

The Peace Arch Journal

The Monthly Newsletter
District 5050
Volume 33 Issue 6
December 2019



50% American,
50% Canadian,
100% Rotarian

Give the Gift of Health this Holiday Season

December is Disease Prevention & Treatment Month

Brad Whittaker, District Governor



Health is the keystone to progress in all of Rotary's six areas of focus. Without good health, one cannot be at peace, attend school, grow local economies, save mothers and children or provide clean water or sanitation.

Disease results in misery, pain, and poverty for millions of people worldwide. That's why treating and preventing disease is so important to us as we lead efforts both large and small.

The eradication of polio has, of course, been Rotary International's major worldwide, corporate effort since the early 1980's. And remarkable progress has been made. The job is not finished, however, and we will not, cannot, set this torch down until that job is finished.

We believe good health care is everyone's right. Yet 400 million people in the world can't afford or don't have access to basic health care. And we do not have to look far beyond our celebrations to see the need in our own communities and beyond.

Often we are bombarded with television commercials showing the need for help during the festive season. For those of us in Rotary it is a time to reflect on our good fortune and as clubs, look to how we can gift the world with better health.

What can you do?

See what Rotarians are doing in [Disease Prevention and Treatment](#).

Learn more about our efforts to [End Polio](#).

Check out the [Water and Sanitation Rotarian Action Group](#) (WASRAG).

Browse [Rotary Showcase](#) for member projects helping to fight disease and see what other Rotarians and Clubs are doing.

Or you can [find a project](#) to sponsor on [Rotary Ideas](#).

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The Peace Arch Journal

Brad Whittaker
District Governor

This monthly publication is a service to District Club Officers and members. It is intended as a source of news and opinion from **throughout the district**.

The mission of the *Peace Arch Journal* is to promote communication, understanding, fellowship and fun beyond club meetings, in a manner complementary to shared efforts at placing *Service Above Self*.

Please send articles and news with or without pictures attached to emails. Photographs are always a plus! Note that the editor appreciates conservation of space in order to meet the sender's needs and the editor's time.

The deadline is the 25th of the month.

Address any and all information to the *Peace Arch Journal* Editor.

James Monroe
Rotary Club of Lake Stevens, WA
Email: editor.paj@gmail.com

District 5050's web site:
www.district5050.org



District Governor Message

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We would like to wish you all a happy holiday season, to be spent with family and old and new friends, with time to reflect on how you have changed and improved lives in your own community and in communities across the globe.

Brad and Kim



Save the Date 21-23 Feb

Presidents-Elect: You have received information about how this seminar will help you fully understand your role as President in the upcoming Rotary Year. You will meet PEs from Alaska, British Columbia, Oregon, Washington, Yukon Territory and parts of Idaho and northern California.

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Foundation Dinner

Kevin Wood, Special to the Peace Arch Journal

A sell out crowd of 145 Rotarians gathered 15 November at the Quality Hotel in Abbotsford, BC to celebrate our 2018-19 Foundation success and to hear Lee Harman's presentation of his Peking to Paris Rally to End Polio.

The evening started with music by the Rotations from the Chilliwack Club, followed by a delicious buffet dinner.

After dinner, MC PDG Bill Robson introduced special guests, PDG's, many first time attendees to the Foundation Dinner and DG Brad Whittaker welcomed all to this years event. The event program was led by Foundation Chair Malcolm Kennedy, introducing the Foundation Team and telling us changes that were made for this years event.

The following recognition was given to Clubs that excelled in the following areas.

Top per capita in Annual Fund giving:

Stanwood Camino Island \$406.68, Abbotsford Sumas \$383.14, Everett Port Gardner \$354.63

100 % Foundation Giving:

Abbotsford-Sumas, Lake Stevens, Mission, Mount Baker, Port Coquitlam Centennial, Port Moody, South Surrey, Whidbey-Westside.



