pledges that would ultimately go toward Rotary's match of the grant from the Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation. Rotarians would ride so that one day no child anywhere would ever fear polio again.

That year, 27 cyclists raised about \$5,000. In 2010, in an effort headed by Michael Harris of Casas Adobes Rotary, 82 cyclists raised \$35,000. Mike passed away in 2011 and to honor him, our 2011 El Tour ride was designated by District 5500 as the Michael Harris Memorial Ride to End Polio.

For 2011, in an effort chaired by Gary Hirsch of the Rotary Club of Tucson and District Governor Michael Drake, we set an ambitious goal of 100 cyclists raising \$100,000 and 100 percent



Riders at the finish line of El Tour.

participation across District 5500. On Nov. 30, our dream became reality and our fundraising effort passed \$100,000.

For 2011, we added several new activities including a pre-ride dinner hosted by Trisports.com, which drew more than 70 Rotarians and their families, providing an opportunity for fellowship and celebration of our fundraising efforts. For the first time, Rotary staffed a booth at the El Tour finish line providing a place for finishing cyclists to gather and for others to learn about Rotary.

Again this year, Rotarian volunteers staffed the largest aid station on the ride at Tangerine Road and I-10 ensuring that every cyclist was met with a smile, refreshments and a helping hand. Our partner Eegees distributed free desserts, an ever popular addition to our aid station.

Due to our successes, this year saw the Rotary logo added to the official Perimeter Bicycling El Tour de Tucson jersey and Rotary, along with Michael Harris was featured prominently in the Perimeter Journal, which was distributed to more than 8,000 cyclists.



Pre-ride dinner hosted by Trisports.com



Handing out water at our aid station



Two of the GSE team members rode in El Tour while the others helped at the aid station

Top three money raisers for 2011 UMC El Tour de Tucson and 2011 District 5500 Michael Harris Memorial Ride to End Polio Now

By **Linda Schreiber**
SaddleBrooke Rotary

THE Nov. 19, 2011 EL TOUR de TUCSON Michael Harris Memorial Ride to End Polio Now was extremely successful, raising over \$100,000. As the Chairman, Gary Hirsch said in asking for participation and pledges, no matter how you were choosing to participate, "...thanks for your help in making this ride a great success and for helping in the fight to End Polio Now."

The largest pledges were received by riders in the photograph, which was taken by Gary Hirsch.



Pictured left to right: Past District 5500 Governor, Ernie Montagne, who worked with coordinating the Rotary fundraising aspect of the Michael Harris Memorial Ride to End Polio Now; John Davis (Park Ridge, IL) – third place largest fundraiser; Bob McKenzie (Tulsa, OK) - first place largest fundraiser; Ed Treick, SaddleBrooke Rotary (Tucson, AZ) – second largest fundraiser; and District 5500 Governor, Michael Drake.

Beads, Gumbo and Zydeco - Rotary Hosts Mardi Gras Festival

By **Jack Frost**

LAISSEZ les bon temps rouler! "Let the good times roll!" Fort Yuma Rotary will celebrate its 50th birthday in 2012 with an all day Mardi Gras Festival from 10 a.m. – 20 p.m., on Saturday, Feb. 18, on Main Street in historic downtown Yuma.

There will be food, fun, and entertainment for the whole family and this year there will be three stages with live music all day long. Classic New Orleans fare such as gumbo, jambalaya, and baguettes will be served along with the usual southwest favorites. Vendors will have a wide variety of crafts and merchandise for sale, including an assortment of traditional Mardi Gras trinkets. Kiddy rides, jumping castles, and slides will also be available to keep the little ones busy.

Fort Yuma Rotary is a local service club that began hosting a Mardi Gras block party ten years ago as a way to raise funds that go directly back into the community through local college scholarships and donations to such



organizations as Amberly's Place, the Arizona Children's Association, the Humane Society of Yuma, the Yuma Community Food Bank, and many other local non-profit organizations.

Fort Yuma puts the Rotary International motto of, "Service Above Self" to work in our community and around the world through elementary literacy programs, providing food for the hungry, and building fresh water wells in Sierra Leone, Africa. This year they are hosting a back-to-school clothing shopping spree, an "Old is Gold" senior assistance

program, and an ongoing project to improve the recreation facilities at Dateland School.

