



February 2022
Issue 8

The Foundation of Peace

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The theme for February is **Peace and Conflict/Prevention**. Rotary's ultimate goal is Peace.

Starting as early as 1905 with its founder Paul Harris who emphasized tolerance and diversity. In 1914 **the resolution for Rotary to lend its influence on the maintenance of peace among the nations of the world** was adopted

Rotary is one of the world's most powerful movements for Peace and yet it has no army, no weapons, and no power to persecute or punish and is free of sectarian and political opinions.

Rotary's strength lies in its work to achieve peace internally, not by ending conflict through warfare but by ending conflict in people's hearts

When the Rotary Foundation was created in 1917, its single guiding principle has been to bring peace to the world through education, by reducing hunger and suffering, by increasing self-sufficiency and by helping people to better understand one another particularly in cross-cultural settings.

The majority of the Foundation programs has been designed to improve cross-cultural understanding through people-to-people exchanges or shared projects.

Ambassadorial Scholars, Group Study Exchange teams, Graduate Fellowship Scholars, all may have fulfilled different functions, but collectively, they served the same purpose: when strangers meet and break bread together, exchange their life stories, and learn about each other's cultures and traditions, they come away with the realization that they are more similar than different.



This month's article "A Rotary Scholar's Journey" gives us a first hand account of the effectiveness of these programs.

Former Canadian Prime Minister and honorary Rotarian Lester B. Person, succinctly sums up the inspiration behind the mission of the Rotary Foundation, when he said on accepting the Nobel Peace Prize: **"How can there be peace in the world when people do not know each other, and how can they know each other when they have never met?"**

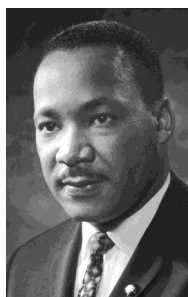


The
Rotary
Foundation



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UBUNTU

"In a real sense, all life is interrelated. All [people] are caught in an inescapable network of mutuality tied in a single garment of destiny. Whatever affects one directly affects all indirectly. I can never be what I ought to be until you are what you ought to be, and you can never be what you ought to be until I am what I ought to be. This is the interrelated structure of reality."

Martin Luther King, Jr, in his sermon at The Riverside Church in NY, 8/8/65.

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Rotary's Peace Milestones

1921



At their convention in Edinburgh, Scotland, Rotarians unanimously agreed to incorporate peacemaking into Rotary's constitution and by-laws.

1945-1948



In 1945, 49 Rotarians, part of 29 delegations, were at the signing of the Charter of the United Nations dedicated to the resolution of international disputes by peaceful means. In 1948, the UN Universal Declaration for Human Rights was finalized using the framework and guidelines from the 1940 Rotary convention in Havana.

1985



Rotary builds peace through its single largest and most significant project: PolioPlus.

1999-2004



In 1999, the RI Trustees approved the plan to partner with universities to establish the Rotary Centers for International Studies in Peace and Conflict Resolution. More than 1000 Peace Fellows have now completed the program since the first graduating class in 2004.

2017



**INSTITUTE FOR
ECONOMICS
& PEACE**

Rotary has entered a new partnership with the Institute for Economics and Peace (IEP) to enhance its peace and conflict resolution efforts with data-driven methodologies and tools.

The way to war is a well-paved highway and the way to peace is still a wilderness.

Paul Harris

1940



At their convention in Havana, Cuba, Rotarians adopted the resolution calling for "freedom, justice, truth, sanctity of the pledged word and respect for human rights."

1958



The year-long Rotary Youth Exchange program was created in 1958 in Lake Placid at a Rotary Governors Assembly, although it was initiated in Denmark during school vacations in 1927.

1992



The City of Wagga Wagga, New South Wales, Australia was declared the first Rotary Peace City in the world. Now there are more than 60 Rotary Peace Cities.

2012-2015



Rotarian Action Group for Peace recognized by RI in 2012 and by 2015 there were more than 2,000 members.

As a humanitarian organization, peace is a cornerstone of our mission. We believe when people work to create peace in their communities, that change can have a global effect.

