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April 2020

Pivoting from Disappointment to Determination...

Oh, how things have shifted in the past few weeks. I had a short list of items that I wished to cover in this month's column. Each of them now irrelevant as the world as we knew it, our activities as we knew them, and our communities that we live in have all changed in ways that were unimaginable just a short time ago.

Most of the phone calls, emails, and texts I have fielded have been around a single word. Cancellation. Should we cancel? Do we have to cancel? What do we do if we cancel? How do we cancel? Is the convention in Hawaii going to be canceled? Most of those questions have now received answers.

Disappointment is, understandably, widespread. I have heard it in your voices. I have seen it on your faces. It has been palpable. From training events, to district conferences, to celebration events, all having been in the planning stages for lengthy periods of time. Similar disappointment to the college students who won't experience a commencement ceremony. The athletes who will not be able to compete in that once in a lifetime event or in their last season as an athlete. The list is endless. The disappointment is widespread.

That disappointment needs to be acknowledged. It's real. And now we must quickly pivot to determination. Determination to stay connected in an environment that none of us has ever experienced before. That is happening, and that is palpable also.

We can't just let Rotary clubs go dark until the time this pandemic has waned. We can't let Rotary go dark. And maybe there is a silver lining in this. As an organization and as clubs, we have been slow to embrace technology as a way and a means to stay connected and be connected. Not all, but most. Oh my, how that is changing. With Zoom being the most prevalent and with other platforms adding in, the early adopters of technology are helping all of us to come up to speed. Zoom club meetings of terra clubs. Zoom happy hour meetings. Zoom Passport club meetings filled with attendees from terra clubs looking for an additional way to connect with Rotarians. Online training. Virtual district conferences. Disappointment being replaced by determination.

Creativity in abundance as we try and stay connected. And all of this as we each deal with the economic impact in our communities and for our members. Because even if the pandemic has waned, even if the curve flattens in this Rotary year, our incoming officers at all levels of our organization will be dealing with the economic aftermath that is sure to follow and its impact on our participants. It's a lot.

Even as I write this column, there is no way to predict where things will be 8 short days from now when this Beyond Borders newsletter goes to distribution. One thing I do know. One thing I am confident in. We'll get through this. Together. And the lessons we learn will serve us well. The last 3 months of this Rotary year will be anything but business as usual for you as a Rotarian. It will not be what we had anticipated or planned for. But we can emerge stronger. It will take each of you to make that happen. It will take all of us.

Take care of yourself. Stay safe. Stay connected. Take care of your members and find ways to serve your communities in ways that you never anticipated or planned for.

Pivoting from Disappointment to Determination...

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Valarie's View from the Wings

"Never let a bad situation bring out the worst in you. Be strong and stay positive." – Unknown

It's hard to avoid it; the news, the media and the state of the World every morning we wake up. Many of us feel lost, unable to function as normal in our everyday work, it feels surreal and almost disrespectful to the larger picture of what tomorrow will look like and what other countries, like Italy are experiencing.



What will the new normal be?

Rotarians are social creatures, one of the main reasons we join Rotary is for networking and fellowship. What does this look like during physical distancing? Director Jeffry outlined how we can keep connected and keep practicing Rotary, "We can't let Rotary go dark". But what does this mean to our own isolation and sense of helplessness during this pandemic?

All safety demonstrations tell us to put on our own oxygen mask before we help others. Take care of yourself, set a daily schedule that includes getting outside for fresh air. There is something therapeutic in letting your mind wander freely as you walk through nature. Small positive revelations come to mind of everything we are thankful for and hope for a new day.

This is about human life. We must celebrate our relationships with each other, support each other and lift each other up. We may be in this for the foreseeable future and as I write this, I recognize the world may look different on April 1st or whenever you open this newsletter.

