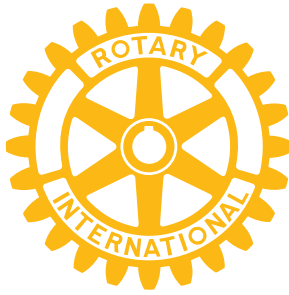


Rotary



Zones 25B-29 News

January 2020 • Number 2 • Zones 25 and 29 • Upper Midwest & Great Plains USA • Ontario, Canada • Central America • Texas

RI DIRECTOR LARRY DIMMITT

Training, fellowship as we embark on a new year

Greetings fellow Rotarians. And Happy New Year!

As we embark on a new year, there is much to look forward to. To begin with, our District Governors-Elect will head for San Diego later this month to attend the International Assembly, convened by RI President-Elect Holger Knaack.

This will be the final Assembly held in San Diego, with it moving to Orlando, Fla., next January.

Best wishes to our DGEs as they make final plans for 2020-21.

After that will come PETs where our club Presidents-Elect prepare to lead their clubs. And then we – most of us I hope – head for Honolulu for the RI International Convention. Lois and I hope to see you there!

Recent developments

I thought I would share with you some of the recent developments in Rotary from a Director's perspective.

As many of you know, at the 2019 Council on Legislation, the members voted to make Rotaract clubs "members" of Rotary. This changes Rotaract from being merely a Rotary program, to clubs being a members of Rotary – just like Rotary clubs.

This move is designed to significantly elevate Rotaract in the family of Rotary. Now, more than ever, our challenge is to create new Rotaract clubs.

Another major decision of the Council was to authorize the Board of Directors to seek approval of the IRS to change Rotary International to a 501 (c) (3) corporation. This will create cost savings to RI and encourage sponsorships



Lois and RI Director Larry Dimmitt

for Rotary events.

At the same time, Rotary clubs will remain 501 (c) (4) corporations, just as they are now. We are awaiting IRS approval regarding the 501 (c) (3) application.

Board decisions: Rotaract

Following up these decisions, the RI Board in its October meeting made some important decisions. First, regarding Rotaract, it adopted recommendations that:

Rotaract clubs be allowed to organize without a sponsor, or be sponsored by another Rotaract club;

Removed the upper age limit for Rotaractors;

Dues for Rotaractors should be con-

sidered;

Rotary should strongly push to increase the number of Rotaractors and the number of Rotaractors that join Rotary clubs when they leave Rotaract.

Board decisions: Harassment training

Another decision of the October Board – following up its January decision regarding adult harassment – was to commence annual training regarding harassment for club presidents-elect, district governors-elect, district governors, regional leaders and RI directors. Such training will commence with the 2020 International Assembly and PETs.

A final item of note is the Board's recommendation that the environment be added as a seventh Area of Focus for Rotary projects and programs.

Lois and I wish you well as we head into an exciting 2020!

Larry Dimmitt, a retired attorney and a member of the Rotary Club of Topeka, KS, is RI Director for Zones 25 and 29. Director Larry is a Paul Harris Fellow, a Benefactor, a member of the Bequest Society, a member of the Paul Harris Society, a Major Donor and actively supports the Topeka Rotary Foundation. He and his wife, Lois, have been inducted into the Arch Klumph Society. He has been awarded the Rotary Foundation Citation for Meritorious Service and the Distinguished Service Award. Larry can be contacted at larrydimmitt@gmail.com.

