BACKPACK PROJECT FOR DISTRICT CONFERENCE 5/18-20, UNITY VILLAGE, LEE’S SUMMIT: President Annette said Sandy Fleak has purchased the materials for the project and we only need additional donations totaling about $20 today to reimburse her (envelope on Happy Bucks bucket again this week).

ROTARY FOUNDATION GIVING: As of May 1 our individual giving to the Foundation is $44 per person. The goal is $100 for the year. (District average is $94 per person.) It is not too late to finish your Foundation donations to the Annual Programs Fund this year if it is done by June 30.

MEET THE ROMANIA & MOLDOVA GSE TEAM! The team will not be able to attend our meeting next week but you have an opportunity to meet the team on Monday, May 21 at Thousand Hills Dining Lodge. Dutch treat reception (5:30 p.m.) and dinner (6 p.m.). No reservations are required.

2012 RAY KLINGINSMITH SCHOLARSHIP RECIPIENTS - ANNA WISKIRCHEN AND ADAM PENNINGTON! The recipients of $750 scholarships (who are both Interact members!) are pictured in left photo with Chair Ron Knight and, in photos below, with Ron and their proud parents: (left) Marie and Larry Wiskirchen with Anna, who will be attending TSU in the fall, and (right) Nancy and Steve Pennington with Adam, who will pursue Conservation and Wildlife Management at Northwest Missouri University.

BITSIATEMARIAM “AMY” DEMISSIE, INTERNATIONAL STUDENT FROM ETHIOPIA, ON AFRICAN LEADERSHIP ACADEMY AND HER EXPERIENCES AT TRUMAN: Bitsiatemariam said the African Leadership Academy (ALA) which she attended is a residential, secondary education institution located near Johannesburg, South Africa for 15-18 year olds. Its goal, by educating and developing outstanding students into principled, ethical individuals, is to create the next generation of African leaders. It is a two-year program. Needs in the community are identified and recommendations for community service projects for ALA to pursue are presented to a board for approval. One such project included pre-school changes which resulted in 75% of the children improving their performance in first grade. In addition to pursuing community projects, ALA also supports student-run businesses. Bitsiatemariam, our club’s international scholar, said she has enjoyed her first year at Truman where she is a biology major (pre-med). She has been active in several organizations on campus. After her presentation, Jeff Romine said he and Ralph are looking into possibly funding a scholarship to ALA in Ray Klinginsmith’s name. [Bitsiatemariam is pictured above with Rotarian Charlene Boyes (left) who introduced her.]

50-50 Drawing: We didn’t have a winner today (no ace of spades or even a joker). Pot is now at $1,226.00

Guests
Robert Hardwick, Elsie Gaber (1000 Hills club);
Anna, Larry & Marie Wiskirchen, Adam, Steve & Nancy Pennington (g/o club); Dr. Carlos Raj (g/o Tim Tucker); Plamena Koseva (g/o Ralph Cupelli);
Bitsiatemariam “Amy” Demissie (speaker, g/o club)

Upcoming Programs:
May 23: Lynette Baker/Advances at Twin Pines
June 6: Rotary Charitable Fund/Jeff Romine
June 13: Past RI Director Fred Hahn
June 20: Yr. End Wrap Up/President Annette
June 27: NO NOON MEETING/Evening Installation