

# THE DISTRICT NEWSLETTER



ROTARY DISTRICT 7030. ZONE 34

September 2019

## RI President Mark Maloney's Monthly Message



Here in the United States, another summer is winding down. And for the Maloney family, every summer ends with a return to my hometown of Ridgway, Illinois, for the annual Popcorn Day festival, where I am honored to serve as the "Popcorn King," the master of ceremonies for the day's events. Regardless of the season, every family has its own traditions. I would like to suggest a new one for yours: Find an opportunity to introduce your family to Rotary. One of my family's traditions is to take our daughters and grandsons to the Rotary International Convention. The 2020 convention in Honolulu will be a wonderful way to introduce your children and grandchildren to the internationality of Rotary. We are planning many family-oriented events for everyone to enjoy.

Any time is a fabulous time to bring family members on a Rotary service project or to a fundraising event. But perhaps you have not seen many family-friendly events at your club. That is precisely why one of my top priorities this year is to make most Rotary events welcoming to family members. We must foster a culture where Rotary does not compete with family, but complements it. We should never expect our members to choose between the two. That means being realistic in our expectations, considerate in our scheduling, and welcoming of children at Rotary events on every level. Often, the young professionals that Rotary needs to attract in order to remain a dynamic 21st-century service organization are the very people who have the greatest family responsibilities. We must not keep these prospective young members away from their families by holding events on evenings and weekends at which their children are not welcome.

For too long, we have closed the doors of many Rotary events to children and sometimes even spouses. What wasted opportunities these are! Every chance we have to pass on the gift of Rotary to young people is one we must take if we are going to grow Rotary and ensure that the next generation is fully engaged in our mission. So let us open our doors and do it in a fun way, with opportunities that make our children and grandchildren want to learn more about Interact, Rotaract, and Rotary membership. Start small if you must — perhaps by holding some of your meetings at more family-friendly times — but think about how you can continue these kinds of events for years to come.

Bringing children to Rotary events is not just fun; it also exposes them to the world! Make this a memorable year for your family — and an unforgettable year for the ever-expanding family of Rotary as Rotary Connects the World. Share how you make Rotary part of your family in my Family of Rotary Facebook group: <https://www.facebook.com/groups/rotaryfamily>

September 2019  
Mark Daniel MALONEY, President, Rotary International

## September is Literacy and Basic Education Month

More than 775 million people over the age of 15 are illiterate. That's 17 percent of the world's adult population.

Our goal is to strengthen the capacity of communities to support basic education and literacy, reduce gender disparity in education, and increase adult literacy. We support education for all children and literacy for children and adults.

**HOW ROTARY MAKES HELP HAPPEN:** We take action to empower educators to inspire learning at all ages. Programmes include:

- Mentoring Students
- Teacher Training
- Adult Literacy
- Rotary Scholarships
- Educating Refugees
- Coaching Teachers
- Schools4Freedom

**The Rotary Foundation** supports education through scholarships, donations, and service projects around the world.

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## District Governor's Monthly Message



In Rotary, September is observed as Basic Education and Literacy month. Literacy is critical to the economic development of a country, and is also essential for human dignity, and individual growth and well-being. In our district we enjoy high rates of literacy by any standards. In many, if not all, of our countries there is universal comprehensive education, and access to education at the primary and secondary levels is seen as a basic human right. The proportion of our population that is exposed to tertiary-level education also continues to grow.

Notwithstanding, there exists pockets of illiteracy, primarily in some rural communities, and even in urban areas there is some adult functional illiteracy. We cannot forget this segment of our citizenry, or allow them to fall through the cracks.

Further, there are many who possess the basic ability to read and write, but suffer from forms of learning disabilities, eg dyslexia. While, we have become better in recent years in diagnosing these conditions, we are a long way from making the necessary adjustments to create an enabling environment within our school systems to ensure such person could reach their full academic potential alongside their peers.

This month presents an ideal opportunity for us, as Rotarians, to bring some focus on these groups and to advocate for, and assist in developing, programs aimed at ameliorating their situation.

During this month, we must also continue to support our brothers and sisters in The Bahamas, in the aftermath of Hurricane Dorian. The scale of the disaster in the Bahamian islands that bore the brunt of the storm is nothing short of cataclysmic, and the required relief, recovery and rebuilding efforts are staggering. I am heartened by the outpouring of support expressed by Rotarians in our District, and some clubs have already contributed, or have committed to contribute, sorely needed funds.