<https://www.zones28-29.org/>



Rotary International Zones 25B and 29

Rotary International President

Mark Maloney, Decatur, Alabama USA

RI Director, Zones 25B and 29

Larry Dimmitt, Topeka, KS

RI Director-Elect, Zones 25B and 29

Suzi Howe, Friendswood, TX

District Governors 2019-20

Michelle Bell, District 5970

Cedar Rapids, IA

Edwin Bos, District 6250

Fort Atkinson, WI

Richard Bricker, District 5580

Pequot Lakes, MN

Roberta Burke, District 6420

Rochelle, IL

Ellison Crider, District 5930

Corpus Cristi, TX

Suzanne Gibson, District 6440

Lake Barrington, IL

Gary Gillen, District 5890

Richmond, TX

Beverly Grogan, District 5810

Grand Prairie, TX

Steven Handrick, District 6220

DePere, WI

Kurt Harper, District 5680

Wichita, KS

Jim Henry, District 5870

Austin, TX

John Hutcherson, District 5840

Fredericksburg, TX

Jason Leib, District 5710

Lenexa, KS

Henry McKinley, District 5650

Council Bluffs, IA

Scott McLaughlin, District 5630

Kearey, NE

Russell Michaletz, District 5950

Minneapolis, MN

Erna Morain, District 6000

Waukee, IA

Paul Perez, District 5960

Prior Lake, MN

Betsy "Elizabeth" Robinson, District 5910

League City, TX

Debi Ross, District 6450

Orland Park, IL

Steen Sanderhoff, District 6270

Franksville, WI

Peter Scott, District 5790

Arlington, TX

Kristine Winter, District 5610

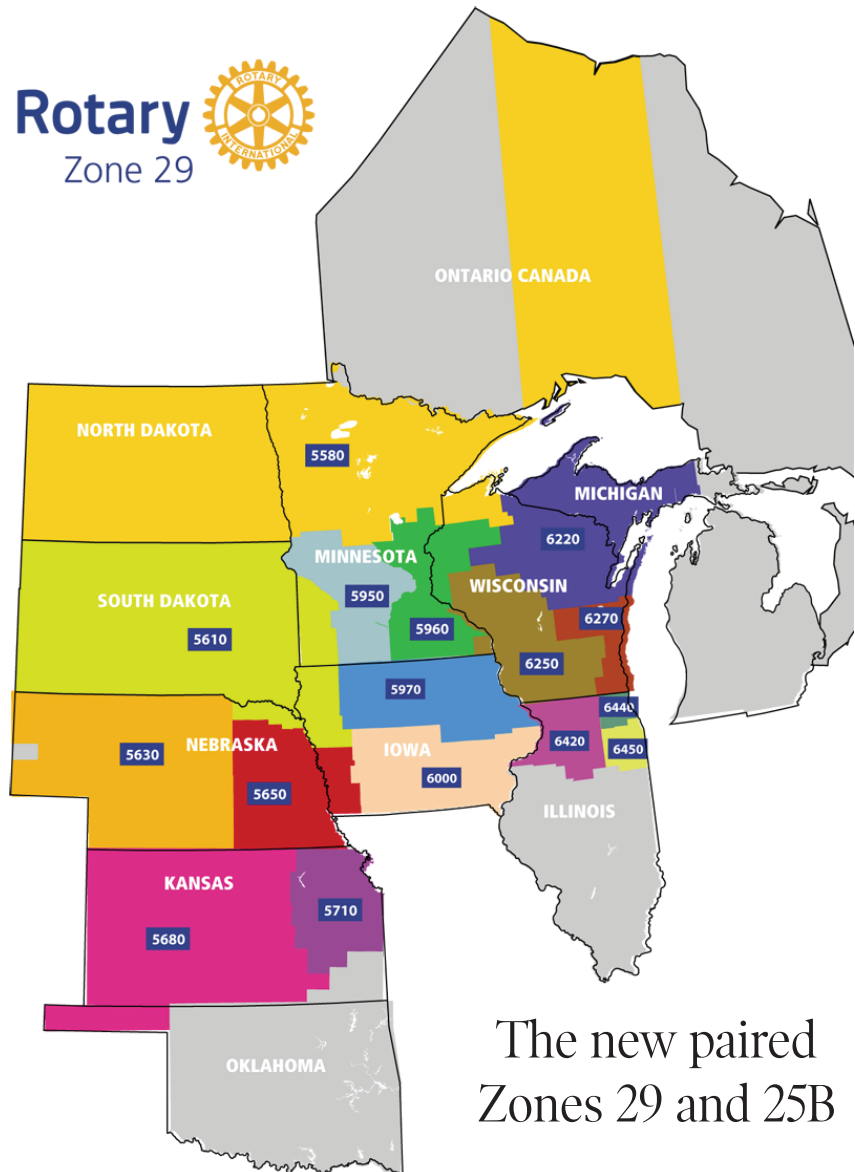
Hot Springs, SD

Newsletter Editor

Bill Tubbs, District 6000

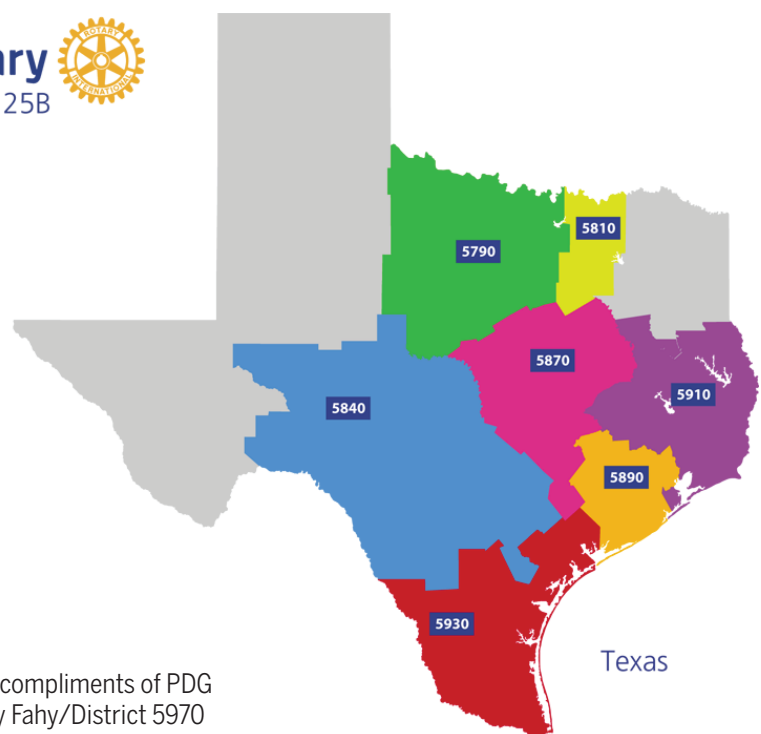
Eldridge, IA

Rotary Zone 29



The new paired
Zones 29 and 25B

Rotary Zone 25B



Maps compliments of PDG
Kathy Fahy/District 5970

HOUSTON, TEXAS, SEPT. 8-13

'Rotary's on Fire' at 2020 Institute

By DGE Tom Gump/District 5950

Rotary International Director Suzi Howe (2020-22), from the Rotary Club of Space Center, Houston, Texas, will be the Convener and host of the Zones 25b, 29 Institute, in Houston, Texas, in September 2020. Sharron Miles is chair of this event that you do not want to miss. After all, there is no hospitality like SOUTHERN HOSPITALITY, which you will experience from the moment you arrive at the airport and all the way through the event!

There are oh so many reasons to attend next year's Zone Institute; but, Suzi gave us her Top Ten List (in true David Letterman style), in Overland, Park, at our last Zone Institute.

If you missed it – drum roll please – here are they are:



10. You Can Get your Picture on a Fire Truck! You heard me right – a fire truck! Next year's Zone Institute will be soooo good you can say its "on Fire!"

9. Get the Education You Need. If you are a District Governor Nominee; District Governor Elect; spouse or significant other/partner of either; Membership, Foundation or Public Image Chair; or future Rotary Leader – this Institute is the event for you! There will be special facilitation breakout sessions tailored to give you what you need to lead your district – guaranteed!

8. You'll meet lots of great Rotarians. That's right – about 400 of them, along with a few hundred more Houstonian Rotarians at the All-Club-Luncheon. Catch up with people you know and make new friends from most of the districts in Zones 25B and 29. The House of Friendship will be a great place to meet and there are also restaurants, bars, nooks and crannies everywhere. Throw some axes or ride a mechanical bull all while engaging project partners from other districts. It is a great place to begin planning high-impact projects. Suzi and Sharron are personally guaranteeing that their friends from the Space Center and other Houston Clubs are there to greet you!

7. Meet Orbie2022. Yes, the Rotary International Houston Convention Mascot will be there and you will be able to find out what the Host Organizing Committee is planning for the Houston Rotary International Convention, in 2022!

6. You can hear how Rotary impacts our world. Rotary has a global, regional and a local impact. Hear what the twenty-eight districts in Zones 25B and 29 have been doing and help them celebrate their successes!

5. You'll be able to attend the Saturday Night Feast. Sharron Miles, our Institute Chair, is planning a celebration for Saturday night and let me tell you, it will be hotter than Texas ribs with Atomic Fire Sauce on them!

4. Visit the ArtCar Museum! The ArtCar Museum is a private museum of contemporary art located only in Houston, Texas. The museum, nicknamed the "Garage Mahal," has art cars, fine arts and artists that are rarely seen in other cultural institutions.

3. You'll be inspired. Hear incredibly inspiring speakers from Rotary dignitaries to speakers like LaShonda Delivuk – let her tell you how you don't have to be perfect to be an impactful Rotarian! Motivational speaker and author Bowtie Todd Jenkins will also be speaking!

2. You Can See the Space Center in Houston. As one of the top visitor attractions in the area and the area's No. 1 attraction for international visitors, the Space Center Houston is sure to not disappoint! The Space Center Houston has welcomed more than 20 million people and hosts nearly 1.1 million visitors annually in its 250,000-square-foot educational complex. It is a Smithsonian affiliate. Houston, there will be no problems at the 2020 Zone Institute!

1. Spend Time with Suzi Howe and Chair Sharron Miles! They can't wait to see you in Houston in September of 2020 and introduce you to the great state of Texas and its fantastic people!

Check the Zones 25B, 29 website (<https://zones25b-29.org/>) as registration will be up soon!



RI Director 2020-22 Suzi Howe (second from right) with Bill Howe (at right) at the Kansas City Institute, with aides PDG Terry and Peggy Geiger from District 6000. Photo by Bill Tubbs

President Maloney addresses Foundation Banquet

By DG Jason Leib/District 5710

Wow, what an honor it was to have Rotary International President Mark Maloney and his wife, Gay, at our Foundation Banquet on Nov. 1, the beginning of Foundation Month!

Not only did he challenge and inspire us to be more impactful through Rotary, but we were able to show him just a few of the things we've accomplished in District 5710 through The Rotary Foundation. President Maloney's message of growing the Foundation hit home with many in attendance, as we strive to increase giving which allows us all to DO more in Rotary!



RI President Mark Maloney and his wife Gay attended the District 5710 Foundation Banquet with DG Jason Leib and wife Jacci, and Foundation Chair, PDG John Donovan and wife Beth.

Manhattan clubs sponsor anti-bullying message

A coalition of Rotary clubs in Manhattan, Kansas (District 5710) learned that high school students consider bullying to be the chief threat to their peace.

As a part of their history in Promoting Peace, the clubs sponsored the No. 1 high school speaker in the U.S., Nathan Harmon of Your Life Speaks <https://www.yourlifespeaks.org/>, to talk to all the high school and middle school students in Manhattan. Manhattan is a small, bustling city of about 60,000 residents, home to Kansas State University and neighbor to the Fort Riley Army Base. The presentation was in the second full week of the school year, on Aug. 28.

The commitment to Promote Peace, one of Rotary's six Areas of Focus, led the clubs to present a daylong Peace Forum in 2013. With the money from that effort, they sponsored a high school Peace Essay contest in 2018. From the essays submitted by high school students in the area, the clubs learned that the chief threat to peace in high school is bullying – including cyberbullying.

Using money still remaining in the Peace pocket, five local Rotary groups and the Regional Rotary Peace Group contracted with Harmon to speak at the two campuses of Manhattan High School and at the two middle schools (grades 7 and 8) in Manhattan, as well as an evening session open to the public.

The sponsoring groups were the Manhattan (noon) Rotary Club, the Manhattan Konza (morning) Rotary Club, the Heart of America E-Club (District 5670), with support from the Manhattan High School Interact Club and the Kansas State University Rotaract Club. The Regional Rotary Peace Group also assisted. The Manhattan-Ogden School District 383 supported the program by allowing all high school and middle school students to attend the presentations in their school buildings and the public to attend the evening session in the high school auditorium. Nearly 3,000 students and adults heard this popular and effective speaker.