Mardi Gras means "Fat Tuesday." Traditionally it is the last day for Catholics to indulge before Ash Wednesday starts the sober weeks of the Lenten fasting season leading up to Easter Sunday.

Some scholars believe that Mardi Gras celebrations have their roots in ancient Roman springtime festivals that were eventually incorporated into the new faith. As Catholicism spread across Europe, so did the Mardi Gras celebration. Early French explorers brought the tradition to the New World when settlements were established along the Mississippi River and that is how New Orleans evolved into one of the world's premier Mardi Gras destinations.

So come and join Yuma's version of Mardi Gras:

There'll be beads, music and lots of fun...

It'll be a block party that's second to none!

The food will be plenty and the beer will flow...

We'll let our hair down and revel cause the crawfish won't know!

ROTARY CLUB OF TUCSON SUNSET DISTRIBUTES 1,000 DICTIONARIES

As the holidays approach, members of the Rotary Club of Tucson Sunset are providing 3rd grade students at several local elementary schools, including Henry Elementary School, Legacy Traditional School, and Drachman Elementary Montessori Magnet School, with the gift of dictionaries. The club marks its sixth year of participation, and during that time over 1,000 take-home dictionaries have been distributed by the club to students in support of literacy goals.

With the participation of many area Rotary clubs along with other civic organizations, over 60,000 dictionaries are distributed to third grade students annually in southern Arizona, with millions of dictionaries sponsored for distribution to students nationwide through The Dictionary Project, a nonprofit organization based in Georgia.

The Rotary Club of Tucson Sunset was chartered in 1983 to put into practice the goal of service above self. It is one of 55 Rotary clubs in southern Arizona and more than 33,000 clubs that are a part of Rotary International.

The club's activities range from local volunteer and service projects, such as distributing dictionaries to 3rd graders, school supply drives, holiday gifts for families in need, vocational scholarships, and the Rillito Riverwalk Adopt-a-Park cleanup project, to supporting international projects such as Polio vaccinations and aid to refugee camps.

The club's membership consists of diverse ages, personal backgrounds and professional fields. Club members meet weekly on Tuesdays at 6:00 p.m. for an informative and enjoyable fellowship dinner and guest speaker sharing information about a current topic of interest to the group.

Meetings take place at the centrally located El Parador restaurant, 2744 E. Broadway Blvd., Tucson, AZ 85716. New members and visiting guests welcome. Visit www.tucson.sunsetrotary.org or call (520) 481-3223 for more information.

The Shot Felt 'Round the World

April 22, 2012

A Reception and viewing of "The Shot Felt 'Round the World" a documentary on the development of the Salk Polio Vaccine Guest Dignitaries will be present.

Doubletree Hotel, Tucson from 2 p.m. - 5 p.m.

More information will be coming

Questions contact PDG Jim Aslin at sjaslin@comcast.net

CLUBS - October, 2011-2012	Attendance	Start	End	Change
Ajo	60%	10	10	0
Benson	68%	15	16	1
Bisbee	59%	24	24	0
Casa Grande	67%	42	40	-2
Casa Grande Daybreak	83%	10	9	-1
Coolidge	61%	14	14	0
Douglas	54%	12	12	0
Florence	52%	26	24	-2
Gila Bend	NR			
Gila Valley	NR			
Globe	55%	23	24	1
Green Valley	81%	40	41	1
Kearny	86%	7	7	0
Madera Sunset	NR			
Marana	77%	21	22	1
Marana Dove Mountain	70%	22	24	2
Maricopa	NR	9		
Miami-Copper Cities	NR			
Mountain Empire	77%	33	33	0
Nogales	44%	30	30	0
Oro Valley	61%	31	33	3
Rio Rico	90%	18	20	2
Saddlebrooke	75%	63	63	0
Safford	74%	20	22	2
San Luis Fontera	95%	9	9	0
San Manuel	78%	13	9	-4
Sierra Vista	73%	78	77	-1
Sierra Vista South	NR			
Sierra Vista Sunrise	66%	21	23	2
Sierra Vista West	94%	21	21	0
Somerton	75%	10	10	0
Superior	50%	7	7	0
Tubac	69%	16	16	0
Tucson	77%	234	226	-8
Tucson Casas Adobes	83%	44	44	0
Tucson Catalina	88%	69	69	0
Tucson Foothills	63%	12	10	-2
Tucson Kino	79%	14	14	0
Tucson Old Pueblo	82%	27	26	-1
Tucson Pantano	86%	20	20	0
Tucson Pima	75%	4	4	0
Tucson Rincon	82%	29	29	0
Tucson Saguaro	64%	24	24	0
Tucson Sunrise	80%	55	56	1
Tucson Sunset	86%	24	24	0
Vail Cienega	88%	9	9	0
Valle Verde	85%	45	47	2
Willcox	61%	21	20	-1
Yuma	NR	123		
Yuma Crossing	NR			
Yuma Foothills	64%	29	29	0
Yuma Ft. Yuma	72%	57	56	-1
Yuma North End	82%	16	16	0
Yuma Sunrise	92%	22	21	-1
TOTALS				
Totals				

