



## **Seeing All The Great Things That Rotary Clubs In Our District Do**

It has been a wonderful experience serving as your district governor this Rotary year and seeing all of the great things that Rotary clubs in our district are doing.

Clubs have teamed together to work on projects that have made a bigger impact on their communities and communities around the world. They have made use of The Rotary Foundation District Grant and Global Grant funds and have been successful in creating greater visibility for Rotary. These included the just completed comfort station at the Appomattox River Regional Park (six clubs), the rehab of the children's floor at the Hospital Hospitality House in Richmond (nine clubs), and the new pediatric cardiac care unit at the Ruth Paz Hospital in San Pedro Sula, Honduras (nine clubs in 7600, plus clubs in North Carolina and Honduras). Clubs worked together at different levels to support the three food banks that serve our district.

It has been great fun to visit clubs' fundraisers that support organizations in their communities and also create awareness of Rotary. So many of these events center on food and music. Many have a long tradition in the community and more clubs have started similar events in recent years. Some of these events involve multiple clubs, too. One thing all of these events have in common is that people have a good time together. The Oyster Crush in Virginia Beach, the Chesapeake Wine Festival, the Nutzy Funn Run and Midlothian Food Festival are just a few that come to mind.

Even though what you do in the service of your communities can be time consuming, you are never too busy not to have a fun time doing service activities and enjoying one another's company. I wish all of you could see what I have been privileged to see. I encourage you to take pictures and write stories and share them across the District. The greatest benefit of being a Rotarian is knowing how our efforts have touched the lives of others, particularly the disadvantaged here and abroad. It makes me proud to be a Rotarian in fellowship with all of you.



*District Governor  
Stephen Beer*



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**Rotary-At-Large videos at [www.spiritof7600.com](http://www.spiritof7600.com) ([Click Here](#))**



**We Respond: A video about Nepal relief efforts of Rotarians in India.**

**Shelter Kits: A video showing the difficulty of moving supplies through Nepal.**

**Maternal and Child Health: Three simple interventions can vastly improve neonate survival.**

**Flash Mob to End Polio**

**RYLA in Suriname**



## Nepal Earthquake Relief

by

**Bob Harper, D7600 Disaster Relief Coordinator  
Rotary Club of Hampton**

We have all heard the terrible stories coming out of Nepal as a result of the recent earthquake. Thousands have died, many more thousands are injured, and the recovery goes on. District Governor Stephen has heard from his counterpart in the impacted area, DG Rabindra Piya, and he reports that Task Force Rotarians has been formed in Kathmandu to help bring the worldwide Rotary force for good to the recovery effort. Accordingly, Rotarians are asked to donate funds and/or the following urgently needed supplies: blankets (15,000), tents (10,000), dry food such as noodles and rice, water, medical kits, and body bags (5,000). Help in publicizing these needs to our communities and churches would be appreciated.

After discussion with DG Stephen, it is felt that District 7600's efforts should be focused on direct monetary contributions through our D7600 Donor Advised Fund or to the Shelter Box program.

**Direct Monetary Contributions:** Checks should be made out to "Rotary District 7600 DAF" with the note "Nepal Disaster Relief" indicated on the bottom of the check and mailed to *Rotary District 7600, 312 Waller Mill Road, Suite 300, Williamsburg, VA 23185. Our District will accept contributions and wire transfer them directly to District 3292 until the need is over.*

**Shelter Box:** Shelter Box is already in Nepal assessing needs with Rotary and local officials. A shelter box will provide many of the needs identified by District 3292 DG Piya. Download and complete The Shelter Box donation form ([CLICK HERE](#)). Checks along with the form should be mailed to: *Shelter Box USA, 8374 Market Street #203, Lakewood, FL 34202.* For record keeping purposes, please report any Shelter Box contributions to DG Stephen.

We await additional request from Rotary International and/or District 3292. Thanks for responding to the needs of Rotarians in this badly damaged area.