Response from the students was excellent. They were transfixed by Harmon's unique style of speaking, as he spoke to them in their vernacular and in a laid back and sometimes "in your face" style that told the students that this man knows what he's talking about. If time would have allowed, the students would have surrounded him and asked questions for hours, but the schedule was tight and he had to move on. The sponsoring clubs intend to continue supporting anti-bullying speakers every year, as long bullying remains a threat to the peace in our kids' lives.

– submitted by PDG Glenda Thomas and PDG Debra Rodenbaugh-Schaub



Nathan Harmon with his program opener photo.



Among the 3,000 young people who heard Harmon's message were (l-r): Nicole Fricks (RYE from Brazil), Mac Phrommany (MHS Interact Club sponsor), Nathan Harmon, Elanor Bryant (MHS Interact Club President), and Taylor Claussen (MHS

AT HISTORIC BISHOP MUSEUM**Connect with friends at Zone Party in Honolulu****By DGE Tom Gump/District 5950**

One of the best ways to immerse yourself in the Aloha Spirit when attending Rotary International's 2020 Aloha Convention, June 6-10, 2020, is to attend the Zones 25A/B and 29's "Zone Party!" The event details appear immediately below.

Date: June 7, 2020;**Time:** 6:00 p.m. to 9:00 p.m.**Venue:** Bishop Museum.

Address: 1525 Bernice Street, Honolulu, Hawaii 96817 – less than five miles from the Convention Center; and

Admission Price: \$125 per person, which includes tickets to some of the Bishop Museum's exhibits.

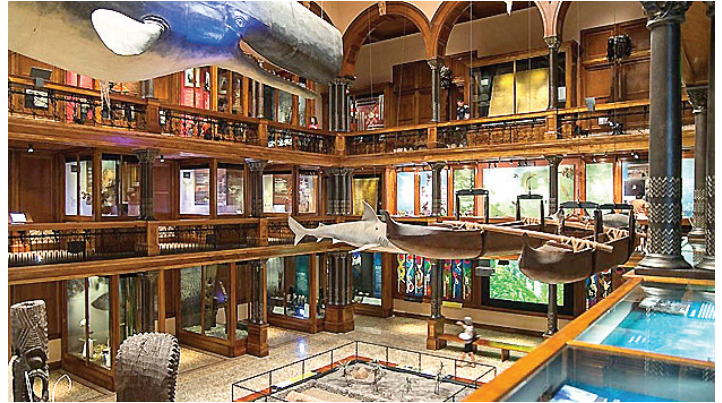
Honolulu locals, when asked, typically list the Bishop Museum in their "Top Ten List" of things that visitors should see when they come to Honolulu. The Museum is Hawaii's official "State Museum." It was built in 1889, by Charles Reed Bishop, in honor of his late wife, Princess Bernice Pauahi Bishop, who was the last descendant of the royal Kamehameha family.

The Museum is one of the largest museums in Hawaii. It houses a collection of Hawaiian and royal family heirlooms artifacts, documents, books and photographs about Hawaii and other Pacific island cultures and even has a planetarium (though the planetarium is not included in the facilities the Zones are renting).

The Bishop has two halls built on its campus: (i) the Hawaiian Hall and (ii) the Polynesian Hall. They halls were built in the "Richardsonian Romanesque" architectural style, and, according to Wikipedia, *The Pacific Commercial Advertiser* newspaper called the structures "the noblest buildings of Honolulu" and both are listed on the National Register of Historic Places. It will be a great location to take pictures and email them back home to your family, friends, Rotary club and district – they would look great in your club and district newsletters!

The Hawaiian Hall, which is located in the center of the Museum campus, is the hall that our Zones have reserved for the party. It houses a complete sperm-whale skeleton and

papier-mâché body suspended from the ceiling (please see the photograph below).

**How to register**

This is the event that you do not want to miss – the one that people will be talking about! Please do not tell us that you didn't know about it.

To register, please:

1. Go to web site: <https://www.zones25b-29.org/>.
2. Scroll to the bottom of Home page and click on the Hawaii Zone Party Advertisement/Flyer page.
3. Pressing on "Register," it will take you to the registration page and registration information begins at the bottom of the page.
4. If you do not have a ClubRunner account, you can enter your details as a guest and simply complete the registration form. If you do have a ClubRunner account you can use that to log in. (You do not have to login in order to register.)

There will be surprise cultural entertainment at the event.

If you have any questions about the event, please contact Debra Warner, at debrawarner13@gmail.com; or Linda Marin, at lmponicki@gmail.com.


**PARTY WITH ZONES 25 & 29 AT THE
BISHOP MUSEUM!**

Immerse yourself in Hawaii's rich culture and heritage at this premier museum

Make new friends from throughout Zones 25 & 29

Sunday, June 7, 2020 from 6-9 pm
\$125 per person includes a buffet dinner, one drink and museum admission

You don't want to miss the PARTY!

REGISTRATION IS LIMITED

Register NOW at www.zones25b-29.org

For more information, contact debrawarner13@gmail.com



AROUND THE WORLD IN 51 DAYS

The flight to end polio



By Diane Nollen, Cedar Rapids (IA) Gazette

Reprinted with permission

While Peter Teahen and John Ockenfels aren't Santa, they are flying around the world to give the gift of crucial vaccines to the most vulnerable children.

Their goal is to fly eastward this spring from Cedar Rapids, raising money and awareness around the globe to eradicate polio through Rotary International and a 2-for-1 dollar match from the Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation. With the match in place, Teahen is optimistic \$1 million can be raised.



PDG John Ockenfels

For about seven weeks – March 24 to May 13 – pilot Teahen, 66, of Cedar Rapids, and co-pilot Ockenfels, 67, of Shueyville, will fold into Teahen's six-cylinder, 300-horsepower single-engine airplane.

Cruising speed of the six-passenger Piper Lance II will be 150 knots, or 171 mph. The plane will burn 16 1/2 gallons of fuel each hour. Besides 94 gallons held in the wings, the seats behind the front row will be removed to make way for a 165-gallon reserve tank, as well as luggage and supplies.

Navigational and communication equipment will be onboard not only for safety's sake, but also to enable people – including school students – to follow the progress on a five-minute delay.

"You'll be able to see where we were five minutes ago," Teahen said.

All of this gear will be packed into tight quarters, along with the men, who will sit side-by-side with less room between them than in a car – and with less headroom, too.

They plan to drink just enough to stay hydrated, and eat very few solids, to keep their in-flight, in-place toilet needs to a minimum, relying on disposable, environmentally correct bags in their confined space.

That's the least of their worries.

Safety concerns

The weather is unpredictable that far in advance, and they will be flying over open water and mountains, occasionally through unfriendly skies – taking myriad safety precautions along their estimated 19,601-mile route and 135 in-flight hours.

Their longest flight is nearly 10 hours – about twice the duration Teahen has ever piloted a plane on a trip – from Newfoundland over the Atlantic Ocean, landing on Portugal's Azores Islands March 27.

The Pacific crossing on the way back to the United States will be much shorter, from the northeastern tip of Russia to Nome, Ala.

Any time they're flying over water, they'll wear a special kind of wet suit that will keep them warm in case of an emergency water landing. They'll also have a life raft on board to slide into the water, if need be.

Each day's flight will end at an airport that allows them to refuel and leave the craft overnight. Finding those airports has been no easy feat, since most outside of the United States close overnight, Teahen said.

Changing time zones also have to be taken into consideration. They had intended to land in Chiang Mai in northern Thailand, but that airport will close before their projected arrival. Instead, they will fly from Nagpur, India, into Chit-



Rotarians Peter Teahan and PDG John Ockenfels will fly around the world March 24-May 13 with this 1978 Piper Lancer II to raise funds PolioPlus. Rotarians and others can make donations online or download a donations form at Flighttoendpolio.com/contact-us. Photo by Andy Abeyta/The Gazette



The route begins and ends in Cedar Rapids, Iowa.

tagong, Bangladesh, in mid-April, then continue on to Bangkok, Thailand.

"I'm spending three, four hours a day just on logistics things," Teahen said.

Handlers in England, Japan and Moscow have been helping them navigate the complexities of landing sites, time zones, fuel transport, visas for 13 countries, customs regulations and flight permits. Other handlers will meet them on the ground, and arrange for any repairs that Ockenfels can't make.

"That's the backroom part of what we're doing," Teahen said. "The exciting part is what we're doing in partnership with Rotary."