I implore those clubs that have not yet responded, to do so at the earliest opportunity. I also encourage clubs not to merely look inward at its own or its members' resources, but to seek to facilitate the wider participation of the general public through specific cause-related fundraisers, such as telethons. Our fellowmen in The Bahamas are in critical need of our assistance and support at this time.

September 2019  
DG Trevor Blake, 7030

## Rotarian rides again



### EDWIN VELARDE

This was not the first time Velarde, a board member of the Rotarian Action Group for Diabetes, had cycled to a convention. "I thought I could create awareness by riding to conventions," says Velarde, who was diagnosed with type 1 diabetes when he was 29. He biked from Busan to Seoul, Korea, in 2016, from Chicago to Atlanta in 2017, and from Rotary headquarters in Evanston, Illinois, to Toronto in 2018. This year, the journey had added meaning; Velarde dedicated this ride to his son Davis Edwin Velarde, who died at 22 of lymphoma in April.

Diabetes is a chronic illness that occurs either when the pancreas does not produce insulin (type 1) or when the body cannot effectively use insulin (type 2). When diabetes is not controlled, it can result in severe damage to the eyes, kidneys, and nerves and can double a person's risk of heart attack and stroke. The World Health Organization estimates that the number of people with diabetes rose from 108 million in 1980 to 422 million in 2014.

Several years ago, when Velarde was feeling fatigued and depressed about his illness, a friend gave him a bike. He took it out for a spin. "That ride woke me up to the fact that I was not fit," he recalls. "I realized I wanted to become a cyclist, and not just someone who rides a bike."

Velarde's goal is to rally support among Rotarians to find a cure for diabetes, and to spread the word that a healthy lifestyle can help people who have type 2 diabetes better control the illness.

*Published in RI's The Rotarian September issue.*

**Reminder: Clubs are asked to undertake one project focused on the prevention and/or treatment of Diabetes.**

## Over US\$80,000 Pledged To Hurricane Dorian Relief Efforts – Report 1

Hurricane Dorian is said to be the strongest hurricane ever to hit the Bahamas and the joint strongest to ever hit land in the Atlantic. According to the International Red Cross, 45% of homes on Grand Bahama and the Abaco – roughly 13,000 properties, have been severely damaged and destroyed, and the United Nations has predicted that 60,000 people will need food and clean water. Rotarians around the district and across the region immediately began discussing ways to help those affected.

DG Trevor proposed a US\$10,000 cash response from the District Disaster Funds. He also encouraged clubs individually or in their clusters to support the response with their own cash contributions to the Bahamian Rotary Disaster Relief bank account. District Disaster Chair PDG Stephen Ramroop also stressed to his team that “cash is now required for cleaning up the debris and battered homes and washing off the dirt and leaves from homes”. Former president of Rotary International, Barry Rassin, also shared the same view “Cash is king. For us to rebuild these communities, we need funds,” he tells NPR’s Jason Beaubien.

At 16 September 2019, six clubs in the district have already wired funds totaling US\$11,730 to the relief fund. An additional twenty-seven clubs have also pledged US\$71,189 to the fund, which should be sent shortly. To date, three weeks after Hurricane Dorian hit the Bahamas, clubs in the District have donated or pledged US\$82,919, and the efforts still continue. Forty clubs are still to report their contributions.

Clubs have contributed/pledged funds from their disaster relief accounts and collected donations from their members. Some have held, or plan to hold, radiothons, telethons, and are partnering with local businesses to raise funds towards the cause. Clubs and members are encouraged to send their contributions directly to the Relief Funds, and reported to the District. The account details are listed below.

Let us support our brothers and sisters in our neighbouring district in their hour of need.

## Rotary Disaster Response Grants

**Did you know** that The Rotary Foundation supports disaster relief and recovery efforts through grants from the Rotary Disaster Response Fund? Here’s some useful information from RI to note:

### What Rotary disaster response grants support

- Districts that have been affected by natural disasters can use Rotary disaster response grants to launch their own projects or work with established relief organizations to help their communities recover.
- Grant funds can be used to provide basic items such as water, food, medicine, and clothing. Districts should work closely with local officials and groups to ensure that the funding will meet a specific community need.
- The Rotary Foundation also offers funding to support long-term disaster recovery efforts through global grants.