There is a lot of information and misinformation out there, what we should do is concentrate on the positive message. Instead of saying, "All the businesses in the town are closed for an indefinite period of time" we should put the human factor on it by saying, "The businesses are closed in town to protect its citizens and looks forward to serving you in the near future".

Fear might bring out some worrying instincts, but when faced with a crisis it brings out the best in humanity.

People helping People

There are and will continue to be inspiring and heartfelt stories of humanity. I encourage you all to find a platform to share and participate in positive stories each and every day.

Be strong, be healthy and be safe.

Calendar of Events

September 23-26, 2020—

GETS, GNATS Leadership Training, Toronto

June 12-16, 2021— RI Convention, Taipei, Taiwan

June 4-8, 2022 — RI Convention, Houston, Texas

2023 — RI Convention, Melbourne, Australia

2024 — RI Convention, Singapore (tentative)

2025 — RI Convention, Calgary (tentative)

Find the answers

Don't forget our other electronic and social media communications tools for the Zone.

Website:

www.rotaryzones28-32.org

Facebook:

[Rotary Zones 28 and 32](https://www.facebook.com/RotaryZones28and32)

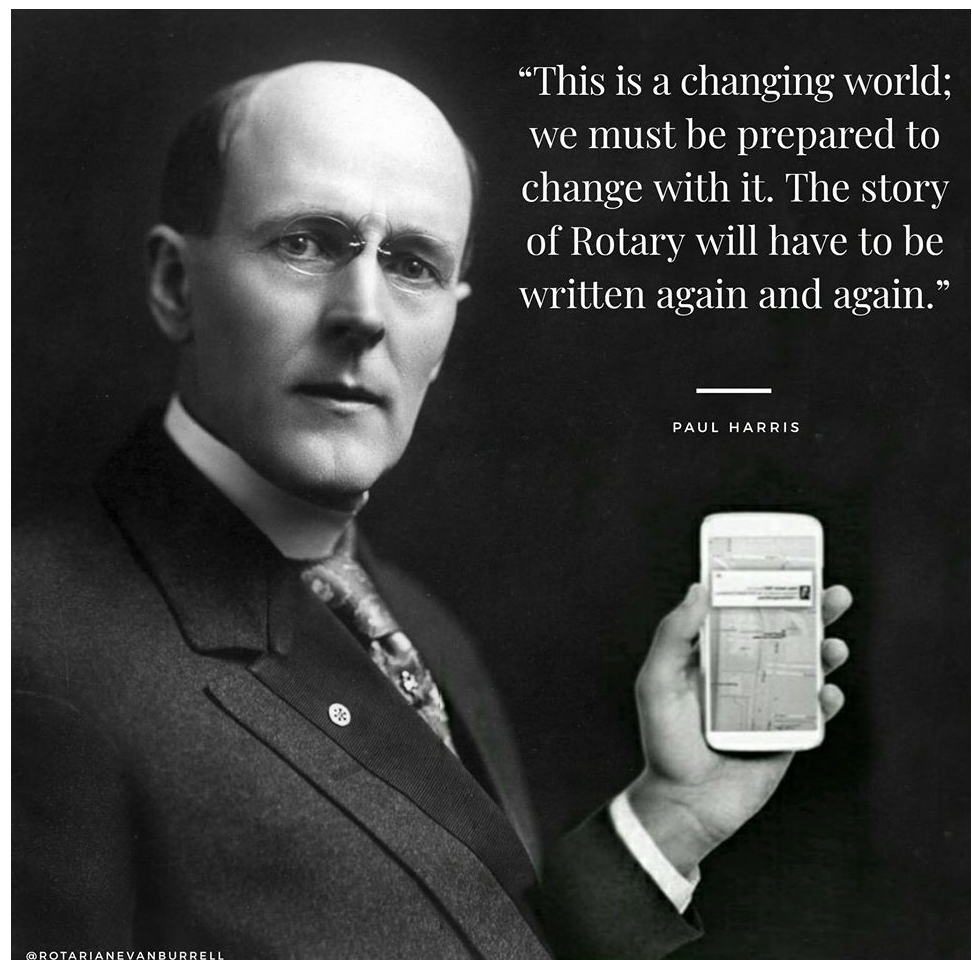
Blog:

<http://greatideastoshare.com>

A Message from Rotary International President Mark Maloney about COVID-19



<https://youtu.be/RaRSaXy6v4M>



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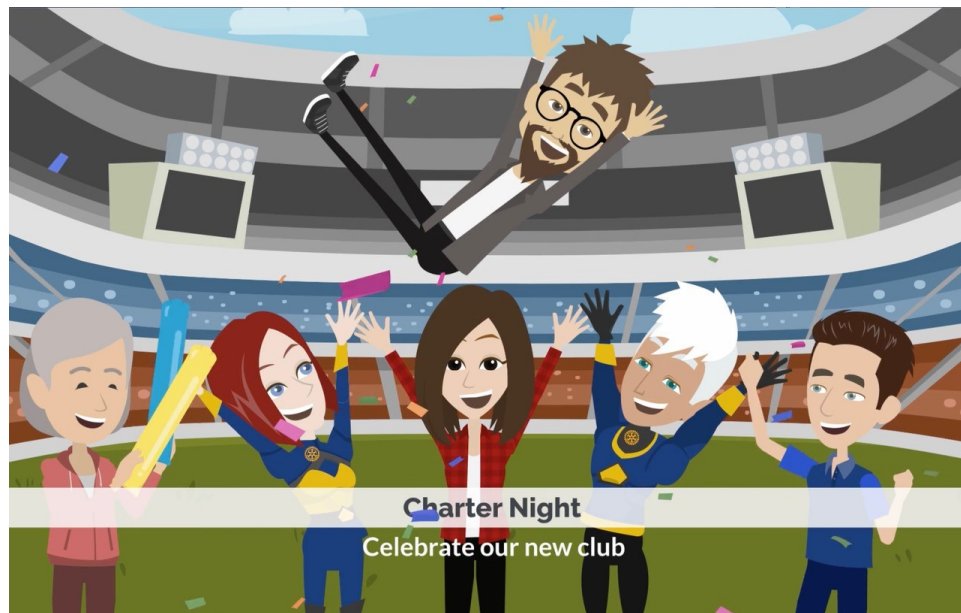
New Types of Rotary Clubs —Part 2

By Lawrence Furbish, Assistant Rotary Coordinator, Zone 32

Here is the latest video about starting a new club.

Link: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=2bYfGa63xds&feature=youtu.be>

To find all the Membership videos, go to <http://tinyurl.com/MembershipVideos>.



A Recipe for Growth: Innovative Club Advocates!

Marty Peak Helman, PDG

Senior Rotary Leaders agree: Rotary growth is dependent upon the formation of new, innovative clubs.

It's axiomatic that our current traditional club model – a weekly meeting over a meal and involving a speaker – will continue to be the backbone of Rotary in North America for some time to come. But the data show that younger members – and those who have tried Rotary and left us – most frequently complain that they find Rotary too expensive and too time consuming for their tastes. Meals and weekly meetings – as much as we love them -- contribute heavily to both these concerns – and do little to forward our overarching goal of Service Above Self.

Therefore, it's clear that if Rotary is to continue to be the global force we want it to be, we must find less time-consuming and less expensive access points for Rotary.

Rotary has been advocating the development of innovative clubs for a half-dozen or more years, and some interesting models are proving that innovation works, in our two Zones and beyond (see graphic). But until now, Rotary has not really been set up to promote and support these clubs. That reality led to a Summit (*continued next page*)

held late last January in Evanston, sponsored by RI President Mark Maloney and including the participation of President-elect Holger Knaack. The Zone 28/32 Innovative Club team – led by Director Jeffry and Director-elect Valarie – were well represented at the Summit.