Giving back for good

The daunting logistics – not to mention the risk – lead to an obvious question: Why would the two take on this odyssey?

Teahen is pretty fearless, after spending his adult life as a funeral director, author and mental health professional.

He's served as a disaster responder since 1989 and a national spokesman for the Red Cross since 1999.

He's taken leadership roles on 65 major disasters around the globe, from the Sept. 11, 2001, terror attacks, to the ongoing genocide in Sudan's Darfur region, the 2004 Indonesian

FLIGHT, continued on next page

Rotarians to log 19,601 miles in 135 hours

tsunami, 2005's Hurricane Katrina in the United States and the 2010 Haiti earthquake.

"I've been held twice at gunpoint by terrorist groups, buildings have collapsed on me," he said. "I've been blessed (and) I keep wanting to give back."

Ockenfels also lives by that philosophy. An Air Force veteran and retired chief executive officer of City Carton Recycling, he has been on the front lines of administering polio vaccines through Rotary.

Both men are members of the International Fellowship of Flying Rotarians, and said the choice was clear to them to use a global flight as a fundraiser for Rotary International's three-decade quest to finally eradicate polio.

Ockenfels in June attended a Rotary International Conference in Hamburg, Germany, presenting the plan for a polio fundraising component to the flight. "Rotary was very excited about it," Teahen said. "We're now an official fundraising project for Rotary International, and they'll help promote it. We'll have help from Rotarians around the world when we're on the ground."

The public can make donations online or download a donation form at Flighttoendpolio.com/contact-us.

Gates involvement

They also have a huge helping hand from the Gates' foundation, which is donating \$2 for each \$1 pledged through the flight.

"Polio is a terrible disease," Microsoft co-founder Bill Gates said in an online video. "And as our foundation was getting involved in global help, we saw that Rotary, CDC (Centers for Disease Control and Prevention), UNICEF, WHO (World Health Organization) had partnered together back in 1988, and getting rid of the disease is kind of the ultimate goal for all these infectious diseases."

So the foundation decided to join the fight.

Teahen and Ockenfels are paying their own way around the world, estimated at \$60,000 to \$70,000, offset by some grants and high-tech equipment donations.

"And so 100 percent of the money that we raise will go to Rotary International," Teahen said. "And 100 percent of the money that goes to Rotary International goes to eradicate polio."

Rotary polio initiative

As a founding partner of the Global Polio Eradication Initiative, Rotary International has contributed nearly \$2 billion toward stopping the debilitating, paralyzing disease, reducing cases 99.9 percent since first vaccinating children in the Philippines in 1979.

While Rotary lists three countries where polio remains active, Ockenfels said Nigeria recently has come off that list, being polio-free for three years after suffering a relapse. That leaves Afghanistan and Pakistan as countries where polio is endemic.

"Pakistan is finally onboard with making it happen," Ockenfels said. "Afghanistan still is fighting it politically. We're now over 100 cases this year between those two countries, and we were down to 30 some cases a couple of years ago worldwide."

Polio is not a 20th-century disease, although that's when outbreaks hit the hardest in the United States.

"They've done research going back hundreds and hundreds of years to the time of the pharaohs, and they have absolutely found polio, going all the way back. It's not a new disease," Ockenfels said.

Support welcomed for Peace Major Gifts Initiative

By PDG Martin Limbird/District 5440

Rotary Foundation Peace, Major Gifts Initiative Committee

How to wage peace financially through Rotary giving: a personal story

My Rotarian wife and I have been committed to peace and conflict resolution since the 1960s when we both worked overseas. Mary Catherine was evacuated from her teaching job in Cairo at the onset of the 1967 war and I served as a Peace Corps volunteer in West Africa.

Our professional careers at U.S. universities provided means to continue our commitment to these values, to raise our children and to provide a comfortable middle-class lifestyle into our retirement in 2010.

Our modest investments included rental property which was not essential to our retirement plans. Mary Catherine suggested we give the property to The Rotary Foundation to establish a Peace Center fellowship. Our grown children were consulted and heartily supported the idea.

The resulting gift served as seed money to encourage other fellow Fort Collins Rotarians to make outright gifts and bequests now exceeding \$1 million to support Peace Center fellows. Our gift not only made us eligible for recognition as Arch Klumph Society members but also a means to amortize the gift over several years, thereby reducing our federal tax obligations.

Since making our gift, we have become personally acquainted with two Peace Center fellows who benefitted thus far from our initiative. These personal links give meaning to our decision to wage peace through support of the Rotary Peace Centers, now and beyond our years on this earth.

Rotarians (and others) are invited to join us in making an outright Major Gift or bequest to support the Rotary Peace Centers. For more information, download this publication: <http://shop.rotary.org/peace-is-possible-brochure-850>



Martin and Catherine Limbird are both active in different Fort Collins, Colorado, Rotary clubs, Martin is also a member of the Peace Major Gift Initiative committee of The Rotary Foundation. The Limbirds welcome invitations to share their story with Rotarians in Zones 25b/29 and 30/31. Contact them at (765) 744-9137 or at rotarymartin@comcast.net



DG Erna Morain, DGE Steve Dakin and DGN Alka Khonalkar were among District 6000 Rotarians at the Peace Pipe reception in Flensburg (Schleswig-Holstein, Germany) which was attended by 135 Rotarians from 21 countries. Photos provided by Yogi Reppmann

Peace Pipe project connects the world

In 1931, Keokuk, Iowa, Rotarian W.J. Fulton attended the first Rotary International Convention outside North America, at Vienna, Austria. There, he and other delegates grew concerned about rising nationalism which leads to war. Returning home, he sent letters to 496 Rotary clubs in 65 countries, inviting them to symbolically smoke a peace pipe in the tradition of his city's namesake, Chief Keokuk. Letters received back from those clubs have been remarkably preserved and are published in a 332-page book, "Die Peace Pipe Briefe." Members of those clubs were invited to a Peace Pipe reception at the Hamburg RI Convention. Keokuk Rotarian Tony Conn's report from that incredible event is presented here. One additional note: The peace pipe which Tony is holding here was delivered to German Chancellor Angela Merkel by her aide, Dr. Klaus Schueler, who is a friend of Rotarian Dr. Joachim (Yogi) Reppmann.

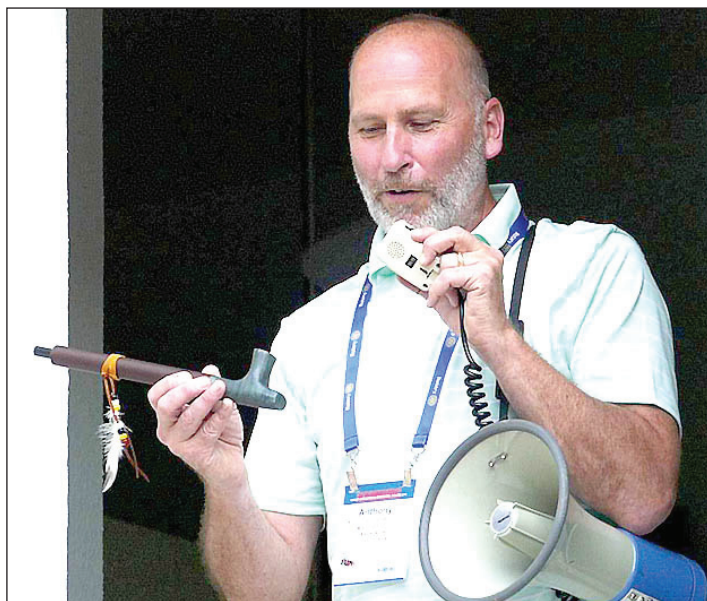
By Tony Conn/Keokuk

Northfield, Minnesota Rotarian, Dr. Joachim (Yogi) Reppmann, and his wife Gitta opened their Flensburg, Germany, home to host over 135 Rotarians at the start of this year's Rotary International Convention in Hamburg.



Dr. Klaus Schueler (r), a friend of Yogi Reppmann, delivered the peace pipe to German Chancellor Angela Merkel. The two are pictured in an earlier photo provided by Yogi Reppmann.

Attendees represented 21 countries and 68 Rotary clubs. Dr. Reppmann, a history professor at St. Olaf College, co-authored the newly released book, "Die Peace Pipe Briefe," which is a collection of letters from Rotary clubs around the world written in 1931-32. He and co-author, Keokuk Rotarian Tony Conn, organized this event to celebrate the release of this book, which celebrates an International Service Project of the Rotary Club of Keokuk in December 1931.