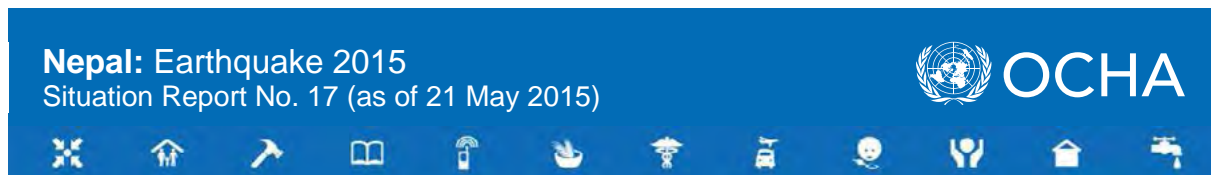


[Click this picture for a link to the pictures posted by District 3292 Rotarians](#)





## Nepal Earthquake Relief



This report is produced by the Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs in collaboration with the Office of the Resident and Humanitarian Coordinator and humanitarian partners. It covers the period from 18 to 21 May 2015. The next report will be issued on or around 25 May.

### Highlights

- On 21 May, the Humanitarian Coordinator briefed Member States in Geneva on the humanitarian situation and ongoing relief efforts.
- An antenna humanitarian hub was established in Charikot (Dolakha District) to support local authorities.
- Foreign military forces announced plans to transition from relief operations towards technical assistance to support rehabilitation.
- An estimated 870,000 children will be unable to resume school on 31 May due to destroyed classrooms.

**40,000**

households supported with agricultural input packages

**456**

health facilities destroyed

**7,500**

dignity kits distributed in 14 districts

Source: Cluster reports (Food Security, Health, Protection)



Map Sources: Education cluster, Nepal Survey Department, USGS. The boundaries and names shown and the designations used on this map do not imply official endorsement or acceptance by the United Nations. Map created on 21 May, 2015.

### Situation Overview

Humanitarian partners initiated contingency planning at the district level, to prepare for the monsoon season which begins in about two weeks. Pre-positioning of supplies is critical to ensure that the relief continues to reach remote, rural Village Development Committees (VDCs).

As of 21 May (9:30, UTC+5:45), a total of 494,717 houses were reported destroyed and 267,373 houses damaged, according to the Ministry of Home Affairs. The confirmed death toll increased slightly compared with the last reporting period to 8,631 people (4,750 female; 3,867 male; 14 bodies remain unidentified). This includes 154 people killed in the 12 May earthquake.

On 19 May, the Area Humanitarian Coordinator in Gorkha visited rural communities in Dhading District to gain a first-hand account of the ongoing relief efforts. Local authorities expressed the need for education services to resume in order for children to gain a sense of normalcy.

The Education Cluster reports an estimated 870,000 children aged 3 to 18 years of age will be unable to return to their classrooms when classes resume on 31 May. Thousands more will need support to access education services.

The earthquakes destroyed over 25,000 classrooms. Another 10,000 classrooms will require some form of repair. In addition to the impact on facilities and buildings, children and their teachers require psychosocial support and the protective environment that emergency education provides.

In support of the Government, the Education Cluster is assisting with structural assessments of 7,800 schools, construction of 4,500 temporary learning centres, and training of 16,000 teachers to provide a platform for life-saving services such as health, child protection and WASH.

Demolition of damaged buildings and debris management is a significant challenge particularly in Charikot (Dolakha District) and northern-most VDCs in other districts. Heavy equipment cannot be transported to some of the affected areas due to damaged roads.

+ For more information, see "background on the crisis" at the end of the report



*[Click Here and select Rotary At Large for two related videos.](#)*

*[Click Situation Report at left to download a copy of the entire report which runs 7 pages.](#)*



## First Club Builder Awards Presented in District 7600

By Barbara Dodd


Rotary Club of Brandermill (Midlothian)

All of us have heard that membership in service clubs is down. This same trend is present within District 7600. Membership growth results from hard-working, active Rotarians who invest the time and energy to identify and cultivate potential members.

The six Rotarians listed at the right were recently recognized for their outstanding success in recruiting new members. Collectively, they brought in a total of 42 members - enough members to form an entire club! That's an impressive total!

On behalf of Rotary International, Governor Stephen Beer presented each of them with RI's Club Builder Award. If you know any of these Rotarians, be sure to congratulate them on this achievement. Be inspired by their success your membership recruitment activities.

