



## The Rotary Club of Sedona News Release

Contact: Linda Clark  
PR Committee Chair  
(928) 204-1238  
[lindaclark@vvcaregivers.org](mailto:lindaclark@vvcaregivers.org)

### **Rotary Club of Sedona sending books to needy schools in third world countries**

**July 7, 2016—Sedona**—Rotarian John Crawford has just finished packing 4,000 pounds of books now awaiting transport for the first stage of the journey to a needy school in Africa and/or India.

This new Rotary Club of Sedona project collects used school books to send to its sister club in Houston, Texas, which gathers books from around the U.S., shipping them regularly to Rotary clubs in Africa and/or India, which distribute them to the neediest schools.

Crawford said the idea came to him when his son spent a semester teaching math at a village school in Tanzania.

“James reported back to me that his class of 23 had to share just one math textbook—yet here in the U.S. we throw away tons of textbooks every year.”

Crawford started collecting discarded books from Red Rock High School, schools in Cottonwood, and Sedona Public Library.

“Thanks to Rotarians Dick Youngberg and Dick Weisbaum, members of the club’s International Service Committee, we are able to join Houston’s “Books for the World” program. Since 2000, they have shipped 12 million pounds of books to schools in Africa and India. We are just starting in their program, but we hope to be able to collect and ship a truck-load to them at least annually,” Crawford said.

Schools and libraries which have books to discard can contact John Crawford at [john@uscrawford.com](mailto:john@uscrawford.com) to arrange pick-up.

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