Keokuk Rotarian Tony Conn with the peace pipe.

After months of planning and sending out personal invitations to more than 500 Rotarians, the event nearly crashed before it got started. Attendees were instructed to load chartered buses at the front entrance of the Hamburg Convention Hall, to travel 1-1/2 hours north to Flensburg. When the buses arrived at the Convention Center, however, Hamburg police pushed them off to an open field nearly a half mile away.

Keokuk Rotarian and book co-author, Tony Conn, found DG Tom Gump (Minnesota) and quickly came up with a plan to gather the attendees. Tony walked the front of the convention center holding a Peace Pipe Letters sign among the 20,000 Rotarians entering and leaving the Convention Hall. Conn collected up those looking for the Flensburg bus, directing them to DG Tom, who had an identical sign held high, just inside the convention hall entrance. At 1:15 p.m., the two led their collected group off on a walk through the busy streets

PEACE PIPE, continued on next page



The welcome sign shows how Rotary connects the world.

Nations come together



Yogi Reppmann

to the waiting buses.

Unfortunately, Rotarians from Johannesburg, South Africa, and Chennai, India, did not make the connection. Their seats were unknowingly filled by Rotarians from Singapore and California, who decided to join the friendly group following the guys with Peace Pipe Letter signs. Both parties were surprised where they ended up, and at the same time, thoroughly delighted they got to join this event.

Reppmann and Conn wanted to host a party at a location in Hamburg, but found meeting halls to be outrageously expensive. Refusing defeat, the two started to look at alternate sites. One option was to hold the reception at the Flensburg home of Dr. Reppmann, renting buses to get attendees to and from Flensburg. This was a plan which fit their modest budget, a fraction of the cost of a Hamburg room.

The "tour" included a 1-1/2 hour bus trip through the Schleswig-Holstein countryside, crossing the Kiel canal on the way to historic Flensburg. Buses stopped at the home of Dr. Reppmann for hors d'oeuvres and drinks, then off to the Flensburg seaport for a brief tour. Buses then reloaded and traveled a short distance into Denmark, stopping at the Danish Queen's summer castle and a world-famous hotdog stand. During the travel time, attendees were entertained by

a local historian. Buses ended up back at the Reppmanns' for more drinks and snacks before heading back to Hamburg.

District 6000 leadership supported this event as DG Erna, DGE Steve, and DGN Alka all made the trip. The bus trip and smaller crowd allowed attendees to make connections with international Rotarians. Many new friends were made and open invitations to come visit were set.

A true Rotary event!



Rotarians honor 50-year club secretary Jim Knight

By Greg Shondell

This year the Kansas City, Kansas, Rotary Club is very proud to celebrate Jim Knight's 50 years of service as the club's secretary. Jim has run the club for the past 50 years, sometimes in spite of the club's members. All past, present and future members of the club owe Jim a great deal of thanks for his unwavering service in support of the club.

To celebrate this great accomplishment, the club hosted a special gathering on Oct. 20, 2019. Jim was presented with a gift from the club and a letter from Rotary International President Mark Maloney thanking Jim for his 50 years of service as club secretary.

Also, on Nov. 1, Jim attended the District 5710 Foundation Banquet, meeting with Rotary International President Mark Maloney, who presented Jim with a pin.



On Nov. 1, 2019, 50-year Kansas City, Kansas, club secretary Jim Knight attended the District 5710 Foundation Banquet, meeting with Rotary International President Mark Maloney.



RI President Mark Maloney presented Jim Knight a pin in appreciation of his years of service.



(l-r): Kansas City, Kansas, Rotary club treasurer Greg Shondell with club secretary Jim Knight and president John Freshnock.

PEOPLE OF ACTION

Rotary Showcase Week in Texas

By Debbie High (Rotary Coordinator), Eric Liu (RPIC) and Art Zeitler (RRFC), Zone 25B Regional Leadership Team

On behalf of the Regional Leaders of Zone 25B, we are submitting an article, with a link to a video, a pdf flyer and one photo for the Zones 25B and 29 newsletter.

Zone 25B Trilogy Continuum World Polio Day and Rotary Showcase Week

World Polio Day: One Day. One Focus: Ending Polio

“Rotary in Texas and Oklahoma is on fire supporting the Rotary Foundation and the eradication of Polio - what an extraordinary Zone wide effort!” – Art Zeitler, RRFC Zone 25B

Enjoy this video highlighting some of the World Polio Day events in Zone 25B and Districts 5730, 5750 and 5770.

Thank you, Tommie Buscemi, Assistant Rotary Public Image Coordinator, for producing the video. (If your End Polio event was not featured in the video we look forward to your clubs /districts tagging us in your End Polio Facebook posts next year (Debbie High, Art Zeitler, Eric Liu and Tommie Buscemi).

The video:

<https://animoto.com/play/DQMUnmRngf0CRuXetFoVLA>

Note: If you would like the embedded code to add this video to your District’s website, e-mail Debbie High at DebbieHigh.Rotary@gmail.com.

The video is also on the Zones’ website at: <https://zones25b-29.org/page/welcome-to-rotary-membership>.

One Week. One Focus: Rotary Showcase Week

Do your club members know what you do and why you do it?

Who: Share your club’s projects with your members, community, news and social media.

What: Rotary Showcase Week is an opportunity for your club to share your projects and good work your Rotary club is doing locally and globally.

One Week. One Focus: Rotary Showcase Week!

When: Feb. 16-22, 2020.

Where: In place of your club’s “weekly guest speaker / program.”

Why: So club members and your community know what you do and why you do it.

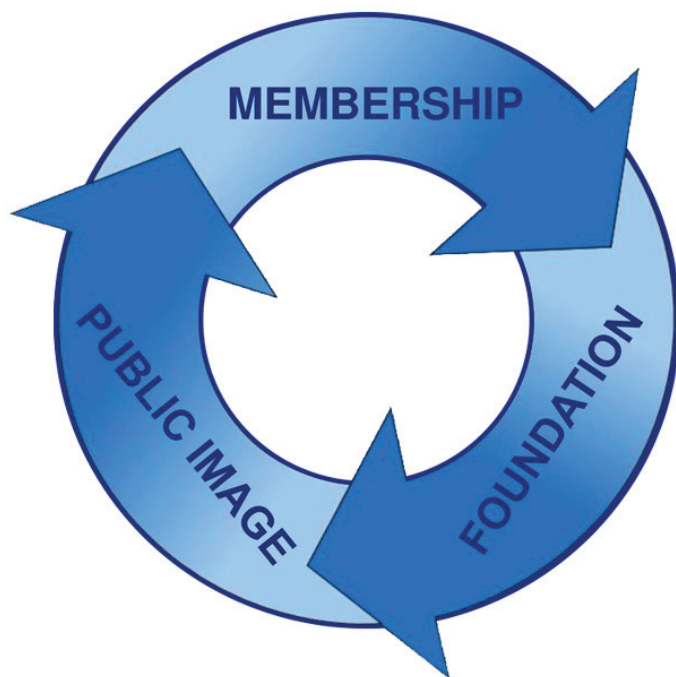
Resources:

- See Rotary Showcase Week flyer at www.zones25b-29.org > Membership > Trilogy Continuum for What, When, How, Resources, and Promoting Events

- Supports some Rotary Citation “Take Action” items for Rotary, Rotaract and Interact.

Tell your Rotary Club’s story during Rotary Showcase Week (and beyond)!

Deborah G. High is Rotary Coordinator and secretary of Rotary Leadership Institute for the Lone Star Division. She was District 5930 District Governor in 2016-2017. She is a member of the Rotary Club of Southside Corpus Christi, Texas. She can be contacted at (301) 524-7091 or debbiehigh.rotary@gmail.com.



[YOUR CLUB NAME]

ROTARY SHOWCASE WEEK

February 16 – 22, 2020

MAKING A DIFFERENCE

Rotarians are improving lives in communities around the world every day through thousands of service projects.

Do your members know what you do and why you do it?

Rotary Showcase Week – share your projects and good work that your Rotary club is doing locally and globally. Share your projects with your members, community and your Facebook friends.

