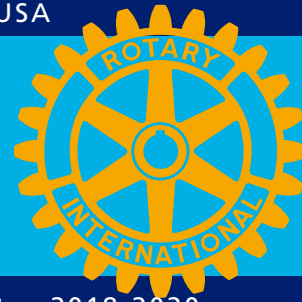




Rotary

ZONES 21 - 27



Larry Dimmitt, RI Director 2018-2020

July 2018
Number 1

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BE THE INSPIRATION

Rotary's Ultimate Goal

As the world's finest humanitarian service organization, Rotary's goal is world peace.

by Bill Emslie, Governor, D5440

In January 2017 Tracey and I attended the International Assembly in San Diego. One breakout session concerned peacebuilding. The discussion was routine until a man from Germany spoke about how Berlin was divided by a great wall and peace seemed elusive. Someone commented that both sides should meet and create peace. Our German friend responded that you cannot have peace without laying the groundwork first. You cannot simply convene a meeting to make peace. Peace comes through small steps of kindness, support and respect. It takes years.

I recalled The Rotary Foundation's six areas of focus. Each meets basic human needs. How can we have peace if we do not meet these needs?

I realized our fellow DGE was correct. With kindness, support and respect you have a better chance of peacebuilding.

PDG Kelly Atkinson, our Zone Rotary Coordinator says you cannot have peace without meeting Maslow's Hierarchy of Needs. These include physiological needs, safety, love, belonging and self-esteem. By satisfying these needs we have a chance for morality, creativity, spontaneity, problem



From left to right are DG Bill Emslie, Peace Fellow Cornelia Weiss, Father Ubald and Dr. Bill Timpson.

solving, lack of prejudice and acceptance of facts. These needs include the six areas of focus. In summary, when we as Rotarians assist others, we are peacebuilders.

In addition to all our clubs do in

the areas of focus, District 5440 made these active peacebuilding efforts

1. We established a Peace and Conflict Resolution Subcommittee within our District Rotary Foundation Committee which publishes a monthly Peacebuilding newsletter available to all Rotarians in our district.
2. We conducted our first peacebuilding workshop. This featured Dr. Bill Timpson, a peacebuilder and Rotarian who led the workshop with PRID Phil Silvers. The topics ranged from peacebuilding worldwide to our communities. We learned the importance of active and deep listening, empathic expressing and consensus.
3. We brought several world peacebuilders to a panel discussion at our District Conference in May 2018. These included:
 - a. Dr. Bill Timpson, with peacebuilding experience in Burundi, Korea and Northern Ireland.
 - b. Rotary Peace fellow Cornelia Weiss,

A Message from your RI Director

by RI Director
Larry Dimmitt
larrydimmitt@gmail.com



Hello fellow Rotarians and friends. This has been a great quarter and a great year in Rotary, "Making a Difference." We have had some great PETS and Foundation celebrations in the last several months, and we ended the year with an outstanding

International Convention in Toronto. We thank 2017-18 Ri Director Jorge Aufranc for his great leadership in our Zones these last two years. And now we look forward to another great year as we prepare to "Be the Inspiration" under new Rotary President Barry Rassin. Lois and I are excited about the year ahead, and I look forward to serving as your Director this year. We look forward to seeing each and every one of you at our Zone Institute in Boise, Idaho September 4-9, 2018 as we gather together to "Celebrate in Boise!"



Incoming Rotary Director Larry Dimmitt, left, receiving well wishes from outgoing Director Jorge Aufranc after the June RI Board meeting in Toronto.



Summer Lewis, former Rotary Peace Fellow from District 5710, giving a presentation on designing Peace projects through Global Grants and beyond at the Toronto International Convention.

Rotary's Ultimate Goal Continued from page 1

a lawyer for the United States Air Force in South America who stressed the importance of gender equality in building peaceful solutions.

c. Father Ubald from Rawanda, who lost over 45,000 members of his parish during the 1994 genocide. He emphasizes forgiveness as the secret of peace.

d. Sudip Koirala, a Rotarian and peacebuilder from Nepal. Sudip has worked with our District and my club since 2009 conducting over 40 projects that support the Rotary Foundation's six areas of Focus. He works directly in Nepal to provide essential needs, particularly to the untouchable caste.

With these activities, our district has increased awareness of world peace and how Rotary, and Rotarians here at home can be involved.



DG Bill Emslie with Rotarian and peacebuilder Sudip Koirala from Nepal.



Zones 21 -27 Rocky Mountains and the Plains

Brandon Johnson to Keynote District Leadership Institute Dinner for Zone 27

by Linda Peterson, Rotary Public Image Chair, Zone 27

Bridges to Prosperity has had a long-standing partnership with Rotary International and The Rotary Foundation, from funding B2P's first project to participating on multiple projects today. B2P was founded in 2001 by Ken Frantz, a Rotarian who believed that everyone should have safe access to the opportunities that would enable them to thrive. Today several board members and staff are active Rotarians.