Every Rotarian, Every Year Club:

Abbotsford-Sumas, Lake Stevens, Mission, Mount Baker, Port Coquitlam, South Surrey



[Continued on next page](#)

2018-19 Rotary Citation Recipients:

Platinum – White Rock, Sedro-Woolley, Whidbey Westside

Gold -Semiahmoo, Arlington, Bellingham, Everett, Marysville, San Juan Island

Silver – Chilliwack Fraser, Coquitlam, Coquitlam Sunrise

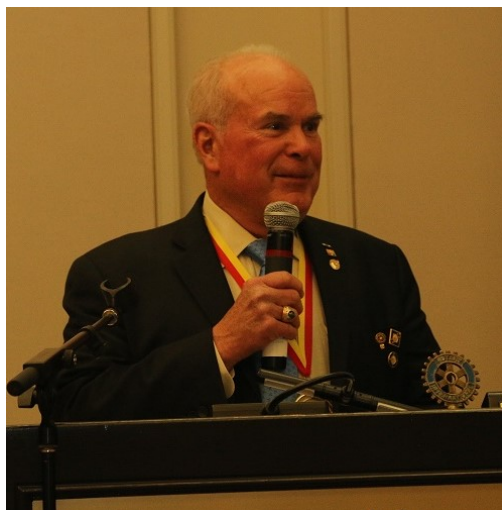
Long serving Annual Giving, Major Gift, OHS Chair Steve Morach was presented the Citation for Meritorious Service in recognition of outstanding service to the Rotary Foundation.

Keynote speaker, Lee Harman, told the audience of his bucket list adventure with Bill Ward and Miss Vicky as they took on the extremely challenging Peking to Paris Car Rally to gain awareness to End Polio. Driving their 1931 Model A Ford Victoria (Miss Vicky) 10,000 miles was a test of endurance but is proof you can accomplish anything, even Ending Polio. The 36 day rally that took them from Peking through China, Kazakhstan, Russia was not without many challenges and ongoing repairs, but Lee, Bill and Miss Vicky were one of 21 out of 120 entrants to complete the rally under their own power. Congratulations !

The evening closed with two live auction items, a 50/50 draw and then we sang the song Dogoodery !



Steve Morach and PDG Linda Murray



Lee Harman



Pre-PETS

Story and photos by Dave Duskin, AG Area J

Pre-PETS (President Elect Training Seminar) is all about getting the Presidential Class of 2020-21 ready to lead their respective Clubs. On 23 November, at the Bellingham Airport Holiday Inn Express, 43 class members joined District Governor Elect (DGE) Carol Tichelman, their respective Assistant Governors (AG), and other District Leaders, for an information packed morning and early afternoon.

DGE Carol welcomed the class of 2020-21 and shared two of her primary goals for the year: She wants every Rotarian to have a great year and she wants to increase Rotarian involvement in the District.

In addition to having each of the Presidents-Elect (PE) introduce themselves, the training team introduced themselves—Joining Carol on the team were District Trainer-PDG Rod Thomsen, DGN Bev Harrington, District Membership Chair-PDG Denis Boyd, with support from DG Brad Whittaker, Governor's Assistant Pat Bond, and the AG's.



Assistant Governors were called upon to work with the PE's in each of their areas on planning and goal setting for their year. One of the highlights of pre-PETS each year was a panel of current Club Presidents who shared their experiences, including their best and worst moments at meetings.

Pre-PETS, is a precursor to the 2020 Pacific Northwest PETS. It has become the largest PETS in the Rotary world. PNW PETS is a joint effort of the nine Rotary Districts in the Northwest area of North America. This large area includes the states of Alaska, Oregon, Washington, parts of Idaho and California, the Canadian province of British Columbia and the Yukon Territory. This year PNW PETS runs from 21—23 February and the PNW PETS Board of DGE's is chaired this year by our own DGE Carol.

Nominating Committee Accepting Governor Applicants

Nominations are now open for District 5050 Rotarians to become the District Governor in 2022-2023. Clubs are asked to nominate a candidate from their club. [The nomination form is found on the District 5050 website under About Us/ District Leadership](#). The deadline to apply is 14 December 2019.

The successful candidate will be well trained over the next 2½ years and will work with the current District Governor line.

For more information, please [contact PDG Bill Robson](#) who is the Chair of the Nominating Committee for the District Governor.

District 5050 Clubs

Mount Baker

Dave Brumbaugh, Business PULSE, Special to the Peace Arch Journal

A local community-service organization that has contributed much to Whatcom County is creating a \$300,000 sports-park-within-a-park at Lynden's Bender Fields.