Our commitment to peacebuilding today answers new challenges: how we can make the greatest possible impact and how we can achieve our vision of lasting change. We are approaching the concept of peace with greater cohesion and inclusivity, broadening the scope of what we mean by peacebuilding, and finding more ways for people to get involved.



The Rotary Foundation—Did you know?

From a pre-World War 1 resolution calling for “the maintenance of peace” to our continuing support of Rotary Peace Centers, Rotary and its Foundation have a long history of promoting peace and working to address the underlying causes of conflict in communities around the world.

World Peace Commitment

With memories of the Great War fresh in their minds, delegates to the 1921 Rotary Convention in Scotland, amended the association’s constitution to include the goal “to aid in the advancement of international peace and goodwill through a fellowship of business and professional men of all nations united in the Rotary ideal of service.”

Institutes of International Understanding

An early effort to achieve the goal and to encourage and foster international understanding, a Nashville club created a program of bringing in prominent authors, economists, scientists, politicians, and commentators to discuss issues such as the economy, world peace and scientific advances. The Rotary Foundation helped clubs pay for speakers’ expenses beyond what clubs could afford.

Rotary is not a university and yet it has an educational task to perform, and that task is to divert the world mind to thoughts of friendly cooperation.

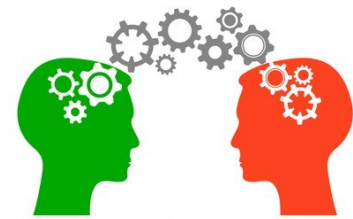
Arch Klumph, 1921
Father of The Rotary Foundation

study was part of an effort to encourage higher education and promote greater understanding between people of different cultures and nationalities. After Harris’ death that year, donations to The Rotary Foundation (Harris had requested them in lieu of flowers) began flooding in to Rotary headquarters. The Paul Harris Memorial Fund was designated for the newly created scholarship program.

Peace Forums and Rotary Peace Centers

To raise awareness about issues that cause conflict and activities that promote peace, Rotary created Peace Forums. In 1990, the Trustees of The Rotary Foundation broadened the program and changed the name to Rotary Peace Programs and provided scholarships to peace fellows that would allow them to enroll in established peace programs at existing universities.

Rotary’s goal today is to create environments where peace can be built and maintained through sustainable and measurable activities in communities worldwide. Peacebuilding remains a cornerstone of our mission as a humanitarian service organization.



In Case You Don’t Know, Now You Know

In 1927 Danish Rotarian Dr. Sven Knudsen launched the Youth Exchange program between Danish and American teenagers. It would spread globally and become one of Rotary’s most enduring and effective programs. Young people annually exchange visits for up to one year studying in another country while living with Rotarian families. At the end of the year, they learn a new language and experience a different culture. This program is a powerful lesson in cross-cultural understanding which is part of Rotary’s objective of bringing about World Peace.

It is said that there is a Rotary meeting being held someplace in the world every hour of every day. If you attend one meeting per day, it will take more than 90 years to visit all of the 35,000 Rotary clubs in the world, and by that time, there will be more new clubs formed and more to attend.

The club that is the farthest to visit is the Rotary Club of Papeete, Tahiti, French Polynesia, which is in the middle of the Pacific Ocean and the most remote from any other.

The Rotary Foundation is a separate entity from Rotary International. It has its own staff, its own finances and administrative structure. It also receives all its income separately from Rotary International. Membership dues do not go to The Rotary Foundation, only donations go to the Foundation.

A Rotary Scholar's Journey

The Story of Tim Burt



In the late 1970s Tim Burt was a young graduate from the Texas A&M University with a master's degree in Animal Science. The next step for him was to apply to a veterinary school.

One day he came across an article in the local newspaper from the Rotary Club of Cuero, inviting interested graduates to apply for a Graduate Fellowship

Scholarship to study abroad, with all expenses paid for, by the Rotary Foundation of Rotary International.

Tim answered the advertisement and was contacted by Ed Pat Mixon who was the club's foundation chair. After interviewing him, Ed felt satisfied that Tim was highly qualified for the position and agreed to put his application through to the Rotary Foundation, with his club being the sponsor.