SIERRA VISTA ROTARY CLUB

By **GRANT HAYS**,
ROTARY CLUB of SIERRA VISTA REPORTER

BILL Miller introduced Rebecca Hodson, Fire Prevention Specialist from the U. S. Forest Service. Rebecca explained the USFS Fire Prevention Program provides education on preventing fires and protecting homes and structures by forest fires to schools, civic organizations and individuals. Support to individuals is provided by conducting inspections of homes and structures. After the Monument Fire, more individuals have requested fire inspections. The goal is to provide positive actions to either prevent or reduce destruction to homes and adjacent buildings. The inspection provides practical measures residents can do. For example, thinning out trees so clusters of trees are at least 5 feet from structures prevents fires from spreading or thinning limbs.

Also important is the type of tree. Many people love manzanita trees, however this particular tree is extremely flammable either dead or alive. Rebecca urges caution if one has this particular type of tree. Another technique is to mow or clear grass at least 50 feet from any structure and trim trees at least up to 5 feet from the ground. This is important as it retards the fire spreading especially after the flame front has past. Another prevention measure is to clear all shrubs or bushes which are touching the structure. Doing this is especially important as it prevents embers from being thrown from the shrubs into vents. Embers are very dangerous even after the flame front has moved past the structure. Another important step is to place wire mesh over all vents which will prevent embers from going into the inside of the structure.

The inspection also includes looking at the roof and determining if the roof is made of material which is flammable or is easily combustible. Another important task is to keep gutters clean of leaves as they provide combustible material for embers to rest and start a fire.

Rebecca emphasized that doing little things can really make a difference in preventing fires from destroying homes. For example, it is most important for homeowners to have house numbers clearly displayed so fire fighters can quickly identify the house and to ensure water hoses are in good condition and disconnected. If the homeowner has already left the property, gates should be open for easy access. If the gate is locked, the fire personnel will cut the lock to gain access. Easy access is



FROM THE LEFT: ENGINE CPT DARRELL HOWELL, ENGINE CPT RAY JOHNSON, BILL MILLER, REBECCA HODSON, CHUCK POTUCEK.

PHOTO BY KARINA ROBERTS, ROTARY CLUB of SV

critical so firemen can quickly extinguish a fire. Another very helpful tip which greatly assists fire fighters is to label the contents of sheds and structures. Further it is very important that piles of old flammable materials such as wood should be at least 20 to 30 feet from structures.

Emergency personnel have to make quick decisions when battling fires so Rebecca emphasized it is very important for them to have easy access to the house and the area surrounding it. Ultimately, if a decision has to be made between protecting homes that provide easy access and those that do not, emergency personnel will protect the house with easy access. Also, good fire prevention helps to prevent damage if fire fighters are not available. Rebecca again emphasized small changes help to protect homes.

More information on fire prevention techniques is available from www.firewise.org or the University of Arizona web site.