With generous donations from numerous Whatcom County businesses and individuals, the Lynden-based Mount Baker Rotary Club broke ground in September on the project. When finished next Spring, it will include three climbing boulders, two basketball courts, four pickle ball courts and a sand-volleyball court.

"Everybody likes something about this project," said Jeff Roberts, President of the Mount Baker Rotary Club.

Roberts originally envisioned two climbing boulders and basketball courts, but the donations of cash, services and supplies have expanded the project. The Founder Level (\$10,000+ in donations) includes The Dick Bedlington Family Foundation; Guy and Kathy Jansen; Kevin DeVries, Exxel Pacific; MSNW; LTI, Inc./Milky Way, and The Blackburn Family. The Legacy Level (\$5,000+) includes Farmer's Equipment, Jeff and Rachel Roberts, Karen Timmer, Reichhardt & Ebe, Len Honcoop Gravel, DeKoster Excavating, Edward Jones-Brett Hendricks, Charlie's Auto Body, and The Windermere Foundation.

The Lynden Regional Parks & Recreation District, the government entity that owns Bender Fields, also pledged \$25,000 to fund a third climbing boulder that will add another challenging element for climbing enthusiasts in Whatcom County and British Columbia.

Each club president typically leads a project during their one-year term. When Roberts recalled one of the club's most popular contributions, the Million Smiles Playground at Lynden City Park, he noted its appeal to young children, but added, "There's not enough for the older children and adults to do." There's plenty now. After announcing the concept April 15, Roberts said the donations and efforts of club members made it possible for the climbing boulders, pickle ball courts and basketball courts to be used by mid-October. Lighting and lines will be added to the sand-volleyball court in the Spring.

Mount Baker Rotary Club didn't take the cheap route, either. The first two man-made climbing boulders were transported from Colorado. One weighs 18,000 pounds and is 10 feet high,



Representatives of the Mount Baker Rotary Club and its Founder Level (\$10,000+) of donors received an early look at the climbing boulders being installed. Photo courtesy of Mount Baker Rotary Club.

while the other weighs about 10,000 pounds and is nine feet high. Two of the basketball courts will have deluxe outdoor surfaces, breakaway rims, and glass backboards.

"These are going to be the nicest outdoor basketball courts in Whatcom County," Roberts said.

[Continued on next page](#)

All of this is occupying just one acre of the 56-acre Bender Fields complex, centrally located in Lynden and used by youths and adults playing soccer, baseball, softball, lacrosse, cricket, and bocce ball. Backers of the project say it will be ideal for families. When one family member is playing an organized team sport, others can engage in individual and informal activities at the sports park. And lighting will extend the time that the park can be enjoyed.

Donations still are being sought to add park benches, picnic tables, and landscaping, Roberts said. To make a donation or learn more, visit mountbakerrotary.com or the [club's Facebook page](#).

Chilliwack

Doug Wickers, PP, Rotary Club of Chilliwack

The Rotary Club of Chilliwack paid tribute to the end of a 46 year association with a pair of Rotarians at its 1 November meeting – Fred & Pam George. Fred and by extension Pam joined the family of Rotary in 1973. The tribute was a surprise to Pam as she relocated to Ottawa, Ontario, to be closer to one of her daughters. She was also surprised when her son joined her at the start of the program (pictured below).



PDG Larry Stinson said of Fred and Pam: “Both lived a life of Rotary that took them around the world, built countless friendships at home and abroad, and provided them with many opportunities to serve, which they embraced with fervor.”

Fred was a Club Director for 1976-78 and President in 1981-82 after serving on and chairing multiple Club committees. While he was on the Board the decision was made to sponsor a second Rotary Club in Chilliwack and Fred was the ‘champion’ of these efforts. The RC of Chilliwack-Fraser received its charter 24 February 1983. Fred’s mentorship of this new Club led them to designating him as their Club’s “Godfather.” Chilliwack-Fraser President Mike McLatchy gave a very moving tribute to Fred & Pam and presented her with their Club banner and pin as a parting gift.



Fred & Pam became the Chilliwack Club’s second District Governor & First Lady in the 1988-89 Rotary year with the international theme of “Put Life Into Rotary – Your Life”. Nothing could better describe Fred & Pam’s commitment to Rotary. Fred maintained perfect attendance until his passing in 2008. PDG Larry said “It is a great honour to be chosen to the Governor’s position and it has been a great honour to have had Pam & Fred in our District and in our Club.”