B2P's mission — to connect isolated rural communities with healthcare, education and economic opportunities by building footbridges over impassable rivers - directly aligns with The Rotary Foundation's Areas of Focus, specifically Economic and Community Development. The lack of basic infrastructure is a significant hindrance to rural villagers living in a walking world. Along with B2P, Rotarians believe that, through the building of footbridges, they can have a tremendous impact on income generation and development of local communities. Global Grants for footbridges through The Rotary Foundation allow Rotarians to help reduce the cycle of poverty.

To date, Rotary clubs from around the world have partnered with B2P to build more than 75 bridges in 11 countries, through Matching and Global Grants. B2P's partnership with The Rotary Foundation has been instrumental in tackling the issue of poverty and the lack of sustainable infrastructure in these rural communities. Rotarians can witness men, women and children walking safely across the bridge, above the rising waters below. Projects such as these are why Rotarians are partnering with B2P.

After the grant is approved, the international sponsor club members have an opportunity to travel to visit

the host club and project site. This is an amazing opportunity to work side by side with community members on the bridge, talk to them about the difference the bridge will make in their lives, and truly see their "Rotary Dollars" at work. Rotarians return with a deeper understanding of how a simple innovation like a footbridge can transform the lives of community members.

Personally, my experience with Bridges to Prosperity has been nothing short of transformational, and Rotary has played a huge part in this. The very first project that I worked on with Bridges to Prosperity as a volunteer was a Rotary Sponsored bridge. A team of Rotarians from North Carolina came to the project and helped us out tying rebar and mixing concrete. I was quite struck by how strangers who had never been to this community, not only banded together to raise money to make the bridge a reality, but then took the time to come and visit us and actually help to build the bridge themselves in solidarity with the community. I really do believe that experience set a tone for my time at Bridges to Prosperity, and a mindset that I strive for still, over 5 years later.



District Leadership Institute for Zone 27 July 20 and 21, 2018

**Denver International Airport Embassy Suites Hotel
7001 Yampa Street, Denver, CO 80429**

Join Zone Director Larry Dimmitt and the Organizing Committee of Kelly C. Atkinson, RC; Dan Himelspace, RRFC and Linda Peterson, RPIC at this dynamic two-day institute. The cost is only 100 per person. Register today at <http://www.rizones21-17.org>. Note: Brandon Johnson will speak at the Friday Evening Dinner.

Multi-District Public Image Campaign

by Mandy Sheldon, Lieutenant Governor, D5710

Trying to promote Rotary beyond a local community is a challenge not for the faint of heart. Often times issues like District boundaries, media coverage areas, media standards and multiple approvals required can test the resolve to the project.

Finding a way to be equitable for the major metro areas as well as the smaller rural communities adds to the challenge. In other words, will it be fair to all concerned? All four districts, 161 Clubs and some 7400 Rotarians.

Thanks to the leadership of District Governors, Adam Ehlert, Allen Garner, Robert Mendoza and Gary Norris we were able to develop a multi-district media campaign. RI Director Larry Dimmit opened the door to support from staff in Evanston who assisted in the development of the campaign and tracking logistics.

This effort has been developing as the 2017-2018 Rotary year is winding down adding yet another challenge



when seeking support from Districts and Clubs. Some had available budget, while others did not. We adopted the stance that it did not matter what was given was given in the spirit of collaboration and it worked.

Following many rounds of exchanging drafts of the copy between Rotary staff, five public radio stations and District leaders, we reached the point of developing messages that spoke to our

region, the new Rotary brand and the public radio standards.

Next step was to coordinate the art work for billboards to be developed and installed around the multi-district region. We used the new billboard art available in the brand center, with one small alteration. All the media efforts are being directed to "FindRotary.org" which links directly to a special url developed by Rotary staff in order to track the number of "hits" and where the interested people were referred. This is the key to measuring the success of the campaign.

By the time this Zone's newsletter is distributed, the campaign may well have been completed, but the results not known. Watch for results in the coming months.

Rotary D5520 Human Trafficking Initiative 2018-2021

by Sheryl L. Saavedra, Public Image Chair, D5220



PDG, Tim Parker, is helping to promote the Human Trafficking Initiative for the District.

Rotary District 5520

Governor Elect, Linda Woodward, is implementing a district-wide Human Trafficking Initiative as her primary People of Action service project for the District beginning in 2018-2019. The district-wide program is being developed and promoted by Past District Governor, Tim Parker, in conjunction with Retired Dallas Police Department Sergeant Louis Felini and University of North Texas Health

Science Center Department of Pediatric Department's, Martha Felini, PhD MPH DC.