The December Student of the Month is Kylie Boardman, who is a Buena High School senior. Kylie is active in the Buena Band and is a drum major, Captain of the Buena Swim Team, the National Honor Society as well as the Honor Society for music students. She is considering attending either UofA or Grand Canyon University to study to become a pharmacist. Kylie's proud father, COL (Ret) Mike Boardman attended in honor of his daughter.

For information regarding the Rotary Club of Sierra Vista, please visit <http://rotarysv.org>.

MOUNTAIN EMPIRE ROTARY CLUB

STUDENTS of the Month honored at Mountain Empire Rotary December meeting in Patagonia.

Justin Novack is the 8th grade student of the month for Science. Justin is a problem-solver, very intelligent, and has a high aptitude for math and science. He plays basketball for the Lobos and we hear is a master video-gamer. Justin is a top student and very deserving of the student of the month recognition.

Yari Cortez is the High School Student of the Month for Science. Yari is a natural leader as well as a top student. She helped design and present a mini lesson for the primary grades and helped develop a recycling program for both school districts.

Her career goal is to become a psychologist.



PICTURED ABOVE IS JUSTIN NOVACK WITH HIS TEACHER, MS. WILLIAMS AND HIS MOTHER

SIERRA VISTA ROTARY CLUB



THE GSE TEAM POSES WITH MEMBERS OF THE ROTARY CLUBS OF SIERRA VISTA

**By GRANT HAYS,
Rotary Club of Sierra Vista Reporter**

ROTARY Club of Sierra Vista, Sierra Vista West Rotary Club, Sierra Vista South Rotary Club and Sierra Vista Sunrise Rotary Club hosted the Rotary District 2450 5 member Rotary Foundation's Group Study Exchange (GSE) from Nov. 9-13. The GSE Team members are from Egypt, Palestine, Jordan, Bahrain and Lebanon.

The GSE Team was in Rotary District 5500 (Southern Arizona) Oct. 23 and departed Nov. 22. Rotary District 2450 consists of 3 Continents and 10 nations from Georgia to Sudan and from the United Arab Emirates to Cyprus.,

Thursday evening, Nov. 10, the SV South Rotary Club hosted the GSE team. President T. J. Alinen opened the meeting and welcomed GSE team members. Dennis Bielicki, Sierra Vista Coordinator for the GSE visit, explained the goals of the GSE and stated that GSE team members are selected through a very stringent selection process and must be between the ages of 25 and 40. The GSE program is financed by Rotary Foundation specifically from

contributions to the Paul Harris Fund. He then turned the meeting over to the GSE Team Leader Magued Anis who is the immediate Past President of the Rotary Club of Alexandria, Egypt. Magued first thanked Rotarians for sponsoring and hosting the GSE Team.

Next each team member spoke about themselves, their families, friends, hobbies and professional interests.

Ali Alsayed is from the Kingdom of Bahrain, has an M.A. in International Management and is an Officer with Global Marketing Department of the Economic Development Board.

Hanin Khoury hails from Palestine and has a Masters in International Cooperation and Development and is employed with Wataniya Mobile of Palestine as Senior PR, Sponsorship and Events Specialist.

Heba Aboelnasr is from Egypt and hold a B. S. in Business Administration and International Trade and is currently employed by ExxonMobil Egypt as a Delivery Planner for Europe and Africa.

Saphia Shamas is from Lebanon and holds a Masters in Urban Management and BS in Landscape Design and Eco-Management and is currently employed as a Landscape

Designer involved in the development and reconstruction of the central district of Beirut.

Dr. Zaid Altheeb comes from the Kingdom of Jordan and is currently employed as an Internal Medicine Resident at the King Hussien Cancer Center in Amman

Magued Anis holds a B.S. in Architecture but currently is the owner of the Gem Center JewelryStore. Before become a jeweler he assistedhis father in the renovation of St. Mark's Coptic Cathedral which is on the site of the church founded by St. Mark in 60 CE. During the renovation, crypts of 26 Popes were discovered as well as the crypt that according to tradition contains the head of St. Mark.

The GSE program is a unique cultural and vocational exchange opportunity for business and professional who are in the early stages of the careers.

They stay four-weeks and visit up to 20 Rotary Clubs and will meet with American counterparts in business and the professions. Their stay also includes visiting many cultural and historical sites in South Arizona including the Pasqua Yaqui Nation.