Pam and Fred opened their home to numerous Exchange Students, GSE team members and members of Rotary International Travel & Hosting Fellowship which they initiated.

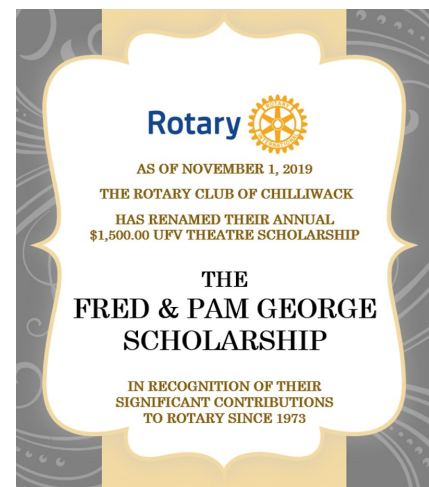
In 2007 Fred was awarded the “Avenues of Service Citation” by then DG John Bosch (pictured below with the George’s). Past President Doug Wickers and DGE Carol outlined the many components of his service in each of the then Four Avenues of Service (Club, Community, Vocational & International). While Youth Service was not one of the Avenues of Service in 2007, Fred chartered a Rotaract Club in Chilliwack. He always had a special place in his heart for youth, and worked with Rotaract, Youth Exchange, and our Club’s Scholarship Committee for years. Fred was always amazed by their accomplishments and he loved listening to their dreams.

At that same meeting in 2007, when Fred received his Avenues of Service Citation – Fred & Pam were recognized as Major Donors to OUR Rotary Foundation. Pam has continued their passion for the Rotary Foundation and they achieved Major Donor Level 2 status in 2013.

Following Fred’s death, Pam was made an Honorary Member of the RC of Chilliwack and has passionately continued her service to Rotary.



Abbotsford Rotarian Deanna McIntyre of University Relations at the University of the Fraser Valley, stated that as of 1 November, the RC of Chilliwack’s annual \$1,500 University of the Fraser Valley Theatre Scholarship will be renamed “**The FRED & PAM GEORGE SCHOLARSHIP**” in recognition of their significant contributions to Rotary since 1973.



DG Brad Whittaker, in thanking the program organizers and Pam, noted that as a new member he had been invited to Fred & Pam’s home for dinner – a tradition they had done for many new members. He spoke of Pam’s recent gift to him of Fred’s District Governor ring as a reminder of Fred’s legacy to our Club & District. DG Brad offered collective thanks to Pam & Fred saying

“Pam, we love you! You will be missed!” Our club’s band, The Rotations, led us in the singing of “Let Us Call You Sweetheart” & “We’ll Meet Again”. Ever the charming, poised individual, Pam asked for the microphone and extended her personal gratitude to us for their association with Rotary here and around the world.



DGE Carol Tichelman with Pam George (l).
Katie Wickers, Pam George and DG Brad Whitaker (r).



Membership Team Focuses on “Rotary Leads”

District Membership Chair Denis Boyd has been reaching out to Assistant Governors and Club Membership Chairs in an effort to better utilize a Rotary leads program.

Rotary “Membership Leads” have been around for over four years and many Clubs have not known how to take advantage of the opportunity. Rotary gathers info on prospective members and sends the info to each District. Rotary sends info on those prospects, referral leads and info on people who want to change Clubs or rejoin Rotary.

Any Membership Chair wishing further assistance with this can [contact Denis](#).

Upcoming Club Events

Lake Stevens—Corks & Kegs Wine and Beer Tasting 18 April

[Skagit—Seafood Wild Game & Auction “Wild Kingdom”](#) 25 Jan

Visit the specific Clubs for more information. Find them at the [District 5050 Clubs List](#).

Rotary District 5050 Calendar

For updates refer to Events on the [District Home Page](#)

1 February	Grants Seminar, Rotary Field House
7 - 9 February	YAIL
21 - 23 February	President-Elect Training Seminar (PETS)
29 February	Grants Seminar, Silver Reef Hotel
4 April	District Training Assembly, Surrey
30 April - 3 May	District Conference—Join the Adventure
7 - 10 May	RYLA
6 - 10 June	Rotary International Convention, Honolulu, HI

Want one of the best positions in Rotary?