*District's membership loss rate over the past 60 months was statistically estimated at 3 members per month on a net basis. -Editor*

	Rotarian	Club	New Members
	Sharyn Fox	Newport News	9
	Bob Preston	James River (Richmond)	9
	Carl Duffey	James River (Richmond)	7
	John Padgett	Norfolk	7
	Bonnie Field	Fluvanna County	5
	Bob Kern	Onancock	5

*Presentation pictures, as available, are shown on the next page.*





## First Club Builder Awards Presented in District 7600



*From left, Newport News club president Sherri McQuillan, DG Stephen Beer, past president Sharyn Fox, president elect McKim Williams*



*From left, Norfolk club president Sigur Whitaker, DG Stephen Beer, past president John Padgett*



*From left, DG Stephen Beer, president elect and past president Bonnie Field, Fluvanna County club president Rudy Garcia*



*From left, DG Stephen Beer, past president Bob Kern, Onancock club president Roger Eitelmann*





**First Club Builder Awards Presented in District 7600**



*James River club president Debbie Leidheiser, past district governor Bob Preston, DG Stephen Beer, and past club president Carl Duffey*

**New at Facebook**

John Tyler College Rotaract Club Officer Handover

Check out link to EREY story by PDG Chuck Arnason

Nepal Relief

Polio Purple Fairy







## Rotary Club of Town Center, Virginia Beach Emerges !

By

**Nancy Joslin, Area Governor (14)  
Rotary Club of Town Center, Virginia Beach**

The Rotary Club of Northside Norfolk, chartered in 1959, had a great run until the challenges of membership retention and recruitment caused growing concern. How could we continue our long history of strong support to our numerous charities? How would we continue our several fundraisers with our limited membership? Who could we look to for vigorous energetic fresh leadership when most of our members were venerable past-presidents- some having served two or more terms?

We thought about going to another club but there was a unanimous concern that we maintain our own identity and continue our traditions. We considered various options and contacted and began meeting with the Princess Anne Club.

What developed was a good time at each meeting. Each club brought their own bulletin and announcements, and functioned somewhat independently. The presidents assisted each other. The energy became palpable and infectious. We shared a delightful Christmas party and enjoyed a memorable evening. And it soon became obvious to everyone that this could be a good move for both clubs to combine.

The result is that we are now one strong "young" club with high energy, enthusiasm, and a growing membership. Come visit us and see for yourself- *McCormick & Schmicks Seafood Restaurant in Town Center Virginia Beach, right next to the Sandler Center.... Wednesdays, 12:30 p.m. sharp!*







## 89 Year Old Veteran, Biking For Peace, Stops In South Hill For Rotary Support

by  
**Randy Cash**  
**South Hill Rotary Club**

Members of The South Hill Rotary Club turned out to welcome Sam Winstead, an 89-year old World War II Marine veteran (now a member of "Veterans for Peace"), in the midst of his fourth consecutive trip of riding his bicycle from Raleigh, NC to the Iwo Jima Memorial in Washington, DC to lobby for peace. Sam's Ride for Peace made a stop in LaCrosse with about 36 cyclists and support crew where they met Rotary Club members and then traveled into South Hill for an overnight stay. The Rotary Club assisted with accommodations and provided pizza and drinks for the riders at Fairfield Inn in South Hill. Lee Nichelson, a 91 year old World War II Marine veteran and a member of the South Hill Club, was introduced to Winstead who has been a Rotarian for 40 years (Roxboro, NC Rotary Club, according to DACdb).

*From left, Lee Nichelson and Sam Winstead*

According to press releases and website information, Sam, who fought the Japanese in the Pacific in 1944 and 1945, made the pilgrimage for peace and reconciliation to Hiroshima, nearly 70 years after his days of conflict, with the message that we have outgrown warfare. The group is pictured below in LaCrosse before traveling the last stretch to the hotel. The South Hill Rotary Club thanks The Fairfield Inn, Slow Ed's Amish Sheds, Domino's Pizza and club members for their help with this project.







## **I Am Grateful for Your Response to My Call to Light Up Rotary**

**by Gary C.K. Huang  
President, Rotary International**

When I began this Rotary year as your president, I wanted us, above all, to Light Up Rotary. I wanted us to share with the world how many wonderful friendships and experiences we have found in Rotary, and how Rotary has transformed and enriched our lives. I knew that by telling others about Rotary, we would increase membership, build stronger clubs, and improve our ability to help people in need.