District 5520's Human Trafficking Initiative program is intended to run through 2021 and in its initial stages will begin as an awareness program to bring the issue to the forefront of humanitarian efforts in the District. Each club will be given informational material to present to its members to educate and inform. Additional resources and potential guest speakers will be made available for presentations to clubs and at district-wide events. Individual clubs will be encouraged and supported in developing their own human trafficking awareness and prevention programs best suited for their particular communities. Clubs will have additional opportunities to expand

on their efforts for awareness and prevention through RI grants, multi-club collaborations and community based fund raising and service projects.

Human trafficking, underage sexual exploitation and victimization of innocent children in our District throughout New Mexico and Far West Texas is real and is growing daily. District Governor Elect, Linda Woodward and Past District Governor Tim Parker are committed to bringing this issue to the forefront of Rotary efforts in 5520 with a call to action and a desire to effectuate change in the future of our District, our communities and for our children.

For more information, contact PDG Tim Parker @ tparker5520@yahoo.com.

Rotary International President Visits Atchison, KS

by Mandy Sheldon, Lieutenant Governor, D5710

More than 100 Rotarians gathered at the Atchison YMCA on May 30, 2018 to welcome RI President Ian Riseley to Kansas. The event kicked off with a fabulous and spirited performance by the Top Dawgs Drill team, with President Ian commenting that “he loved seeing the kids performing.”

Atchison President Chris Taylor led off the event, introducing special guests and welcoming District Governor Adam Ehlert to the stage. DG Adam proudly shared some of the accomplishments of District 5710, including our donations to End Polio and the recent Friendship Exchange to South Africa. The culmination of Adam’s remarks focused on the “Drive for 45” campaign, an effort to gain 45 new Paul Harris Fellows in the District in less than 60 days. With excitement, Adam announced that we surpassed our goal by 20 members! A special presentation was then made to three new “PHFs”, three generations of the same family—Bob Berger, Rick Berger and Reed Berger from Atchison. Then, all of the new Fellows in attendance were announced and asked to come forward, where President Ian congratulated them individually, shaking each one’s hand.

President Ian then took the podium to make a few remarks. He talked about his presidential theme, and told some humorous anecdotes from his time as RI president. He also remarked that he was very pleased with how Rotarians have taken on his challenge of planting trees, and was happy to hear of the efforts in our District as well.

With time running short, everyone moved outside, where President Ian helped dedicate the new trees planted at the YMCA, by revealing the granite plaque with a flourish.



President Ian helps pin three generations of new Paul Harris Fellows.



Photo above: The new Paul Harris Fellows received a congratulatory handshake from President Ian.

Photo right: The tree dedication plaque is revealed.

He then gave several generous minutes to take photos with members before departing for the airport.

It was a great event— a special thank you to the Atchison club for being wonderful hosts!



Rotarians provide access to clean water in rural Ethiopia

by Kent Miller, NW Austin Rotary Club, D5870b



It started with a trickle as great rivers often do; as great hopes do, as great plans do; as great movements do; as great changes in lives and communities around the world do.

Yes, Rotary started in Chicago with just a trickle of men meeting in an office. And it grew into a great river and a great movement that circles the globe with great change.

Yes, Water to Thrive started in 2008 in Austin, Texas in a church class with a trickle of folks with an idea of putting their faith into action by providing a water well in Ethiopia. In ten years this became 778 water wells with 332,000 beneficiaries.



About 53 of Ethiopian people have no access to clean water. Death rates from water-borne diseases take up to 80 of

children before they are five. A cycle of poverty infects all families lacking clean water.

Yes, the Rotary Club of Northwest Austin heard a man from Water to Thrive and a trickle of interest started with one Rotarian donating funds for a water well. One year later the club provided one water well as a demonstration for a global grant in partnership with the Rotary Club of Addis Ababa -- Central Mella, Ethiopia working along with Water to Thrive.

Yes, this small trickle grew into a global grant providing water from twelve developed hillside springs in rural Ethiopia west of Addis Ababa that gives clean, parasite-free drinking water; washing water and livestock water to 688 households with 6,442 adults and children.

Yes, this trickle became a river formed by the two original clubs, and one from Evansville, IN, two from Waverly and Pella, IA, two from Denton, TX, eight from central Texas in District 5870. And of course, this trickle soon swelled with the power of Rotarians all over the world who funded the project with their gifts to the Rotary Foundation--twelve wells for 60,000 from world-wide gifts.



Before construction begins, each community around the site must be organized enough to form a Water Committee.

At least seven persons (three of whom must be women), must successfully open a bank account in a nearby town with a deposit of 1000 Ethiopia birr (about 35) collected from every participating household. This is typically about a three to five cents per month payment. This trickle of birr will continue to become the funds used to maintain the water site for its ten to twenty-year life.