Interested in starting an innovative club in your District – maybe a Passport Club, a New Voices Club, or an e-club -- but don't know how to begin? Concerned that a new club will "cannibalize" membership of existing Rotary Clubs? Want to start small, with a satellite? Not sure at this point what Rotary's "rules" are about club formation?

You can count on members of this team for assistance. They all have experience – positive and negative -- in starting clubs and satellites, and they can help you avoid pitfalls. And they have access to tools you can use, including a still-in-development heat-map that shows by zip code where Rotarians in the United States reside – this can be a powerful device to help you develop new, community-based clubs. (Sorry, Canada, the beta for you has yet to roll out! Stay tuned for developments ...)

Already, an online chat group of Rotarians from across our Zones interested in starting a New Voices club of Rotary youth

alumni has scheduled its first meeting. (If you'd like your district to be part of that, reach out to Marty Helman, whose contact info is below.) More cross-Zone opportunities will be introduced in coming months. And if you have questions or want assistance, please contact one of the Innovative Club Advocates listed below. Call the one closest to you or as you prefer; the Advocates will be working closely together. And watch this space for more announcements related to growth – and new clubs and satellites in formation.

Innovative Club Advocates in our two Zones are:

Reid William Eyre, District Rotaract Representative, District

6330, Sarnia Lambton Rotaract, reideyre@me.com

PDG Marty Helman, District Growth Chair, District 7780,

Boothbay Harbor Rotary Club, [martyrota-](mailto:martyrota-ry@gmail.com)

ry@gmail.com

PDG Cecily Smith, Assistant Rotary Coordinator, District

7230, Metro NY Rotary, rotary7230pr@gmail.com

DG Tracey Vavrek, District 5370, Grande Prairie After Five,

vavrek6@gmail.com

Innovative club development is possible! And now we are developing tools to support its growth.



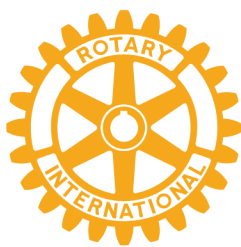
CLUB MODELS

Rotary is a global network of 1.2 million neighbors, friends, leaders, and problem-solvers who see a world where people unite and take action to create lasting change – across the globe, in our communities, and in ourselves. The criteria for membership are simple. For Rotary clubs, a member needs to be an adult — or for Rotaract clubs, a person age 18-30 — who demonstrates good character, integrity, and leadership; has a good reputation within their business or profession and community; and willing to serve in the community or have an impact elsewhere in the world. All clubs share similar values and a passion for service, but no two clubs are the same because each community has its own unique needs.

Club Model	Description	Appeals to	Minimum number of charter members
Traditional Rotary Club	Professionals and aspiring leaders who meet regularly for service, connections, and personal growth	People looking for connections, service opportunities, and traditions Learn more at Start a Club .	20
Satellite Club	A Rotary club sponsored by a traditional club but with its own meetings, projects, bylaws, and board	Those who want a club experience or meeting format or time other than what's offered by the traditional clubs in the area Learn more in the Guide to Satellite Clubs .	8
E-Club	A Rotary club that meets primarily online	People who travel frequently, whose schedules make it difficult to meet in person, or who prefer an online experience Learn more about online club meetings .	20
Passport Club	A Rotary club that allows members to attend other Rotary club meetings as long as they attend a specified number of meetings in their own club each year	People who travel frequently, or those who enjoy trying a variety of club experiences and meeting lots of new people Learn more in the Guide to Passport Clubs .	20
Corporate Club	A club whose members (or most of them) work for the same employer	Employees of an organization who want to come together to do good in their community	20
Cause-Based Club	A club whose members are passionate about a particular cause and focus their service efforts in that area	People who want to connect with others while addressing a particular set of problems.	20
Alumni-based Club	A club whose members (or most of them) are former Rotary or Rotary Foundation program participants	People who have participated in Rotary outside of a club	20
Rotaract Club	A club of members ages 18-30 that is sponsored by a Rotary club and often works with that club on projects	Younger people who want to serve their communities, develop leadership and professional skills, and have fun through service. Learn more in the Rotaract Handbook .	n/a

All club models meet at least twice each month. With exception of Rotaract clubs, all active members pay US\$68.00 in annual dues, are counted in Rotary International's database, and have voting privileges.