While in Sierra Vista, Team Members met business, civic and military leaders.

SIERRA VISTA ROTARY CLUB

By GRANT HAYS

Rotary Club of Sierra Vista Reporter

ANGIE Moncur, Fort Huachuca Public Affairs Officer, made an excellent presentation explaining the changes made by the Army concerning lodging operations. In 2009, the Army entered into an agreement with InterContinental Hotels Group (IHG) to operate Army housing. Given the high costs involved, the Army made the decision to partner with private firms to manage, build, renovate, maintain and operate transient lodging on Army installations in the continental United States, Alaska, Hawaii and Puerto Rico. This is called Privatized Army Lodging (PAL) and IHG assumed operating lodging at Ft. Huachuca in August of 2011.

Having to live on-post (in the barracks) only applies to enlisted soldiers who are attending an Advanced Individual Training (AIT) for up to 20 weeks. Those soldiers will now be required to live in the barracks. However, MS Moncur emphasized soldiers currently with lease agreements will not be forced to break those rental agreements and move back into the barracks.

The new policy does not apply to officers because of Army defined space requirements which cannot be met by placing officers in the barracks. Officer students who are TDY will continue to live in on-post lodging, local hotels or contracted TDY properties.

They will however be restricted from signing a long-term lease until the Army has secured local lodging contracts in the community. Soldiers coming TDY to Ft. Huachuca for meetings will not be housed in barracks but will be lodged on post or if rooms are not available, in Army contracted housing off-post.

Under the old system, soldiers in TDY status for training were issued individual government travel cards for lodging expenses. This resulted in a complicated and expensive accounting system. Under PAL, the Army will secure contracts in the community when on-post lodging is not available. Currently, IHG operates 230 rooms but IHG to build a 244 room hotel within the next 5 years.

The purpose of initiating PAL was to reduce overhead and costs for the Army. Given the reductions in funding, all programs are being reviewed and 3 questions will be used to help identify

whatparts of programs or programs will be reduced or eliminated. They are: (1) is the program needed; (2) is it worthwhile to continue and finally (3) what will be the impact if reduced or eliminated?.

Further information may be obtained by contacting the MS Moncur at the Ft. Huachuca PAO (533-1850) or at her email address, angela.l.moncur2.civ@mail.mil. Any business interested providing lodging should register online with the Central Contractor Registration at <https://www.bpn.gov/CCRSearch/Search.aspx>. Businesses may also contract Chuck Collins in the Small Business Office at 533-3001 or contact Angie at her email address, angela.l.moncur2.civ@mail.mil or at 533-1850.

Nancy Montgomery introduced Nicole Edsell as Student of the Month. Nicole is a senior at Buena High School and active on the cheerleader's team, track and field and serves as secretary of the National Honor Society.

She has been accepted into the Department of Veterinary Science and the Department of Marine Biology at Texas A&M University. Nicole will be back next

week to talk about the 4-Way Rotary Test.

The Rotary Club of Sierra Vista annually awards 2 \$1,000 scholarships to students at the University of Arizona South. This year's recipients are Elizabeth Nelson and Crystal Hatfield who were introduced by their Faculty Sponsors Barbara Citera and David Torres. Both faculty members thanked the Rotary Club for providing these scholarships.

Dr. Citera said the Elizabeth has a 4.0 GPA and is majoring in elementary education and believes in service to humanity. Elizabeth mentioned in her remarks to the Club that she intends to earn her Masters and eventually hopes to become a principal.

Dr. Torres stated Crystal also has a 4.0 GPA and believes in the value of service and leadership to the community and family. Crystal stated she wishes to use technology to help solve problems. Both recipients thanked the Club for providing these scholarships.

For information regarding the Rotary Club of Sierra Vista, please visit <http://rotarysv.org>.

Dictionaries for everyone



MARK LEVY • HERALD/REVIEW

Noon Rotary Club member John Black gives a dictionary to Huachuca Mountain Elementary School third-grade student Nicolas Acevedo Thursday. The Rotarians handed out 84 dictionaries to all school third graders. The club also gave 131 dictionaries to students at General Myer Elementary School Tuesday.