[Become an Assistant Governor](#)

District 5050 is looking for Assistant Governors in the following areas as the current AGs are finishing their terms:

Area B (Abbotsford, Mission),

Area G (Bellingham, Mount Baker, Whatcom County North), and

Area I (Burlington, Mount Vernon, Sedro-Wooley, Skagit)

These are one year terms with options for renewing.

[For more information on position duties and requirements visit our website.](#)



EARLY BIRD REGISTRATION ENDS 30 NOVEMBER

It's getting exciting, we are now five months away from the **JOIN THE ADVENTURE DISTRICT CONFERENCE**, in beautiful Harrison Hot Springs, British Columbia. The line up of plenary speakers are confirmed!



PRIP Ian Riseley, PRIVP Dean Rohrs, Marie-Paule Attema, Paul K Chappell, Linda McGowan and Danny Catt. [Click here to read their full bio's.](#)

Harrison Hot Springs offers Rotarians and guests the opportunity to connect and celebrate our accomplishments while exploring the Adventure opportunities and beauty of Harrison Lake. Unwind in Paradise!

Harrison Hot Springs offers many Adventure opportunities. You will want to arrive on Thursday to ensure you can participate in everything.

On Thursday: [Host Ticketed](#) items include (1) an exciting River Rafting Adventure, "District 5050 Conquers the Chilliwack River" includes transportation from Harrison, lunch and 3 hrs on the River then transport back to the Hotel. (2) A Fellowship BBQ at the Harrison Country Club, Aloha Theme.

For those who would like to explore on their own, you could try a round of golf at the Sandpiper Golf Course; Watch Artisan Cheese or hand crafted pottery in the making on the Circle Farm Tour; or tour a 1920's living Historic site or there are many outdoor activities; hiking, sightseeing and wildlife viewing, kayaking or jet boating on the Harrison River. Or you can just enjoy a Spa treatment and the Hot Springs pools at the Resort.

On Friday: [Host Ticketed](#) items include (1) A 2.5 hr breakfast Boat Cruise on the Harrison Lake; (2) Walking Tour and History of Harrison Hot Springs (3) Area A Rotary Clubs' are hosting Luncheon at Noon before the Conference officially starts at 2:00 PM.

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On Saturday: will be a full day of conference activities ending with the Governors' Gala and dancing to the band Appaloosa. Dress will also be Aloha Style as we will be heading to the International Convention in Honolulu, later in June.

On Sunday: morning will bring the end to our Conference with an Inspirational speaker, Pioneers presentation and a Memorial tribute.

The Conference will feature a mix of inspiring and motivational speakers, Rotary topics and programs and lots of entertainment mixed throughout.

There will be a House of Friendship where Rotarians can meet, Rotary Clubs can display their projects and there will be an opportunity to purchase Rotary Clothing and bling from Creative Embroidery.

[Registration is open](#) now and rates \$350 plus GST, and to the delight of both US and Canadian attendees, all pricing is in **Canadian Dollars**.

The Harrison Hot Springs Resort is also now accepting reservations for rooms and has extended conference rates to include the Thursday and Sunday night. So book early. Dress Code for the Conference is "Resort Chic"

Our [Conference Website](#) is also live on District 5050 website, with detailed information on our [Pre conference activities](#) – both host ticketed and self guided, and information on our [Speakers](#). New information will be added and you will receive video updates leading up to the conference.



The 2020 Rotary International Convention will be hosted by District 5000 and the Clubs of Oahu, Hawaii 6-10 June. Aloha Rotary will bring thousands of Rotarians, Rotaractors, Exchange Students, spouses and friends to Honolulu for an exciting time. There will also be a celebration of 75 years of Rotary's association with the United Nations. Did you know that Rotary was one of the organizations instrumental in the formation of the UN?

[Click here to find out more about the Convention and to Register.](#)



7—9 February 2020

Surrey, BC

For youth ages 15-17

[Registration is open!](#)

Bus de la Biblioteca de Alfabetización de Probigua

Probigua Literacy Library Bus

Michael Adkins, District Literacy Chair



On behalf of District 5050, we are reaching out to all the Rotary Clubs in District 5050 to assist financially with keeping the much needed Probigua Literacy Library Bus Program alive in Guatemala.