Rotary



**ROTARY
CONNECTS
THE WORLD**

By Bob Wallace, Rotary Coordinator Zone 24 East

Who would ever have thought that President Mark's theme for this year "Rotary Connects" would take on such a meaning for all of us?

The question I ask with our current COVID-19 situation and all the words we are using such as cancellation, isolation, social distancing, quarantine etc. is how do we stay connected with each other and the members of our clubs and communities?

The first suggestion is we are all carrying a cell phone in our pockets, so let us use them for their intended purpose. Call people, your club members, and your friends, shut-ins etc. and simply say I was thinking of you, how are you doing? We need this connection with each other. Don't use email because that is very much one way. Just talk to each other.

The second suggestion is make use of the online tools such as ZOOM, GoToMeeting, etc. to hold club social connections or meetings. These can be as formal as you want. I have heard from some clubs that attendance online was up from regular meetings.

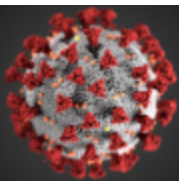
The third suggestion is to remember our local businesses. On my recent drive home from Florida I no-

ticed that the Walmart parking lots were full of cars, but the smaller businesses were closed. Remember who you contact for support of your fund-raising activities and it is now time for us to support these businesses. Try to make use of the pick-up or delivery options whether you need food or not because the business needs you and remember to tip them well. If every club member ordered in food and used online meeting, we could meet and eat together.


The final suggestion is that for many of us not attending weekly Rotary events we have an extra few dollars in our pocket. This would be great to donate to The Rotary Foundation or Polio. Remember that some may be faced with uncertain jobs as a result of the COVID-19 virus so this suggestion should be carefully done.

And finally speaking of having some extra funds, a lot of us would be spending money on flights, hotels, convention registrations restaurants etc. in Honolulu come June. With the unfortunate cancellation but the correct decision again The Rotary Foundation is the perfect place to send some of these "extra" funds.

For now, stay connected in whatever way you can.



Read how Rotary is responding to the impact of the global COVID-19 crisis.

Rotary 

<https://www.rotary.org/en/rotary-monitors-coronavirus-outbreak>

Rotary's Response to the Humboldt Broncos Bus Crash in 2018

By Peter Neufeldt, PDG 2017-2018, 306-535-8526

The home of the **Humboldt Broncos** is in Rotary District 5550. **The Humboldt Broncos** are a hockey team in the Saskatchewan Junior Hockey League (SJHL). The SJHL is a part of the Canadian Junior Hockey League and is open to North American-born players 20 years of age or younger.

In 2018, the Humboldt Broncos had advanced to the SJHL semi-finals. On April 6 they were en route to a play-off game when the Broncos' team bus collided with a semi-truck that went through a stop sign at full highway speed. There were 16 fatalities as a result of the accident. The victims included 10 players, two coaches, a statistician, a broadcaster, the bus driver, and an athletic therapist. The remaining 13 passengers were players who received many injuries, most of them serious. The president of the SJHL described the incident as tragic, heart-breaking, and the league's "worst nightmare."

I was the District Governor for District 5550 at the time of the accident. Following the bus crash there was an outpouring of condolences and requests to pay tribute to those who were killed and injured in the accident. I received calls from Rotarians from across Canada and as far away as Israel and Florida. Many of those who called or emailed suggested setting up a scholarship fund in memory of those killed and injured in the tragedy.

