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Roadside Cleanup project.

All hands are needed - Rotarians, spouses, kids, grandkids, Interact Members, friends - and whoever else you can pick up to bring along. Many hands makes the work light for all.

USA-Mexico Friendship Conference by Art Harrington



Our Mexican Rotarian friends and partners are coming to Arizona!

The 9th Annual USA-Mexico Friendship Conference is being held at the Grand Canyon at the Best Western Squire Inn Oct. 31 - Nov. 2.

This is a great opportunity to learn about projects that are underway, as well as new projects that need international partners for obtaining Rotary Foundation Matching Grants. You can register online via the district website: www.rotary5490.org.

The special \$79 room rate expires Oct. 6. For room reservations call (928) 638-8426, asking for the special Rotary rate, code #586, or email Charlotte Kerr: ckerr@grandcanyonsquire.com

This will be a weekend of Rotary friendship and fellowship to remember at the beautiful Grand Canyon. Don't miss it!

Foundation Banquet Nov. 15 by Art Harrington

Tri-District Foundation Banquet



The beautiful **Francisco Grande Resort** in Casa Grande has been chosen for the Tri-District Rotary Foundation Banquet scheduled for Saturday, Nov. 15.

Mark Maloney, who has served as both an RI Director and Rotary Foundation Trustee, will be our guest speaker. We will

also be hearing from outstanding Foundation Alumni as they share how Rotary has changed their lives. A silent auction will help to raise funds for the Polio Challenge Grant.

Mark this date on your calendar, and plan to make the trip with us to Casa Grande for a great statewide Rotary fellowship event, as we celebrate our Rotary Foundation!

Polio eradication setbacks by Art Harrington



Some discouraging news

from the Polio eradication front line

Two doctors and their driver, on duty for the World Health Organization, who were on tehir way to prepare the logistics for a polio vaccination campaign in southern Afghanistan, were assasinated on Sept. 14 by a vehicle-borne suicide bomber.

This tragic incident, along with an armed attack in Somalia this summer in which two polio workers were seriously wounded, are stark reminders of the risks faced each day by those working on the front line of our united battle to eradicate Polio from the face of the earth.

Throughout the 20 years of the Global Polio Eradication Initiative, vaccinators and other polio staff have faced the risk of murder, assault, kidnapping and natural disasters on all continents, in spite of UN security measures to protect them. The vast majority of these workers are volunteers.

In addition, in spite of our efforts to annihilate this crippling disease, we are seeing a resurgence of it globally, but primarily in the 4 endemic countries. Compare the cases at the end of August this year in these countries, versus the same time last year:

٠	India	420	VS	223

- Nigeria 655 vs 188
- Pakistan 44 vs 13
- Afghanistan 16 vs 9

The final stretch of any race is always the toughest, and this one is no exception. Your help is needed.

A Rotarian's testimonial by Art Harrington

South African tells why he is a Rotarian



It is when you stand at the airport waiting to meet you wife - there is a tap on your shoulder and a person neatly dressed in a suit with a great warm smile on his face greets you...Wow! But a few years ago he was a gangster in a squatter camp and now through a development program initiated by myself he is in a stable job and a proud youngster.

It is when you spend time with disadvantaged young people who have just completed a sailing circumnavigation of Africa..all these youngsters from disadvantaged communities.and you learn of their progress and development.

It's the time when one has nurtured a young girl who lost her father and had no money for university - the moment when she graduates as a doctor, is invited to dinner and meets her benefactor, an old Rotarian, over 90 who she had been caring for and never known that he was the Rotarian who had sponsored her.

It's when you switch on the TV and there in your lounge is the smiling face of a young girl who came from a iron shack with no electricity, water, sanitation - with a candle to study and a wet floor in the winter - a person who we as Rotarians took by the hand and walked with. She blossomed, completed her education and today is a South African presenter for major sports events - even the Olympics were covered by her.

It is the years of working with young folk on youth exchange and the post graduates from the Ambassadorial Scholarship program - then the time when you meet them after they have returned, settled down and are now contributing to their own community when you share once again in their formative experiences for which Rotary has made so much of a difference in their lives.

These and the working with families in the squatter camps are the "return on the sweat equity investments" that recharge my batteries and keep me going.

Thank you Rotary!

-- Trevor Wilkins, Past President, Rotary Club of Cape Town, Republic of South Africa