Once construction of the spring site or water well has begun, the Rotarians and local agency providing leadership and workers, engage in training the community members in the WASH program: Water and Sanitation, Hygiene. This program teaches how to use clean water, good hygiene and sanitary practices. It is taught to all community members and children in the ensuing months of organization and instruction. They also teach the Water Committee how to repair and sustain the three parts of the spring water system or water well. This team training involves cleaning the water holding tank, the spring cap, and all the pipes and faucets. In the case of a water well, it involves maintenance of the well and casing, and repairing the pump.



When the trickle of spring water is found, its outflow is measured

Ethiopia water contd on page 7

Ethiopia water contd from page 6

to assure an adequate flow for the community. The spring is capped and plumbed to take water downhill to a reservoir tank where faucets dispense water into the typical five gallon "jerry can" that is carried home on a girl or woman's back—a 42 pound cargo. Filling and carrying the cans is a job for girls or women. It is also often a social occasion at the spring line-up to fill containers.

The overflow of water into the reservoir is often used by piping it downhill to a laundry wash table where the women can launder their clothes—almost always an improvement over using dirty water at the edge of a river or pond.



Typically, the overflow is also piped to a cement cattle trough since by capping the natural spring, the cattle need a new source of water. The trickle now becomes a source of fresh clean, parasite-free water for the cattle.



When children and families finally have a nearby clean water source in fifteen minutes instead of an hour or two hours round trip, their excitement is a joy and a cause for celebration.

There is pure elation when children can turn on a faucet and take the clean water in their hands and drink it and wash their hair and face knowing that it is okay. Laughter and singing can be heard so literally "the hills are alive with the sound of music."

Thirty-five year old Shito Mulgeta, mother of seven children describe the change in lives to have clean water.



Before the construction of this water scheme my girls and I were fetching water from unprotected water pond. Cattle and horses drink from the same source and also defecate around. Moreover during rainy season the

source will be more polluted by surface runoff and turned the color to brown. The water borne diseases such as typhoid, Jardia and diaharia were common and we spent 300-500 ETB per child when one of them infected. Now thanks to God we saved our time energy and money in addition to our health.

Yes, huge changes in lives around world often result from a mighty flow started with a trickle. That is Rotary in motion.

And the Rotary wheel goes 'round 'n 'round...

"Everything old is new again" or so says the song. Even your old Rotary pin?

What do you mean old? The NEW logo and NEW pin have been around for more than a year now. It's time to find a home for your OLD pins.

And we have the perfect place for them. Bring them to the Zone institute in September and see how we can transform your old pins into fabric art right before your eyes. Even those Paul Harris pins, since you get a new one with each 1000 increase in your giving.

You can keep your theme pins. Our plan uses just your Rotary wheel pins and PH pins.

We'll see you in Boise with all your "OLD" pins. Watch the art piece evolve in real time!

Brought to you by the Zone 27 Public Image Team!



Four Year Old Rotary Club Making Its Mark On the Community of Kyle, Texas

by Beth Smith, President, Rotary Club of Kyle

The Rotary Club of Kyle has had a very successful year in the community! It seems to have flown by. At only 4 years young, the club is still implementing new ideas, while maintaining the traditions started in past years.

This year, President Beth Smith collaborated with the president of the San Marcos Club to host a social for all the Rotary Clubs in Hays County. The plan was to mingle, have some snacks and talk about upcoming events. Subsequently the other San Marcos Club and Wimberley hosted a similar event. The Dripping Springs Club is being encouraged to host in the fall.

A successful project from years past was continued when bicycles were donated to Hemphill Elementary school to be awarded to students with perfect attendance.

The club has taken over "manning" one of the water/snack stations for a local non-profit during its' 5ks... "Refueling with Rotary". It gave a presence in the community and helped another non-profit.

The Corrections facility warden is an active member of the Rotary Club of Kyle and has been facilitating the donation of food grown by inmates to the Hays County Food Bank. The Corrections Facility has a thriving Community Garden.

For the third year, the club will participate in a backpack and school supply drive in the community, giving club members the opportunity to spend one meeting time, with many hands, getting them sorted and stuffed by grades for the school district.

This year was the club's first opportunity to present a scholarship to a student at each high school based on "service above self".

The school district was overwhelmed doing a coat drive for the community's students that were in need. They trusted the Rotary Club of Kyle to "take over" and start running the drive for them after they saw the clubs dedication to the project during the first year of participation.

Other projects include "adopting a family" for Christmas and providing "security" by corralling kids and parents at the annual City of Kyle Easter Eggtravaganza.

On Labor Day, club members will work with the City on their 2nd Annual "Pie in the Sky" hot air balloon event. The goal is to gather folks named "Kyle and Kylie" and try for the Guinness Book record with those names in one place!

A Sip and Savor event was fantastic and highly successful, with area restaurants and wineries showcasing their goods. Plans are underway for a repeat of this event.