This encounter would be the beginning of a lifelong relationship. Ed Pat started to spend time with Tim and introduced him to Rotary. He took him to a District Conference where they spent the weekend together. Tim also learnt a lot about community

banking from Ed Pat who at that time was the president of a community bank.

Tim's mission is to pass on the blessings that were given to him by reaching out to that one person who shows promise and to steer him on the road of life's journey to get to the next place. And he always looks for opportunities to do so whether it is through the Scouts or his church or individually. Tim believes that you do not have to try to change the world, just reached out to that one person and change his world instead.



For Tim, it has come full circle. His son Nicolas has been looking for an organization that shared his values, where there was camaraderie and where service was central to their theme. He found it in Rotary and is a member of the Next Gen Rotary Club of District 5240. The love for Rotary and what it represents which was instilled in Tim by Ed Pat Mixon now continues on in the next generation through Nicolas.

There was supposed to be a final interview with Rotary Foundation's selection committee which never happened and Ed had to break the news to Tim that he did not get the scholarship. After the initial disappointment, Tim decided to move on and applied to the veterinary school.

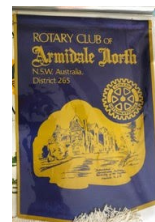
The next year when the Rotary Foundation once again invited applicants for the scholarship. Ed Pat reached out to Tim but he was reluctant to try a second time. Ed Pat would not give up easily and convinced Tim of the importance of broadening his horizon by studying abroad. This time around Tim was interviewed and because of his impressive academic achievement and his in-depth knowledge of Rotary he was granted the scholarship.

Australia was the country selected for him. With the guidance of another Rotarian, Dr Curtis F. Lard who was the chancellor of the Texas A&M University, Tim decided to study

agricultural economics at the University of New England in the town of Armidale, New South Wales, Australia.

He was welcomed warmly by the local Rotarians, and he loved attending the club's meetings. It was a very sport-oriented town and he learnt about cricket and how to play snookers and in his spare time he did a lot of traveling. He traveled throughout the Eastern Coast from Carins to Melbourne. It was a life changing experience. He met many different people and learnt about their customs and cultures.

The Australian education system was demanding with the bar set very high, but Tim was determined not to let Ed Pat and Rotary down. He was an outstanding student and graduated with high honors. He spent 18 months in Australia and back in the USA he would join the Rotary Club of Bay City, Texas.



Ed Pat's mentoring of Tim in Community Banking did not go wasted as Tim would work for a local bank giving loans to farmers. A few years later Ed Pat would become his boss as he continued to work within the banking system.

His job would eventually relocate him to California which he was delighted to do because California was similar in many ways to Australia. He would join the Rotary Club of Santa Maria and was grateful when he became part of the Foundation committee, and it was his turn to grant scholarships.

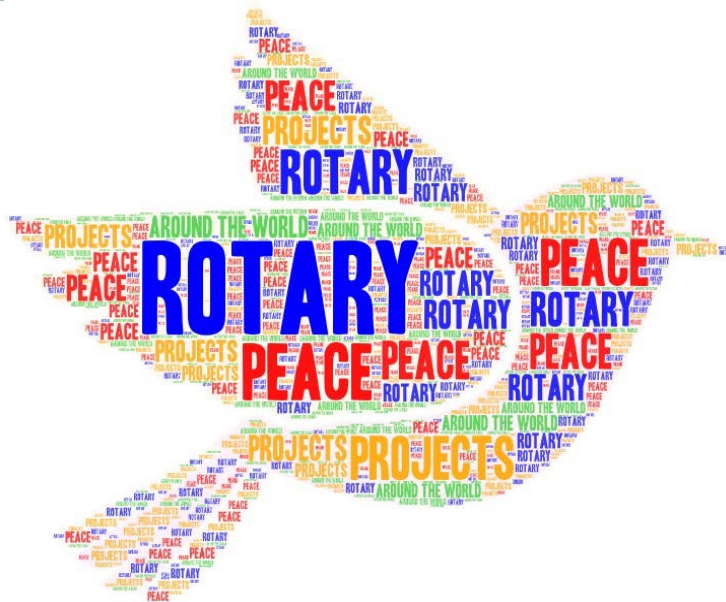
Tim was from a lower middle income family. His dad died when he was two years old, and his 26 old mother was left with 4 children to bring up. They lived in rural Texas in the small town of Cuero, where most people never left the space carved out for them. Had it not been for the selfless dedication and steadfast support of his mentor Ed Pat Mixon and for the Rotary Foundation, he could not see himself ever leaving Cuero.

