

# Rotary



## La Grande Rotary

### *Our Last Decade of Service*

*Our Mission: "La Grande Rotarians believe in their community and are committed to the youth of Union County and beyond through effective projects that provide opportunity, education and service."*

Over the past decade, La Grande Rotarians have impacted thousands of young people through multiple community and international projects. Listed below is a summary of accomplishments from 2004 through 2014.

#### ■ **Drug-Free Youth Program**

Approximately 250 grade 6-8 students each year at La Grande Middle School pledge "no drugs!" Over the past 10 years, D-FY has impacted at least 1,750 students by encouraging their avoidance of drugs and, instead, their participation in weekly meetings, ski trips, water slide adventures, and other events.

#### ■ **Student Scholarships**

Each year the club provides two \$1,000 scholarships to an outstanding male and female scholar-athlete at La Grande High School. The club has invested more than \$15,000 in 20 young men and women over the past 10 years.

Since 2010, the club has donated \$1,000 to the Eastern Oregon University Foundation scholarship program for exemplary students who are on their last lap to completing a degree. This kind of scholarship makes a significant difference to those most in need in as they finish college.

#### ■ **Youth Exchanges**

Each year the La Grande Rotary Club provides for both an inbound and outbound high school student. Averaging two students per year, the club has impacted the lives of 20 students and their families and friends over the past 10 years with rich intercultural opportunities to promote peace and understanding.



#### ■ **Dictionaries**

Since 2006, the club has provided Webster paperback dictionaries to every third-grader in Union County. To many students, this is the first book they call their very own. This totals more than 3,000 children and books in the last decade.



#### ■ **Special Olympians**

Each summer the La Grande Rotary Club sponsors a special picnic for our area Special Olympians. Olympians and families enjoy burgers and hot dogs with all the trimmings as well as a fun-filled time of bingo and prizes. Each year 25 Special Olympians and their families are hosted, impacting 250 people over a decade of service.

#### ■ **Building and Service Projects**

In 2005, the La Grande Rotary Club constructed the Pioneer Park Pavilion to benefit families in the community with a convenient and beautiful place to have celebrations and family outings. Every Thanksgiving, Rotarians partner with McDonalds in La Grande to serve seniors and our local veterans a complimentary, hot breakfast. The club has also collaborated with the City of La Grande on Morgan Lake improvement projects, providing labor for installing docks, rails and a sign; on Max Square and Community Clean-up days; and maintaining the Community Stadium Ticket Booth.



#### ■ **International Projects**

In Ecuador, west of Quito in equatorial forest, the club provided seven rural schools with fresh water and sanitary bathrooms. In the span of the last 10 years, this project has advantaged some 700 students per year, impacting the lives of 7,000 students in Ecuador. Several La Grande Rotarians traveled to Ecuador to visit projects and bring back textiles to sell back in Oregon to raise capital for the project.

The La Grande Rotary Club partnered to provide school supplies to various small school in rural villages. Hundreds of children were impacted. Rotarians and representatives from Eastern Oregon University developed partnerships with Rotary clubs in Ecuador for future development. Rotarians partnered with other clubs in providing fresh water to a rural community in an equatorial town in Ecuador, which provided clean water to a community of over 1,000 residents and has impacted the lives of the entire community.