The club is growing with 11 new members this year and we have several applications pending.



Hays County Rotary Clubs gather for a social gathering.



Kyle RC bicycles donated to Hemphill Elementary school to be awarded to students with perfect attendance.



Kyle Rotary is growing with 11 new members this year and several applications pending.

Rotary Multi-District Training Institute 2018

RMDTI 2018 invites all current DGEs and DGNs, critical leadership team members, and future leaders to join us August 3-4 in Austin for outstanding, interactive and high quality leadership team training, time with national and regional Rotary leaders, friends and fellowship.

REGISTER HERE:

<https://www.crsadmin.com/EventPortal/Registrations/PublicFill/EventPublicFill.aspx?evtid=1bd2c30b-6db7-4d3b-8a78-67880b242225>

SEE WHO IS ATTENDING HERE:

<https://www.crsadmin.com/EventPortal/Registrations/RegisteredAttendees.aspx?evtid=1bd2c30b-6db7-4d3b-8a78-67880b242225&popup=true&win=1>

Welcome to a fun and exciting time in Austin, Texas! It's energetic, fun, and valuable - with the very best speakers and very high quality training.

All current and future leaders of your district are invited to attend the Rotary Multi-District Training Institute in Austin, Texas on August 3-4, 2018. Rotary Multi-District Training Institutes are designed to support incoming DGEs and DGNs in building and preparing their critical leadership teams for their year of service. Excellent training is offered to incoming DGEs, DGNs, Public Image Chairs, Foundation Chairs, and Membership Chairs as well as future leaders of your district.

We are honored to have an all-star cast to lead our interactive and high quality training. This includes our Rotary International Leadership including Rotary International Director Larry Dimmit, 2016-2017 Rotary International Vice-President Jennifer Jones, Past Rotary International Director Don Mebus, and Past Rotary International Director and Treasurer Andy Smallwood.

Our targeted training for specific District Positions will be led by our Rotary Regional Leadership teams who bring a wealth of knowledge to share.

DGE/DGN Training will include past Rotary International Vice President Jennifer Jones, and Past Rotary International Director and Treasurer Andy Smallwood, and Past Rotary International Director Don Mebus.

Foundation Training will be led by the multi-talented team brought together by our RRFC Art Zeitler, which includes District Rotary Foundation Chairs, District Grant Sub-Committee Chairs, Alumni Chairs, District Centennial Chairs, District Annual Fund Chairs, District Endowed Fund Chairs, District Scholar Chairs, District Polio Chairs, District Global Grant Scholar Chairs, Paul Harris Society Chairs, Assistant Regional Rotary Foundation Coordinators, EMGO, ZEPNC

Membership Training will offer new and innovative training led by RC Sherri Muniz and RC Kelly Atkinson. Their team also includes: ARC Lisa Faith Massey, ARC Bob Dill, ARC George Ritcheske, ARC Lou Miller and ARC Debbie High. RPIC Eric Liu and his exciting team will lead the Public Image sessions.



**Foundation Pre-Session
Friday afternoon, August 3, 2017**

District 5710 Celebrates!

by Mandy Sheldon, Lieutenant Governor, D5710

For the Rotarians who attended the 2018 District 5710 Conference and Assembly on April 27/28, the theme “Rotary: Making a Difference” resonated throughout the entire event. Friday morning’s highlights included presentations about Zone Institute, RLI graduates, RYLA info, Kansas Leadership Center, The Rotary Foundation, Membership and a message from RIP-elect Barry Rassin.

Collectively, the audience was blown away by our lunch speaker and performer Janine Stange, “The National Anthem Girl.” Janine is the first person to perform the National Anthem in all 50 states. She shared a wonderful story about her inspiring mother—then sang the Star Spangled Banner for the audience. Goosebumps all around.

The afternoon featured an outstanding panel celebrating the 30 years of Women in Rotary, which included District 5710’s three female PDGs Sandy Rieger, Vickie Randel and Deb Rodenbaugh-Schaub, as well as Olathe President Vanessa Vaughn-West, Rotarians Judy Wright and Joan Wagnon, as well as the lone male panelist PDG Bill Kromer.

After recognizing Heart to Heart for its 25 years in service—and in



Heather and Adam Ehlert welcomed “National Anthem Girl” Janine Stange and President’s Rep Carolyn Johnson.

partnership with Rotary, a check was presented for 7,500 collected in honor of the 30 years of Women in Rotary, for women’s hygiene kits. The day concluded with a service project for Heart to Heart, and the kits were assembled.

The evening dinner proved to be an extension of the day, with awards and recognitions by DG Adam. The presidents and presidents-elect

were recognized, and a very special Paul Harris Fellow was awarded to Charlotte Urban (daughter of Village West member Lee Urban). Frank White shared stories of his baseball career while the packed house enjoyed dinner. The silent auction and “murder mystery” entertainment concluded the evening.