### Who can apply for a disaster response grant?

- Once qualified for Rotary grants, districts in an affected area or country may apply for a maximum grant of \$25,000, based on the availability of funds.
- A district may apply for subsequent grants after it successfully reports outcomes from previous grants.

### How to apply?

- The district governor and district Rotary Foundation chair complete the Rotary Disaster Response Grant Application and send it to [grants@rotary.org](mailto:grants@rotary.org).

To learn more, click on the link below:

<https://my.rotary.org/en/take-action/apply-grants/rotary-disaster-response-grants>



## HURRICANE DORIAN DISASTER RELIEF HOW TO CONTRIBUTE

Leadership of Rotary District 7020, the Disaster Network of Assistance Action Group and neighbouring Rotary Districts in Zone 33-34 have issued the following information for those able to render financial assistance who seek an avenue for donations where 100% of proceeds will go to needs of the impacted areas and they can be assured of proper accounting of spending.

Funds to aid The Bahamas specifically may be send directly to the Bahamas Disaster Fund. To contribute directly to the Bahamas Fund, the details are as follows:

Ensure you advise in advance the details of funds being remitted as follows:

- **Name of Sender**
- **Amount of Remittance**
- **Notify** [frankmcgwier@coralwave.com](mailto:frankmcgwier@coralwave.com)

Bank of America N.A., Miami branch  
Nationsbank Tower, 100 S.E. 2nd Street  
Miami Florida, 33131  
Miami, A/C 1901009680  
ABA No. 026009593

**FOR CREDIT TO:** COMMONWEALTH BANK, LTD  
**S.W.I.F.T. CODE:** COMWBSNS  
**FOR FURTHER CREDIT TO:**  
ROTARY DISASTER RELIEF FUND  
A/C 1004195  
13 Ridgeway Drive, Nassau Bahamas  
P.O. Box EE 15627, Nassau, Bahamas  
+1 (242) 424-6163

## DG Visits in August – Saint Lucia

St Lucia had the honor to be the first overseas country visited by the District Governor as part of his official tour of District 7030. Although the visit was early and the notice was short, the clubs in St Lucia rolled out the red carpet and welcomed the DG with great enthusiasm.

On Sunday, the DG met with Rotarians from all clubs for the distribution of a few wheelchairs in the North of the island. This was a small part of a major joint wheelchair project which was undertaken by all of the Rotary clubs. The Distribution was well attended and exposed us all to some amazing recipients. Following the event, a few Rotarians had lunch with the DG at a local restaurant in Gros Islet, in the North of the Island.

The first meeting on Monday 05 August was with the Minister for Social Justice and Equity Mr. Lenard Montoute, who was extremely interested in Rotary's plans for the year. The DG 'pinned' the Minister in appreciation for his commitment to assist in Rotary's efforts for the year.

AG Charlie and the Presidents from the Rotary Club of St Lucia and the Rotary club of Gros Islet were all active participants at this meeting. Immediately following this meeting the DG met with a few members of the Board of RCSL for a few minutes to get some insight into their plans as well as to give some ideas on areas of focus.

On Tuesday, 06 August, the DG met with the entire Board of RCGI, who presented a comprehensive plan for the year along with a generous budget. The DG offered a few pointers and reminded them all of the goals on which to focus for this year. A joint lunch with all Rotary, Satellite and Rotaract clubs at the Sandals Golf and Country Club followed the Gros Islet Board meeting, where the hosts, Gros Islet club, presented a speaker to explain one of their major projects. Both Rotary club Presidents thanked the DG for his visit and committed their members to the Rotary ideals.

These presentations were followed by the DG, who addressed the well-attended lunch, inspiring the members to dig deeper to achieve the Rotary goals and make connections. A short fellowship followed immediately. Later that afternoon, the DG met with Rotaractors, and that evening a few Rotarians, including DGE Lisle, hosted the DG at a local entertainment venue. The DG left very early the next morning.

The Rotary Clubs, Satellite Clubs, Rotaract Clubs and Interact Clubs of St Lucia, wish the DG every success in the year 2019/2020.