Tim's Australian experience defined the rest of his life both professionally and spiritually. All of his jobs would involve some aspect of agriculture and for several years he was a strawberry farmer in Oxnard, California.

His experience in Australia, instilled in him a lifelong interest in other cultures and other people. It taught him that every person mattered and that everyone has something to contribute to the beautiful tapestry of life. It gave him an understanding of other peoples and cultures and imbibed in him tolerance, acceptance, the richness of diversity and a love for humanity.

It only takes one person to change the trajectory of someone's life. Someone who sees something in you, and decides he is going to become your champion, and plucks you out of your narrow existence and gives you a chance to climb to the peak of the mountain and have a world view of life.

These are the words of Tim Burt who says he will forever be grateful to Ed Pat Mixon who was his champion, who saw in him talents and abilities that he could not see himself and lit the way for him to actualize his potential.



Rotary's Connection to Peace Through Song

Rotary clubs throughout the world sing the song below during their meetings. It is a song of hope and peace and reminds us of how connected we all are world-wide.

Let There Be Peace on Earth

Let There Be Peace on Earth
and let it begin with me.

Let There Be Peace on Earth,
the peace that was meant to be!

With God as our Father, family all are we.
Let us walk with each other
in perfect harmony.

Let peace begin with me.
Let this be the moment now.

With ev'ry breath I take,
let this be my solemn vow;

To take each moment and live
each moment in peace eternally!

Let there be peace on earth
and let it begin with me!

Written by Sy Miller and Jill Jackson Circa 1955

(Note: The rights for use of the song were granted to Rotary International by the authors.)

Peace Pole in Jasper, Georgia



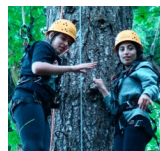
Peace Poles are recognized as the most prominent international symbol and monument for peace. They symbolize the oneness of humanity and our common wish for a world at peace. This Peace Pole created by the Rotary Club of Jasper bears the message, "May Peace Prevail on Earth" in the different languages of the world.

Youth Peace Leadership Initiative

The 21st century has seen a dramatic rise in new forms of violent conflict. Peace leadership as a viable approach to the world's most pressing challenges. Rotary's youth network, including Rotaractors, Interactors, and Rotary Peace Fellows, can play a strategic role in Rotarian peace leadership.

Cyprus Friendship Program

The Cyprus Friendship Program (CFP) is an all-volunteer people-to-people program that focuses on fostering trust and understanding through interactions between Turkish and Greek-speaking Cypriots in Cyprus.



Infinite Walk of Peace



This garden was created by The Boulder Rotary Club to promote a culture of peace and environmental sustainability, cultivate personal emotional awareness, and build bridges across communities.



The Nepal Women and Peace Global Grant



This grant trains women rights leaders to develop advocacy, communications, and leadership skills, and build a network that enables them to seek measures to both prevent and redress violence against women in order to drastically improve the safety of women in Nepal.



From January through January 2022
there have been *five*
new cases of the Wild Polio Virus.

A Look at Our Three Rotary Districts

Rotary District 5240



District Governor
Dana Moldovan

Arroyo Grande
Atascadero
Bakersfield
Bakersfield
Breakfast
Bakersfield East
Bakersfield North
Bakersfield
Twilight
Bakersfield West
Buelton
Camarillo Rotary
Camarillo Sunrise
Cambria
Carpinteria
Carpinteria
Morning
Carpinteria
Sunset
Cayucos
China Lake
Conejo Valley
Delano
E-Club of One
World
Fillmore
Goleta
Goleta Noontime
Grover Beach
Indian Wells
Valley
Kern River Valley
Lompoc
Los Olivos Rotary
Los Osos
Montecito
Moorpark
Moorpark
Morning
Morro Bay
NexGen
Nipomo
Ojai
Ojai West
Oxnard
Paso Robles
Rotary
Paso Robles
Sunrise
Passport Club of
the Central Coast
Pismo Beach-Five
Cities