Saturday picked up where Friday left off with the ever-popular panel of Youth Exchange students, followed by fantastic presentations on peace and the plight of human trafficking. The Friendship Exchange team provided lots of info and pictures, then attendees learned all about the efforts of the tree-planting initiative, polio-plus and public image.

Saturday’s luncheon brought the conference to a close, with fantastic President’s Rep, PDG Carolyn Johnson. Carolyn embodies “Making a Difference” and spoke about her efforts with literacy and teaching children in Guatemala to read. A teacher by trade, Carolyn’s passion for literacy and Rotary is evident in every word she speaks.

Next year, Rotarians will “Follow the Yellow Brick Road” to Topeka for the 2019 celebration.

Stomp Out Polio

Bring awareness to polio eradication by wandering the streets in these limited-edition classic kicks. Shoes are 50 and all proceeds (25 on average depending on shoe stock availability) will benefit Rotary’s PolioPlus fund. Order now and pick up your pair at the 2018 Zone Conference in Boise, Idaho!

If you are unable to make Zone but can’t live without these, we can ship them to you for an additional charge.

This fundraiser is a Rotarian-driven endeavor, promoted by the Zone 27 Public Image Team. We’re this close. Let’s Drop to Zero!



Stone Oak RC FLAG Program is Signature Project

by Margaret Porter, Stone Oak Rotary Club, D5840

The Rotary Club of Stone Oak (SORC) is committed to helping “at risk” children thrive. Children at East Terrell Hills, Oak Grove, and Walzem Elementary Schools have significantly benefitted from the Club’s “FLAG” project. “FLAG” (Fitness, Literacy, Attendance & Grades) works to improve critical components of a successful education by providing some pretty cool incentives for children to improve their overall Fitness, boost school Attendance, enhance Literacy skills and bring up Grades.

The Rotary Club of Stone Oak started “FLAG” in 2013 and kept up their annual commitment to donate Soccer Balls, Bikes, Helmets and Locks to all three schools every year since. “FLAG” was highlighted by the Rotary International President Gary C.K. Huangas during a January 2015, San Antonio visit and has received the Rotary District 5840 “Service Above Self” Award, the North East Independent School District (NEISD) “Superintendent’s Award”, and recognition from Jose Menendez, State Senator, District 26, “The State of Texas, Certificate of Recognition”.

“FLAG” is the perfect example of what Rotary is about all about, and our Club has a special commitment to continue the work of helping San Antonio children, says the Rotary Club of Stone Oak member, Margaret Porter. “Our goal is to provide the exact support the schools need to continue their work improving the wellness of the students, boost school attendance, and enhance grades”, says Porter “sometimes the schools need a little extra community support and the children need a little additional incentive and inspiration to be successful.”

Every Fall, the Rotary Club of Stone Oak visits each school to kick off “FLAG” and in the Spring a Poster Contest to support “FLAG” and an

Essay Contest to support the 4th grade writing requirement for the state (STARR) testing, and the Rotary’s focus on literacy. The Poster Contest winners each receive Soccer Balls and Essay Contest winners (a boy and a girl from each school) receive Bikes. At the end of the school year, the Club presents 350+ Soccer Balls to students with Perfect Attendance and 60 Bikes in total to the children that have successfully improved personal Fitness, Literacy, Attendance and overall Grades.

This project has made a significant difference in the lives of the children and faculty of each “at risk” school. Grades and Attendance have improved, but so has overall enthusiasm for learning. Local businesses that support “FLAG” and ensure continued project success: Alamo Head Injury Association, BJ Tidwell Cabinetry, Betsy Dippo-State Farm, Budget Movers, Gotta Ride Bikes, Mood, Texas, Sam’s Club, Target, Wal-Mart, Whataburger.

The Rotary Club of Stone Oak is looking forward to continuing the “FLAG” project and will continue to find ways to Improve Fitness, Enhance Literacy, Boost Attendance and Elevate Grades as the Club strives to reach more children in the future.



BE THE INSPIRATION

Global Scholars Prepare for Careers in Rotary's Six Areas of Focus

by Sharron Miles, Foundation Chair, D5790

The Rotary Foundation and clubs invest in our future leaders and philanthropists by funding scholarships for undergraduate and graduate study. District 5790 is proud to have funded three Global Scholars this year. Yacine Ndiaye was nominated by the Rotary Club of Grapevine, Texas.