Tell your Rotary Club’s Story during Rotary Showcase Week (and beyond).

- One Week. One Focus: Rotary Showcase Week
- Showcase your Rotary Club’s projects to your members & news media
- For District & Global Grant projects provide the amount of The Rotary Foundation Grant(s)

#peopleofaction
#rotaryshowcase
#rotaryconnectstheworld

FB: Rotary International Zone 25b And 29
<http://www.zones25b-29.org>

ROTARY SHOWCASE: www.rotaryclub.org

https://map.rotary.org/en/project/pages/project_showcase.aspx/

SOCIAL MEDIA

PUBLIC IMAGE

Story telling lies at the heart of our brand

Jill Slupe/District 5650

Public Image Chair

Knock, knock.

Who's there?

Radio.

Radio who?

Radio not, here we come!

We are the Public Image chairs. Although I am new to the role, I am energized and armed to help my District and the Zone live the Rotary story. I loved learning to create inspiring videos, Brand Central tools and storytelling with words and images.

We are Rotarians because we make a difference, and storytelling lies at the "heart" of our brand. My heart, like yours was touched this week (at the Zone Institute). It ached when I heard about getting our MOJO back. I was teary watching the Rotary videos, joyful at the thought of going to Houston next year, and grateful when Jennifer Jones shared her story of making an entry in her gratitude journal. Our leaders merged meaning and emotions to make it personal. They moved me, inspired me, and friended me. They touched my heart and now it is our job to show others how to use their heart and connect with their members and communities.

There are tons of tools; our Public Image class highlighted examples to help the clubs look good, sound good, and uncover the best story. Here is an example of the photo editing app App.pophotos.com which adds a message to a photo:



Before

An ordinary photo like this ... in only 45 seconds, can be transformed to a dynamic photo like this (below)!

Brand Central <https://brandcenter.rotary.org/en-GB> offers our members a world of possibilities with its tools, so they can generate meaningful connections by sharing stories.

Our members are our public image and we would like them to share their "why," because emotions keep us involved in projects, in attending meetings, and in supporting Rotary.

We have all the tools to tell the stories, eye-to-eye and heart-to-heart. Please open your heart and share your why.



After



Linda Peterson, Zone Public Image Chair (I), with RI Director Larry Dimmitt, PDG Blanche Parks and Rotary International President-Elect Holger Knaack, (Germany).

District 5710 tells Rotary's story with photo journals, March for Polio at state capitol

By Blanche Parks/District 5710

District Governor 2018-19

District 5710 was the winner of the Rotary Zone Institute Public Image Award on Sept. 28, 2019, at the Rotary International Zones 25B and 29 Institute in Overland Park, Kansas.

The campaign titled, "Where In the World Is the District Governor?", was a photo journal featuring the District Governor visiting each club, projects, and events featuring District Rotarians as "People of Action" in a variety of settings throughout the year. Photos of Rotarians were posted on the district website and in the district newsletter. The campaign was well received by District Rotarians.

District 5710 Committee members were District Governor Blanche Parks, Public Image Chair Eugene Williams of the Rotary Club of Downtown Topeka, and technology chair Vernon Turner of the Manhattan Rotary.

A District YouTube Channel was established on the website for Rotary ads and information, and for clubs to post Rotary videos of their projects and events.

The committee was involved in the planning of the first District World Polio Day at the Kansas State Capitol Building. This event was live streamed and featured on several TV news stations.

A March for Polio was held around the Capitol Building. Public Image members led the march. There was participation from Rotarians throughout the district, state government officials, legislators, and local elected officials. The program featured testimonials from polio survivors. An article was sent to the Rotarian Magazine.

The Public Image Team was also involved in the media and publicity portion of the District Conference held in April 2019 titled, "Follow the Yellow Brick Road to Topeka Kansas."

The District 5710 Rotary "People of Action" Campaign was a great success, thanks to the involvement of Rotarians who are People of Action in our District in Rotary Zones 25 and 29!

NCPETS slated March 12-14 at Rochester

By DGE Tom Gump/District 5950

NCPETS is an annual multi-district training event for incoming Rotary Club Presidents-Elect and Presidents-Nominee. It is currently composed of Rotary International Districts 5950 (Minnesota); 5960 (Minnesota and Wisconsin); 5970 (Iowa); and 6000 (Iowa). RI District 5610 (South Dakota, Iowa, Minnesota and Nebraska) will join NCPETS this year.

The 2020 NCPETS Team, led by Executive Chair and Past District Governor Tim Murphy (RI District 5950), is taking the opportunity to review its working documents and plan its future. Since last March, the team has been working to design and implement the best program it has hosted to date. It has reworked its Bylaws, Manual of Policies and Procedures and conducted a survey of last year's participants.

Working from last year's Presidents-Elect/Nominees, this year's Presidents-Elects' comments, the team has chosen speakers and is drafting curriculum to address the most pressing concerns of next year's attendees. The top four areas that our audience wants help with, in order of importance to them, are:

1. Growing **membership**;
2. Practicing **public speaking**;
3. Dealing with their members' **fear of change** and ensuring that change will not cause loss in club membership; and
4. Learning **where is Rotary headed?**

The NCPETS team has secured the following speakers for their 2020 event:

1. RI Director **Suzie Howe**, Zones 25A-B and 29 (2020-22);
2. Past Rotary Foundation Trustee **Mary Beth Growney-Selene**;
3. RI General Manager and Chief Strategic Officer **Tom Thorfinnson**; and
4. Past District Governor and Zone Rotary Public Image Coordinator **Michael Angelo Caruso**.

District participation

To make sure all of the all areas of the event were covered, The NCPETS Executive Committee formed a number of sub-teams for registration, House of Friendship, hospitality, facilities, education/curriculum, hosts/ambassadors and technology. Each of the 2020-21 District Governors of the participating districts chose a member from his district for each of the sub-teams.

The event will be held from March 12-14, 2020, at the Mayo Civic Center, Rochester, Minn. It will be sure to inspire attendees and energize them for their year as their club's president!

The current agenda for the event is:

Thursday, March 12th:

- 4:00-5:30 p.m. - My Rotary
- 4:00-5:30 p.m. - Fundraising Roundtable
- 4:00-5:30 p.m. - Recruitment Roundtable
- 5:30 p.m. - Welcome to Rochester Reception
- 7:00 p.m. - Dine around Rochester at Restaurants with local Rotarian hosts

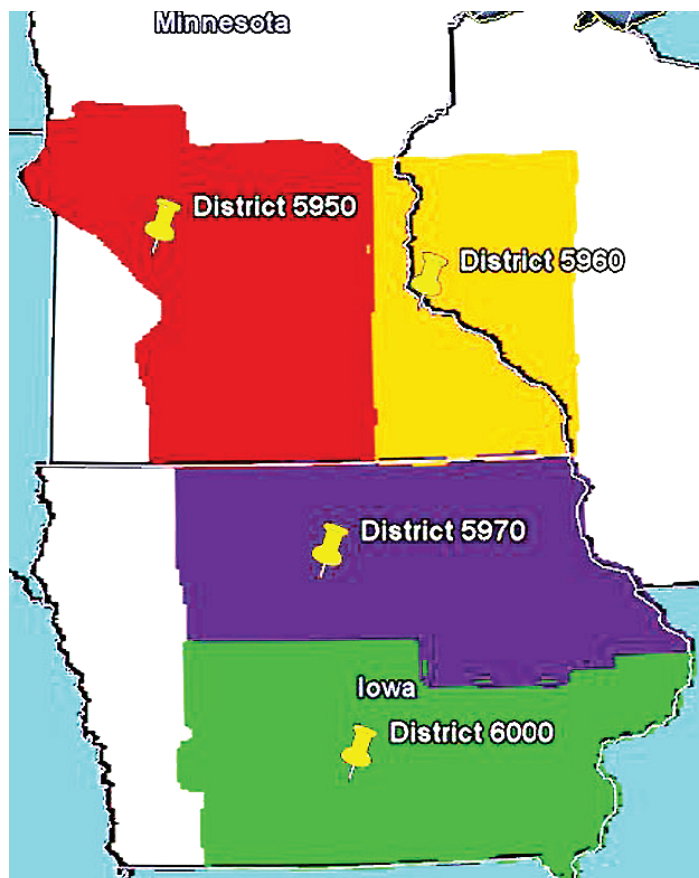
Friday, March 13th:

- 7:15 a.m. - General Session Opening Breakfast
- 8:30 a.m. - District PE Training Session
- Noon - General Session Luncheon
- 2:15 p.m. - Multi-District Breakout Sessions
- 5:15 p.m. - Reception
- 6:30 p.m. - General Session Dinner

Saturday, March 14th:

- 7:00 a.m. - General Session Breakfast
- 8:45 a.m. - Multi-District Breakout Sessions
- 11:15 a.m. - District Wrap-Up Session
- 12:15 p.m. - Conference Concludes

To register, please go to <https://www.ncpets.org/>.