As we end this 2014-15 Rotary year, I am honored by your response and will always be grateful for how you have risen to this challenge. You have answered my call to Light Up Rotary by holding many successful Rotary Day celebrations in your communities; you have outdone yourselves in your contributions to our Rotary Foundation; and you have moved all of Rotary forward with new members and new clubs.

When I chose my theme for my year as president, I was inspired by the words of Confucius, who said, "it is better to light a single candle than to sit and curse the darkness."

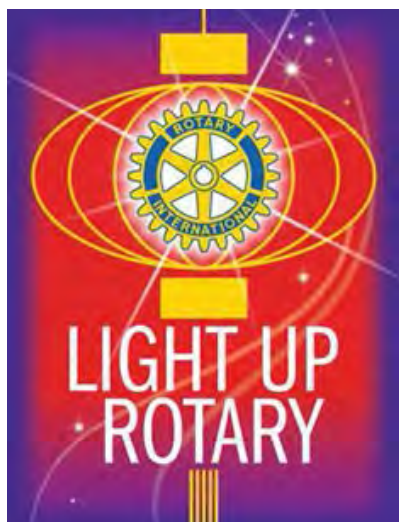
This year, more than 1.2 million Rotarians, along with Interactors, Rotaractors, Rotary Youth Exchange participants, and Rotary Peace Fellows, have lit their own candles in tens of thousands of communities. Together, the lights we have kindled have created a great light that shines for all the world to see.

I thank all of you for the opportunity to serve as your president this year, and for the hard work and dedication of our volunteer leadership and our staff members. I came to them with high expectations - and they delivered.

I also am grateful for the many friends I have made during this Rotary year, and for the wonderful visits I've had to so many places. I will always remember, with great fondness, riding on the Rotary float in the Rose Parade, watching children enjoy the Japanese drummers at the Rotary Day open house at RI headquarters in Evanston, and bicycling through the night in Colombo during the Ride to Light Up Rotary event celebrating a polio-free Sri Lanka.

I have seen a new energy in Rotary this year, and felt a new excitement. We've seen more and more women and young people join Rotary as well - including my wife, Corinna, and our three children.

I hope that in the year to come, you will continue your wonderful work to Light Up Rotary and to help it Be a Gift to the World.







## Rotary Has Heart: Tell Us About Your Projects

Please tell us about any of your community service projects during the first quarter of 2015. We hope to use this information to report back to you what the Clubs are doing and to help us strategize ways of boosting media interest.

Click the sample at the right download the form which is rendered in Microsoft Word, complete it (be sure to include pictures), and send it to

[projects@spiritof7600.net](mailto:projects@spiritof7600.net).

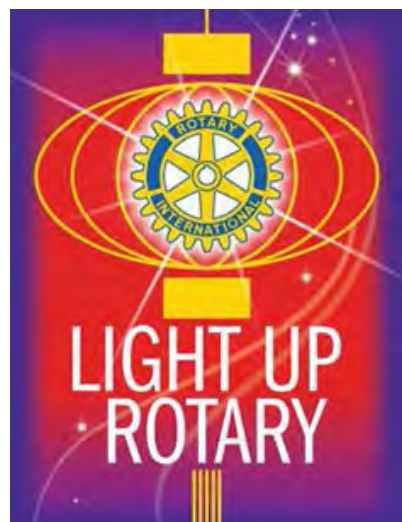
Not into forms? You may send the same information as an email.



You may have to “enable editing” from a button or the view menu to open form depending on Word version. Please identify your project in the box below. In the space below the box, please describe your project, its accomplishments, and what you did to publicize the project. Include pictures. Send this report by email to the following email address: [projects@spiritof7600.net](mailto:projects@spiritof7600.net)

Club Name:	
Project Name:	
Project Purpose:	
Project Start Date:	Project End Date:

Sample, Click Here for Actual Form



Source of President Huang's letter on the prior page: *The Rotarian* June 2015



## Rotary Honors Five Lawmakers for Their Support of Polio Eradication

Rotary recognized five members of Congress for their support of the humanitarian service organization's top priority to eradicate polio, a vaccine-preventable disease that still paralyzes children in parts of the world today.