Yacine grew up in Senegal and experienced poverty and rampant infectious diseases prevalent in that region. She remembers the Rotarians who administered those precious drops of Polio vaccine that protected her and countless other children in her area from contracting that dread disease and that stimulated her interest in pursuing a medical career. She received an A.S. in Science from Northern Virginia Community College and recently a B.A. in Biochemistry at the University of North Texas in December. She is presently working in a medical facility until she enrolls in her Master's program. She has been accepted at the University of Geneva to receive a Masters of Global Health and then will plan to work to educate and train communities in developing countries to prevent and fight infectious diseases. This represents a clear path of sustainable effort.

Yacine was highly recommended to us by the Associate Dean for Research and National Scholarships at the University of North Texas, where she was completing her BA in Biochemistry. Our Grapevine RC

TRF Committee interviewed her and unanimously voted to sponsor her in the District interview competition. The District Scholarship Committee, led by PDG Conrad Heede, and made up of five Rotarians, each having

- Enhancing the health infrastructure of local communities
- Educating and mobilizing communities to help prevent the spread of major disease



Rotary Global Scholar Yacine Ndiaye was nominated by the Rotary Club of Grapevine, Texas.

educational credentials, selected Yacine as the top candidate to apply for this Global Grant Scholarship. Yacine has been accepted at the University of Geneva, Switzerland to study for her Master's in Global Health. She intends to follow the Epidemiology of Infectious Diseases track so that she can eventually work with medical staffs in developing countries to provide the best medical care and prevent the spread of infectious diseases.

In her studies, she will focus on: Improving the capacity of local health care professionals

- Promoting disease prevention programs, with the goal of limiting the spread of communicable diseases and reducing the incidences of and complications from noncommunicable diseases

- Supporting studies for career-minded professionals related to disease prevention and treatment

Yacine shares her plans for the future following completion of the program.

"Immediately after the scholarship period, I plan to seek employment with an NGO that works in sub-Saharan Africa especially with displaced persons or refugees and hopefully while pursuing a PhD in Epidemiology or another Master's degree in Peace and Conflict Resolution.

I plan on working with displaced and refugee communities in sub-Saharan Africa as those persons are more exposed to these public health risks and have less or no access to primary healthcare facilities. Studies show that maternal and child mortality rates are even higher in refugee camps.

I have chosen to devote my career to making sure that women and children, no matter the conditions, have access to decent healthcare. I believe that, in this century, no women or children should die of perfectly preventable diseases."

Boerne Sunrise Rotary Hosts Acuna Kids at Sea World

by Dick Tomlinson, Boerne Sunrise Rotary Club, D5840

The Boerne Sunrise Rotary Club hosted thirteen medically challenged kids and their mothers from Acuna Mexico to a day at Seaworld on June 3. While the Rotary focuses mostly on supporting local charities and scholarships, this long time project serves their interests in International projects.

The Seaworld project is now in its 16th year since it was established by Don Jones of the Boerne Sunrise Club and Roger Paxton of the Acuna Rotary Club. Don Jones said, "These are mostly poor families and for many of the kids this is their first ride in an automobile. Despite their sometimes desperate health situations they are enthusiastic and really enjoy the day at Seaworld. It takes two weeks to clear the paperwork to get them across the border, but it is



well worth the effort."

In addition to Jones, Club members Steve Artale, Charles Weatherbee and Dr. Cha Karulak acted as hosts and fourteen members of the Winston School Interact Club gave assistance.

Twelve members of the Acuna Rotary Club also attended.

The Boerne Sunrise Rotary Club meets for breakfast on Tuesday at 7:00 am at the Hungry Horse restaurant at 109 Saunders St., Boerne, TX, 78006. New members are welcome.

Heading for Hamburg 2019? Don't miss the Dinner with the Presidents

by Martin Limbird, PDG Fellowship Board Secretary

Attention Rotary PDGs and incoming Governors: Save this date, Friday, May 31, 2019 for an unforgettable reunion with your class mates. This provisional date immediately precedes the RI convention opening on Saturday June 1.

A tradition was begun in Toronto of interest to all Rotary Governors, Past District governors and their partners: The Dinner with the Presidents.

Organized by Rotary's "Fellowship of PDGs (and their friends)", this event brings together past presidents of Rotary International and the members of their class of governors.



RID Larry Dimmitt (l) and Rotary PDG Fellowship president Ann Lee Hussey are pictured regarding plans for the May 31 2019 Dinner with the Presidents provisionally set in Hamburg, Germany.

Nearly 350 persons, including nearly a dozen past RI Presidents and spouses attended the 2018 Dinner with the Presidents in Toronto on June 22, 2018,

with our own zone director Larry Dimmitt and his Rotarian wife Lois heading the zone delegation.

"Plan to join your classmates for the 2019 Dinner with the Presidents in Hamburg" said Martin Limbird, the Fellowship's board secretary. "We encourage all PDGs to become members of our fellowship and share their experiences and wisdom. Our fellowship newsletter and breakout sessions at the convention make membership especially valuable."