In 2005, the District 5050 Literacy Committee received an International Rotary Grant to fund a Centennial Project. With that grant, an old school bus was purchased and converted into a mobile literacy library that was travelling out to Mayan villagers in rural Guatemala.

The District 5050 Library Bus was embraced by a number of the Clubs over the years, financially supporting the ongoing costs this past 14 years.

The Literacy Library Bus continues to do sterling service by reaching out to the children who have very little access to books and in most cases, the library bus is the only reading books available for the children in the rural villages.

The District 5050 Rotary Literacy Committee has a huge ASK. We are requesting Clubs throughout the District, set aside some of your literacy funds to help maintain this much needed project for another year.

The books need replenishing, the tires need replacing, fuel and regular maintenance has to be done to ensure the bus is able to reach into the isolated Mayan villages in the mountainous areas of Guatemala.

In 2015, these photographs were taken by myself and the funds personally delivered that were provided by a few District 5050 Rotary Clubs. In February 2017, the financial support from the few District 5050 Clubs was once again presented in person to continue that strong relationship.

A group of Rotarians from six Clubs are heading down to Guatemala in February 2020 and will be once again be connecting with the District 5050 Probigua Literacy Bus in Guatemala and Rotarian Rigaberto to present much needed funds for this outstanding project that continues for almost 15 years with our Clubs' assistance.

If you would like to know more about the Guatemalan District Literacy Library Bus or how to give funds to help ensure this program continues its great work, please [contact me](#) or at 604 217 0524.

DISTRICT 5050 FOUNDATION REPORT—PEACE SCHOLARSHIPS
Jack Rae, Peace Scholarships Committee Chair

The Rotary Foundation offers 100 peace scholarship every year - 50 scholarships are at the masters level and 50 are for a three month certificate. There were over 800 applicants for these positions.

This year a candidate for the certificate program was selected from District 5050 - Alison MacLean of South Surrey, BC. Alison will attend the summer session of 2020 in Bangkok, Thailand.

For the past ten years Alison has been a video documentarian. Her documents include coverage of American and Canadian military in Afghanistan, veterans, indigenous peoples, among other subjects. She has also worked directly with an orphanage in Afghanistan and with Afghani Police Women by raising money and equipment that they need.

Both these scholarships cover all related expenses—tuition, room and board, travel, field trips, etc.

See Rotary International Peace Scholarships for information and registration or you can [contact me](#).

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December 2019. [Click here for details.](#)





**Leadership Team of
Rotary International District 5050**

Governor

Brad Whittaker

Rotary Club of Chilliwack

Cell: 604-819-6402

Email: brad.whittaker@ufv.ca

Governor-Elect

Carol Tichelman

Rotary Club of Chilliwack

Cell: 604-819-0363

Email: carol@tichelman.com

Governor Nominee

Bev Harrington

Rotary Club of Burlington

Cell: 360-421-0601

Email: bev_harrington@msn.com

Secretary

Bonnie Willits

Rotary Club of North Whidbey Island Sunrise

Home: 360-320-2285

Email: grandma@epmoore.com

Treasurer

Carlye Gillespie

Bellingham Bay Rotary Club

Phone: 360-756-1010

Email: carlye@archerhalliday.com



This is the December 2019 issue of the *Peace Arch Journal*. I wish everyone a wonderful holiday season. Celebrate with your friends and family.

Read about the Foundation Dinner and Pre-PETS on Pages 3 and 5 respectively. Thank you to our contributing writers Kevin Wood, Dave Duskin and Doug Wickers. Doug's article about Fred and Pam George is a reminder of involving your significant others in the work and joy of Rotary. Also, thank you to Gary O'Rielly for the photos of the Foundation Dinner.

The District Literacy Committee is looking for our help in keeping the Probigua Literacy Bus funded. See the full article on Page 12.

We're waiting to find out where the Travelling Peace Arch Cup has gone to. If your Club has received it please send us a report and photos.

The *Peace Arch Journal* needs your help. If you are interested in writing occasional stories about your Club and neighboring Clubs, your communities and Club activities and events, please let me know.

Yours in Rotary,

James



RYLA

7-10 May 2020