RCSC
Rotaract Santa
Barbara
Rotaract Santa
Maria Valley
Rotaract Cal
Rotaract UCSB
Rotaract Ventura
San Luis Obispo
San Luis Obispo
de Tolosa
Santa Barbara
Santa Barbara
North
Santa Barbara
Sunrise
Santa Maria -
Noon
Santa Maria -
Breakfast
Santa Maria
South
Santa Paula
Santa Ynez Valley
Shafter
Simi Sunrise
Simi Sunset
Simi Valley
SLO Daybreak
Solvang
Taft
Tehachapi
Templeton
Thousand Oaks
Vandenberg
Village
Ventura
Ventura East
Ventura South
Wasco
Westlake Sunrise
Westlake Village

Foundation Chair:
Frank Ortiz
Frankortizdg1213@yahoo.com

Rotary District 5300



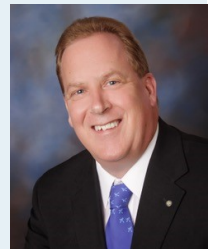
District Governor
Elizabeth Barry

Alhambra
Altadena
Antelope Valley
Apple Valley
Arcadia
Azusa
Barstow
Boulder City
Boulder City
Sunrise
Chino Valley
Claremont
Covina
Covina Sunrise
Downtown Las
Vegas
Duarte
East Los Angeles
Five Points/El
Monte/South El
Monte
Glendora
Greater Chino
Hills
GSGV
Green Valley
Henderson
Industry Hills
La Verne
Lancaster
Lancaster
Sunrise
Lancaster West
Las Vegas
Las Vegas After
Hours
Las Vegas Red
Rock
Las Vegas
Southwest
Las Vegas Spring
Mountains
Las Vegas
Summerlin
Las Vegas West
Las Vegas WON

Monrovia
Montebello
Mesquite
Sunrise
Moapa Valley
(Logandale)
Monterey Park
North Las Vegas
Ontario -
Montclair
Pahrump Valley
Pasadena
Pasadena After
Hours
Pico Rivera
Pomona
Rancho
Cucamonga
Rancho Del
Chino
San Dimas
San Gabriel
San Gabriel
Valley NG
San Marino
Sierra Madre
South Pasadena
The High Desert -
Hesperia
Upland
Victorville
Walnut Valley
West Covina

Foundation Chair:
Mark Mariscal
markmariscal@yahoo.com

Rotary District 5330



District Governor
Dan Goodrich

Arlington
(Riverside)
Beaumont-Cherry
Valley
Big Bear Lake
Cathedral City
Cathedral City
Evening
Coachella East
Coachella Valley
Colton
Corona
Corona-Circle City
Crestline-Lake
Gregory
Desert Hot Springs
E-Club of San
Bernardino
E-Club of World
Peace, D5330
Fontana
Greater Eastvale
Hemet
Highland
Idyllwild
Indian Wells
Indio
Indio Sunrise
Joshua Tree
Jurupa Valley
La Quinta
Lake Arrowhead
Lake Arrowhead
Mountain Sunrise
Lake Elsinore
Menifee
Moreno Valley
Moreno Valley
Morning
Murrieta
Norco
Old Town
Temecula

Perris
Rancho Mirage
Redlands
Redlands Sunrise
Palm Desert
Palm Desert
Sunset Club
Palm Desert-Palms
Palm Springs
Palm Springs
Sunup
Rialto
Riverside
Riverside East
Riverside Sunrise
San Bernardino
San Bernardino
Crossroads
San Bernardino
North
San Bernardino
Sunset
San Gorgonio Pass
(Banning)
San Jacinto
Sin Fronteras
Temecula
Temecula Sunrise
Temecula Valley -
New Generation
Twentynine Palms
Wildomar
Yucaipa
Yucca Valley
Yucca Valley
Sunset

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Rotary is 1.2 million members in over 35,000 clubs all over the world. Together, we see a world where people unite and take action to create lasting change – across the globe, in our communities, and in ourselves.