Incoming club presidents from these districts plus District 5610 (South Dakota, Minnesota, Iowa, Nebraska) will participate in PETS March 12-13, 2020, in Rochester, Minn.

Task force targets new clubs

Rotary International President Mark D. Maloney has invited District 5950's Tom Gump to the first ever "New Club Development Summit," to be convened at Rotary World Headquarters, in Evanston, Ill., on Jan. 30-31, 2020.



Tom Gump

President Maloney has called the Summit to coordinate and promote a growing network of proven leaders in new club development, which has historically been Rotary's primary growth engine.

The Summit's objective is to build a community of practice for establishing new clubs, where a select group of experts from each zone in North America will convene to share best practices, discuss opportunities and resource needs, and set goals for a heightened and accelerated

focus on establishing new and innovative club models. Participation will be limited to just 20 carefully selected Rotary leaders from across North America, who have demonstrated proven success in establishing new clubs.

Tom, of Edina, Minn., is committed to actively identifying and establishing new and innovative Rotary club models in our region. He was the visionary lead founder and honorary Charter Member of The Rotary Club of Minnesota Veterans, the first Rotary Club for veterans in the world.

INTERNATIONAL SERVICE

Birthing kits aid mothers in Mumbai

The Rotary Club of Mumbai West Coast, India, Club No. 50053, District 3141, received 200 Birthing Kits from Rtn. Christina Nolte of the Rotary Club of Manhattan, KS.

Additional items worth rupees 12000 in Birthing Kits were donated by PP Rtn. Dr. Nilima Inamdar, Rotary Club of Mumbai West Coast.

Beneficiaries were 200 pregnant ladies in labor from the Jawhar area. Jawhar is a backward and very poor area about 128 km away from Mumbai.

Patangshah Kutir Rural Hospital is a 150-bedded multispecialty government hospital in the rural area at Jawhar with prenatal and postnatal care facilities. These facilities are free of charge for the patients.

On Aug. 17, 2019, members of Rotary Club of Mumbai West Coast visited Patangshah Kutir Rural Hospital to distribute these Birthing Kits to poor pregnant ladies.

At that time, seven patients were in labour. Birthing kits were distributed to them in the antenatal department and the remaining 193 kits were handed over to Dr Bharat Mahale, gynecologist at the hospital, to be distributed later.

All 200 kits were distributed to 200 patients in labor. The last patient received the kit on Oct. 16, 2019.

The project was attended by Rotarians: PDG Dr Bal Inamdar, President Rajendrasinh Chauhan, Chair - Rtn Dr Neelam Navagare, PP Dr. Nilima Inamdar, PP Sunil Gursahani, Rtn Vasudha Pathare and Rtn Dr. Aditya Tare.

– submitted by Vern Hendricks, president and CEO of the Greater Manhattan Community Foundation



Birthing kit distribution at the hands of Rotarian Vasudha Pathare.



Members of the Rotary Club of Manhattan assemble the birthing kits.

Letter of acknowledgment

Rotary Board Members,

We received the grant check this week for our International Birthing Kit project and I also received the email below from my contact at the Rotary Club in India. I know we all experienced some disappointment with the grant process for this project – but please take a look at the two attachments they shared and please read his email below.

Our kits went to a hospital that does not charge fees (my little non-profit heart is so happy) and delivers 2500 to 3500 babies a year! We get to see the names of the 200 women who used our kits in their deliveries, how cool is that?!?! (Side note, HIPAA is clearly not a thing in India!) I love that we have received this information and these pictures that validate the need of this project and what our little kits are doing out in the world!

Anyways, this just made my week so I wanted to be sure and share it with each of you!

Christina Nolte
Manhattan, KS

Letter of appreciation

Dear Rtn. Christina Nolte,

At the outset, let me thank you once again for donating 200 Birthing Kits for poor rural pregnant patients in Jawhar, a backward area in the rural district of Palghar. The government hospital, Patangshah Kutir Rural Hospital, which does not charge any fees from patients, delivers about 2,500 to 3,000 deliveries per year! The "Birthing Kits Project" was one of most need-based project for this community which has a per capita income of about \$1,000 per annum! The hospital is very grateful for your support and gives you their good wishes for your future endeavors!

Dr. Balkrishna Inamdar, District Governor 2012-13
Rotary Foundation Grant Project Adviser, 2019-22

BIRTHING KITS SENT TO NIGERIA

Additionally, the Rotary Club of Manhattan donated birthing kits to Alanamu Primary Health Centre, Ilorin, Kwara State, Nigeria. Ilorin is the state capital of Kwara in Western Nigeria. The materials were received by the health facility on Aug. 2, 2019.

The project purpose is to improve clean childbirth and cord care to prevent newborn infection. The birthing kits was assembled by Rotary Club of Manhattan District 5710 USA. The kit consist of soap for hand washing, alcohol wipes to clean the strings for cord tie, gauze for cleaning, protective hand gloves, string for cord tie and drape for clean birth surface.

As of the 2006 census, it had a population of 777,667, making it the sixth largest city by population in Nigeria.

Each year in Nigeria over seven million babies are born; 240,000 of these babies die in their first month of life with 94,000 dying on the day of birth. Newborn infections account for nearly one-fifth of total newborn deaths globally.

GUATEMALA

Clean water, education for 16,000 children

By Narayan Murarka/Barrington, Ill.

District 6440

WASH in Schools (WinS) is a Rotary Foundation program.

The key feature of WinS is to leverage efforts to provide clean water and sanitation by connecting them with health, hygiene and education. Addressing health and hygiene training while developing water and sanitation infrastructure may have a profound positive impact on the overall health of a community, as boys and girls benefit from that education.

In February 2018, The Rotary Foundation (TRF) awarded a \$560,000 competitive challenge grant (PG17 90001) to our team comprised of Club Rotario Guatemala Sur, Rotary Club of Antigua, Rotary District 4250 and Barrington Breakfast Rotary Club, Rotary District 6440, addressing the need for Water, Sanitation and Hygiene, (WASH) in Schools (WinS).

The program is being implemented under the direction of PRID and TRF Trustee Jorge Aufranc and Rotarian Narayan Murarka.

Approximately 16,000 children between the ages of 3 to 18 from 48 schools in Sacatepéquez department of Guatemala, will have 24/7 access to clean filtered water and sanitation facilities with an emphasis on education and training for health, hygiene and menstrual health management. These efforts increase health in the region, which in turn decreases absences from school.

Background: Within developing countries, unsafe water, poor sanitation and lack of hygiene together create a high-risk situation for school-age children leading to diseases that may also contribute to death from malnutrition. Unsafe water is not only linked to health, it also effects education for children. When they become ill from diarrhea and other water borne diseases, school attendance is severely effected. The impact and consequences are poor education and challenges for a better future.

The adolescent girls in schools have unique added challenges due to the lack of menstrual hygiene knowledge, resources



Francisco Viau, Mrs. and President Maloney, School Principal Isabel Santander, Narayan Murarka and Jorge Aufranc listening to presentations at the event.

and facilities. Providing Menstrual Hygiene Management training in schools encourages adolescent girls to continue their education without dropping out of school, improving their long-term development and self-confidence.

Contaminated water and poor hygiene are the “status quo” in rural parts of Guatemala, which has a significant indigenous population. TRF, through its initiative “Water, Sanitation & Hygiene (WASH) in Schools (WinS),” is intervening to improve the quality of and access to education – particularly for girls.

UNICEF is working in more than 95 countries with the WinS program. WinS became a priority for TRF recently and is being implemented as a pilot project in Guatemala, Honduras, Kenya and India.