For more information on the Fellowship of PDGs and their Friends Fellowship, see www.pdgsfellowship.org

A District Governor Shares His Heart In A Farewell Article

by Abbas Rajabi, Governor, D5450

What an amazing year of Rotary District 5450 has had! This district has proven that in Rotary we truly live service above self. Rotarians in this district have encouraged over a hundred new members to join and have raised about \$850,000 dollars towards the final stages of polio eradication and other charity projects.

As District Governor, Abbas Rajabi has encouraged the Rotarians in his District to imagine that Rotary is an upside down pyramid and the District Governor is at the bottom. "Your work is what makes me shine and fills me with pride. It is you the members of district 5450 that deserve the credit, thank you," Rajabi expressed in his farewell remarks.

"Rotary has given me a community; inspired me, given me so much as I give to the world alongside all of you.

When I was 14 years old in my hometown of Hamadan, Iran I had to help my brother taking my nephew to the hospital because of an epidemic of cholera, only to find out that all the rooms, hallways and every inch of the hospital was overwhelmed with sick children



Governor Abbas Rajabi (center) celebrating Rotary at the District 5450 Celebration.

worse than my nephew, I watched many children die, fortunately today the water and sanitation situation in my hometown is all improved, however, that is not the case in the rest of the world. Rotary has been amazing in proving for and helping communities around the world with water and sanitation, this touches my heart like no other, even though my passion is peace and conflict resolution.

Given the current state of the world, most central in my mind and heart and important as we embarked on district celebration was Peace and conflict resolution, therefore our theme for the celebration was how to bring consensus to a divided community.

As Rumi the thirteen-century

Persian poet had said: 'Out beyond ideas of wrongdoing and right-doing, there is a field. I will meet you there.'

Rotary is that field, where we all rise above the current affairs and follow our way of Service above self in serving humanity. As Rotarians, we are a link in a long chain, over 113 years in the making, to make the world a better place for all people.

Peace is bigger than just the conflicts in the news. Your passion, as Rotarians, comes through when you pay attention to peace, you promote education, prevent disease, look after maternal health and when you are a leader in gender equality.

At this year's District Celebration we celebrated the honor it is to be in Rotary, the pride of being a part of a global collective of service minded individuals, the joy of giving, we celebrated with fellowship and by producing knowledge and learning from each other, we celebrated our new, rising generations and we celebrated achievements!

I am so honored to be here among an amazing group of like-minded, service oriented people."

Eighty-five Tomorrows Are Planted by Littleton, Colorado Rotarians with a Little Help from Their Friends to Celebrate Earth Day

by Linda Peterson, Rotary Public Image Coordinator, Zone 27

The Best Time to Plant a Tree is Twenty Years Ago.

The Next Best Time to Plant A Tree is Today.

Chinese Proverb

Beginning Sunday with 12 Crabapple Trees, continuing with 22 “Big” trees on Sterne Parkway near Littles Creek Park and wrapping up with 51 trees of 16 varieties on the Campus of Options Middle School and Secondary Program, one tree for each Rotarian is now Rooted in Littleton.

Littleton Rotarians share a connection with local trees. It was a Littleton Rotarian who had the original idea for the Crabapple Trail. And this year Rotary International President Ian Risely has made it his mission to try to have as many trees as there are Rotarians planted all over the world. Hint: that’s more than 1.2 million.

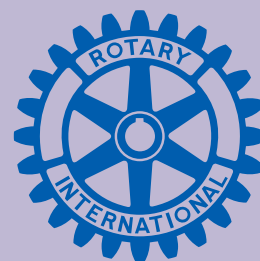
Rotarians did not do this alone. They had a huge hand from the City of Littleton, specifically David Flaig and his intrepid crew who helped with the 51 trees on the school site. David was able to apply a generous grant from Xcel Energy to cover the cost of the trees. South Suburban Parks and Recreation planted the “Big” trees near Littles Creek Park, and the Crabapple Foundation added 12 new trees

to the family of Crabapples gracing the streets of Littleton.

Able bodied students from Options Secondary Program and Middle School helped dig deeper holes and ferry mulch to the far-flung trees at the edges of the school grounds. With their help the final 51 took less than two hours to plant from start to finish. Teachers were on hand to ensure that a few lessons were learned as the trees were settled into their new homes.

It was only fitting that the sun would be replaced by rain/snow to help settle the new trees into the soil and their forever homes. Undaunted the Rotary Club is already looking ahead to next year’s Earth Day.

The Rotary Club of Littleton was chartered in 1922. The club currently has 85 members, both men and women, and currently meets Tuesdays at noon at the Pinehurst Country Club, 6255 West Quincy Avenue, Denver 80235 and the first and third Tuesday evenings. See website for location. (<https://portal.clubrunner.ca/3759/>)



Rotary International

Zones 21 - 27

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2018-2020

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