DG Meets Rotaractors

## DG Visits in August ~ The ABC Islands

Visit of DG Trevor to the ABC Islands from August 20 until 23, 2019

The visit to the ABC islands comprised besides flying between the islands, visits to one of the many projects of the 4 different Rotary Clubs, meetings with the boards and with the Fellows of the 4 clubs. At each occasion the DG explained his goals and plans he would like to see realized in 2019-2020. Among others visits were paid to

- ✓ Casa Cuna, safehouse for children in distress (Aruba);
- ✓ Kibrahacha, center for active seniors (Aruba); The Prime Minister of Aruba attended the meeting at Kibrahacha and met with DG Trevor.
- ✓ YMCA. afterschool care facility for youngsters until 17 years of age (Aruba),
- ✓ Media bus project (Bonaire) for children to borrow books and use laptops.
- ✓ Fundashon Prevencion (Curacao) recipient of a 3D mammograph for which a Global Grant was received from TRF.

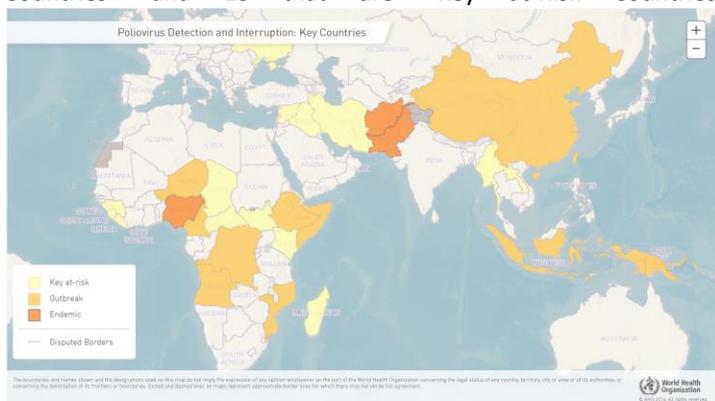


## Project Update: Polio Plus



**3** ENDEMIC COUNTRIES  
**14** OUTBREAK COUNTRIES  
**13** KEY AT-RISK COUNTRIES

Polio remains endemic in three countries Afghanistan, Nigeria and Pakistan. Until poliovirus transmission is interrupted in these countries, all countries remain at risk of importation of polio, especially vulnerable countries with weak public health and immunization services and travel or trade links to endemic countries. Did you know there are 14 countries that are “Outbreak Countries” and 13 that are “Key at-Risk Countries”



World Polio Day is fast approaching - October 24

What are your plans to tell the world that thanks to Rotary we are "This Close" to eradicating Polio

## District Calendar of Events

### Past

4 – 6 August DG Visits Saint Lucia  
21 – 24 August DG Visits the ABC islands

### Upcoming

4 – 8 Sept DG Visits Trinidad (Central)  
15 – 18 Sept DG Visits St Vincent  
18 – 21 Sept DG Visits Grenada  
25 - 29 Sept DG Visits Dominica

Don't Forget to develop a club Public Image Plan and Submit to the District Public Image Chair, PDG Lara, before 30 September 2019



## BASIC EDUCATION AND LITERACY

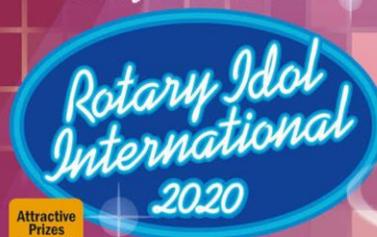
### WHAT YOU CAN DO:

- Provide teacher training, curriculum, and/or supplies for schools
- Send a vocational training team to offer curriculum development training in rural communities
- Develop an adult literacy program
- Serve as a mentor to students in your community



Will you be crowned Rotary's best Singing Sensation?

Will you become...



Attractive Prizes for Winners & Contestants

Bangalore, Saturday, 1st February, 2020

Sing for Rotary. Sing for Peace.

Open for Rotarians, Anns, Annettes, Rotaractors, Interactors & Innerwheel Members of any club. Contestants will also attend RI Dist. 3190 Dist. Conference on 1st & 2nd Feb, 2020.

Dance the evening away at Rotary's biggest party with the most popular bands.

To register email your name, name of your Rotary, Rotaract, Interact, Innerwheel Club to rotaryidolinternational2020@gmail.com with your WhatsApp no.

Hosting and hospitality for all International Singers

Contest rules will be mailed to registered contestants WhatsApp Rtn. Zarir Batha +91 92434 21409



## Plug for Newsletter Submissions

Please send articles and photos of **DG visits** or district related activities/promotions by e-mail. Articles should be submitted by the 20th of each prior month of publication to District Secretary Leah, at: dsleah7030@gmail.com. To avoid delays, please include the following with each e-mail: Attn—District Newsletter and the intended month of publication. Thanks!