The program is implemented as follows:

WASH Facilities

1. Access to clean safe water is provided with Sawyer SP 202 water filters.
2. Handwashing and drink stations are being built with multiple faucets.
3. Gender segregated toilets are built.

GUATEMALA, continued on next page



PRID & TRF Trustee Jorge Aufranc, President and Mrs. Maloney, Narayan Murarka and Dist. 4250 DG Francisco Viau.



Mark & Gay Maloney surrounded by school children

4. Restrooms with toilets and sinks for girls to meet their needs during the menstrual cycle are built to guarantee washing, changing and menstrual waste disposal with privacy.

Education & Training

5. Effective health and hygiene training program encourage formation of cleaning/washing habits and promotes a cultural behavioral change.

6. Menstrual hygiene management program focused on the biology of the menstruation cycle and safe practices. The goal is to prevent girls from dropping out of school.

7. Incorporate these lessons in the school curriculum.

Visit from President Maloney

Rotary International President Mark Maloney with his wife, Gay, visited the Bilingue School in Sumpango Municipality of the Department (state) of Sacatepéquez on Sept. 2, 2019, to celebrate the completion of project work at this school.

An addendum to the original letter of "INTER-INSTITUTIONAL COMMITMENT" for WinS was signed in Guatemala between the Guatemala Ministries of Education and Health and Rotary District 4250.

As part of the commitment, the Ministry of Education will review, endorse and register the list of schools in which the WASH Program will be implemented, and grant through the corresponding Directorates, the respective permits and/or authorizations for the entry of people and materials to the schools where this program will be carried out, as well as any necessary management assistance to execute the ideal infrastructure needed by the schools. It will also issue the instructions for the school authorities to provide the support as necessary.

The agreement was signed on Sept. 2, 2019 by Mr. Elder Vargas-Minister of Culture (third from left) and Mr. Jose Moreno-Vice Minister of Education (fourth from left). District Governor Francisco Viau (fifth from left) signed on behalf of Rotary District 4250. RI President Mark Maloney (second from left) signed as the witness. Trustee Jorge Aufranc joined the signing ceremony. The agreement is now extended through Aug. 20, 2021.

The WinS program, upon its completion in spring 2020, will benefit over 16,000 school age children in terms of their health resulting in better school attendance and education. The physical aspects of WinS (i.e., clean water, hand washing and sanitation facilities) when combined with education for health, hygiene and menstrual health management enhance education and future of these children.

We are proud to be part of such a worthy cause.



Signing in ceremony between Ministries of Education and Culture and District 4250 for mutual collaboration for WinS



Mrs. Maloney enjoying okara fortified food product prepared by the microenterprise women.

GUATEMALA

Mechanical cow provides nutrition for children

By Narayan Muraka/Barrington, Ill.

District 6440

Guatemala has the highest malnutrition index of 54 percent in children younger than 5 years old in Latin America. The malnutrition in children increases the risk of decreased cognitive development and slows down the overall growth. Guatemalan children are lactose intolerant and as such do not have access to milk and cannot digest cow's milk. A high protein content product such as soymilk is desired to help their growth at an early age.

The mechanical cow project is aimed at minimizing malnutrition among Guatemalan children by providing them with protein rich soymilk. The mechanical cow is a pressure cooker type machine which processes soybeans, water and steam to produce a slurry that can be separated into protein rich soymilk and a solid by-product called "okara." Okara also has protein and can be used to fortify other food products.

The Barrington Breakfast Rotary Club (BBRC), District 6440, in partnership with Club Rotario Guatemala Sur and Rotary Club of Guatemala de la Asunción, District 4250 has been engaged in mechanical cow projects for several years with a goal to combat malnutrition for children and establish a microenterprise for women. Six such machines are fully operational with additional two-three are in the plans.

Rotary International President Mark Maloney, with his wife Gay, visited the Sumpango Nutrition Center on Sept. 2, 2019. Sumpango is one of the municipalities in the Department (state) of Sacatepéquez, Guatemala. They first visited the production room and witnessed the preparation of soymilk. They were also briefed on distribution of the milk to children in schools in different parts of the country. They then visited the kitchen (bakery) where food products blended with okara are prepared by a group of women as a microenterprise business. Mrs. Maloney enjoyed one of the products. These products also offer enhanced protein level since okara is a by-product of the soymilk production process.

BBRC is proud to achieve success in combatting the malnutrition of over 2,000 Guatemala children.

HUMAN TRAFFICKING

Topeka Rotarians open drop-in center

By Mandy Sheldon/District 5710

Gardner, KS

District 5710 is proud to announce that, in collaboration with the YWCA Center for Safety and Empowerment, we opened Topeka's first daytime drop-in center for victim-survivors of human trafficking and commercial sexual exploitation on Friday, Nov. 22.

A ribbon cutting ceremony and open house commemorated the event, with guest speakers Kansas Attorney General Derek Schmidt and YWCA Northeast Kansas CEO Kathleen Marker. "While Rotary is all about service above self, we are so grateful to be benefiting from the hard work, dedication, and incredible generosity from our local Rotary district right here in eastern Kansas as well as Rotary District 3141 in Mumbai, India. This truly encapsulates Rotary's theme for 2019: 'Rotary Connects the World,'" Marker said.

Rotary and YWCA Northeast Kansas learned that there is a great need in our communities to provide this particular type of service model. "Our staff has learned from first-hand experience that we can't meet the higher level of services such as case management and counseling until we address clients' most basic needs." The Day Center will provide a safe space for victims to rest, take a shower, enjoy a warm meal, and have access to clean clothes and support from specialized staff and Rotary and community volunteers.

Human trafficking hits home

"Many of us think of human trafficking and sexual exploitation as something taking place in other parts of the world. The harsh reality is that it is in fact a significant industry right here in Kansas, in our local communities. The decision to support YWCA Northeast Kansas in this innovative project in a significant and sustainable way was an obvious choice when we understood that this was our chance to make meaningful change happen right here in Topeka," said Patti Mellard, Rotary District 5710 Peace Programs Chair.

The day center has been made possible by a Rotary International Global Grant which matched funding from the Topeka Rotary Foundation, Topeka South Rotary, Rotary District 5710 (Eastern Kansas), Rotary District 3141 (Mumbai), and a private donor for a total investment of \$120,500.

Rotary global grants support sustainable endeavors that align with one of Rotary's areas of focus and are designed



The District 5710 Human Trafficking Committee cuts the ribbon to open the new Center for Safety and Empowerment Day Center in Topeka, KS.

in cooperation with the community to address a real need. Grant Chair, Patti Mellard, submitted this grant to Rotary International with a focus on Peace and Conflict Prevention/Resolution and a goal of enhancing the capacity of individuals and to transform conflict and build peace. "There will be a focus on training community members in peace education leadership and conflict prevention, and providing services that help integrate vulnerable populations into society," said Mellard.

Global Grant committee members are: Patti Mellard, Host Chair, Subodh Bohra, International Chair, District 5710 representatives: Faron Barr, Lori Rowe, Lon Lewis, Bette Morris, Blanche Parks, Carol Wheeler, and District 3141 representatives: Chetan Desai, Akkshay Mehta, and Ganesh Viswanathan.

For more information about this Global Grant or Peace Programs in District 5710, contact Patti Mellard at patti@keystaffing.com.

If you or someone you know needs help, please call the YWCA 24-hour crisis line: 1(888) 822-2983.

Great turnout for Rotary Leadership Institute training

By DG Erna Morain/District 6000

Waukee, IA

Great turnout for the Rotary Leadership Institute training in West Des Moines on Saturday, November 9th. Over 25 rotarians took part in the training. These three Rotarians from District 6000 completed Part III and became RLI Graduates: Ron Heideman (Indianola), T Waldmann-Williams (Knoxville) and Jim Peterson (Iowa City AM). Congratulations graduates!

"The purpose of the Rotary Leadership Institute (RLI) is to strengthen your club and strengthen your life. Rotary provides an opportunity for all of us to provide service to our community and throughout the world. (Service Above Self) With that service comes a learning experience in the areas of leadership, team building, planning, marketing, communication and organization. RLI provides an opportunity to enrich that learning through sharing experiences and ideas with other Rotarians throughout the region".



District 6000 DG Erna Morain (r) with RLI graduates (l-r): Ron Heideman, T Waldmann-Williams and Jim Peterson.