The following lawmakers were presented with Rotary's Polio Eradication Champion Award during an event at the Capitol Building in Washington, D.C. on May 13, 2015: Sen. Lamar Alexander (Tenn.), Sen. Patty Murray (Wash.), Rep. Charlie Dent (Pa.), and Rep. Barbara Lee (Calif.). Sen. Jeanne Shaheen (N.H.) accepted her award earlier in the day in her D.C. office.

These five lawmakers serve as advocates for securing U.S. government funding for polio eradication activities through the U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) and the U.S. Agency for International Development (USAID). As key allies, they influence both their constituents at home and Congressional colleagues to support a polio-free world.



Senator Lamar Alexander



Senator Patty Murray



Senator Jeanne Shasheen



Representative Charles Dent



Representative Barbara Lee



*Article Source: Rotary. Picture Source: Individual Congressional Member Web Sites*





## Maternal and Child Health

Maternal and Child Health is one Rotary's area of focus. Rotary says that "at least 7 million children under the age of five die each year due to malnutrition, poor health care, and inadequate sanitation. To help reduce this rate, Rotary strives to provide immunizations and antibiotics to babies, improve access to essential medical services, and support trained health care providers for mothers and their children."

According to Professor Chris Whitty of Gresham College, the oldest college in London, childhood morbidity has fallen in many areas of the world because of improved access to vaccines, care, and health education; however, improvements in the survival rates of neonates, that is, children within the first 28 days of life, has progressed more slowly. The combination of leading edge technologies and amazing surgical procedures have expanded the capacity to save neonates from life threatening conditions. However, three simple interventions before conception can significantly reduce the risk of neonatal death in low and middle income nations. The first is tetanus vaccinations. The second is treatment of syphilis. The third is use of bed nets and drugs that prevent malarial infection.

Dr. Whitty explores other ways of improving neonate survival. His presentation may be accessed through the Rotary-at-Large link ([CLICK HERE](#)) and selecting Rotary\_At\_Large and then selecting Neonatal Care.



### WHO WE WORK WITH

Rotary works with many local and international organizations and educational institutions to carry out our worldwide humanitarian efforts. Learn more about our partners at [rotary.org](http://rotary.org).

### Polio eradication partners

Rotary International is a leading partner in the Global Polio Eradication Initiative along with:

- World Health Organization
- UNICEF
- U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention
- Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation
- Donor governments

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### United Nations

Rotary International appoints representatives to work with several United Nations agencies and global organizations.

### Strategic partners

Rotary has strategic partnerships with the following organizations to offer service opportunities for Rotarians:

- Aga Khan University
- UNESCO-IHE Institute for Water Education

### Project partner

ShelterBox is Rotary's partner in disaster relief efforts.

### Service partners

These organizations support club activities and offer opportunities for collaboration on local Rotary projects:

*Click Above for Link to this page in the RI and TRF Annual Report 2013-14*







## Sharing Your Rotary Experiences

The Spirit of 7600 – the newsletter for Rotary district 7600 – reaches thousands of Rotarians in central and eastern Virginia. It's a great way to share stories and pictures about District and Club activities, promote events, and disseminate information.

The District offers multiple venues for sharing information such as through its fabulous facebook page, twitter feed, comprehensive web site, and the Foundation bulletin. We encourage you to follow and use of these venues of information that are gifts of service by Rotarians.

Our intention with the District Newsletter is to provide relevant information and stories from all levels of Rotary that you can use in your Clubs. We invite the Clubs to use our digital newsletter as a high impact means of further sharing information, stories, and ideas with other Clubs. However, publishing with us is not an "either/or choice"; rather, it's another aria in our Rotary opera to our communities and to the world.

Writing not your forte? Just give us the details and we can work it into an interesting, engaging story. Pictures not great? Often we can enhance the pictures to publication quality.

Have a bunch of event pictures? We can turn those pictures into an engaging YouTube video presentation. Attending a great talk? Consider recording, with the speaker's permission, on your smartphone, tablet, or other mp3 recorder. We can stream audio recordings of talks. Want to drive up readership of your great web content, we can reference your web site content.

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District 7600



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