We were able to set up a scholarship fund with donations of just over \$10,000 and decided to offer one scholarship of \$2,000 every year for 5 years. The scholarships are for post-secondary education anywhere in Canada.

The selection criteria for the scholarship recipients includes evidence of academic ability, an attitude of "Service Above Self", and a demonstration of this attitude by the contribution of a significant number of volunteer hours in the community while playing

for the Humboldt Broncos. We also request that the recipients speak to a Rotary Club about what Service Above Self means to them and how it has impacted their lives and the lives of others.

Michael Clarke of Medicine Hat, who played for the Humboldt Broncos in 2018-19, was the first recipient of a \$2,000 Rotary District 5550 Humboldt Broncos Scholarship. He had a great presentation for the Rotary Club of Medicine Hat, Alberta and attends the University of Lethbridge, working towards a Bachelor of Management with a major in finance.

This year the scholarship has been awarded to Logan Foster of Kamsack, Saskatchewan. He has shown exemplary leadership and helpfulness to others. We are honoured to be able to provide these scholarships and to see the positive impact on the young men who receive them.

The Scholarship Fund is open to receiving more donations. Additional funds would extend the number of scholarships we can provide.



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District 7890 Global Grants Report

Twenty-Nine District 7890 Rotary Clubs Are The Key To Funding Two Global Grants Totaling \$235,600

Twenty-nine Rotary Clubs in D7890 (Northern CT & Western MA) were the key to funding two Global Grants that were used to provide the materials for three Guatemalan Mayan villages to construct sustainable clean Water, Sanitation & Hygiene projects. Additional funds were received from 19 RC's located in 9 other Districts – 4250, 5030, 5400, 6560, 6930, 6990, 7040, 7850 and 7950. This brings to 25 the number of Mayan villages receiving such improvements over the past 13 years, serving close to 15,000 people. Starting with Rotary Year 13 – 14, eight Global Grants have been completed, all featuring contributions from multiple Rotary Clubs and Districts.

On February 28th and March 2nd, Manchester, CT Rotarian Rick Lawrence and his wife, Elin, participated in the completion and dedication ceremonies at the



three villages which were the recipients of last year's two Global Grants totaling \$235,600. In Chajalajya, a village with 300 families and a population of approximately 1,860, the funds paid for a solar-powered electrical pumping system, thereby eliminating the need for residents to pay for fuel to operate a back-up diesel generator to power the electric pump and reducing

potential air pollution. The other two villages were Xetonox consisting of 108 families and Simajulehu with 680 families (approximately 670 and 4,216 people respectively). Last year the village of San Vicente received the first solar-powered pumping system.

At each dedicatory ceremony Rick presented to the village water committee an engraved plaque that was permanently mounted on a component of the water system. These plaques included the names of all contributing 48 Rotary Clubs, Districts and charitable foundations. The Rotary funds were used to pay for materials



with all labor provided by the men and women in the three villages. In addition to the complete water system, distribution piping to each household and chlorination device, the funds paid for gray water filters (i.e. – grease traps) and



Vented Improved Pit Latrines (toilets) for each family. Furthermore, fuel-efficient cook stoves were constructed in each household using funds provided by our NGO Cooperating Partner, ALDEA. The Rotary Club of La Antigua, Guatemala continues to serve as the Host Club and they visit the projects on a regular basis, as-

sisting ALDEA with the required education and training sessions for sanitation, hygiene, nutrition and agricultural topics.

Another two Global Grants are in process during the current Rotary Year 19-20 to provide similar Water, Sanitation & Hygiene improvements for Agua Caliente and Paxorotot for a combined total of \$237,454, serving another 4,208 people. Clubs or Districts desiring to participate in these award-winning projects are invited to contact District 7890 Water & Sanitation Projects Chair Rick Lawrence – elawrlaw@sbcglobal.net. (860) 558-2793 cell.



By Elizabeth Davis, Annual Giving Officer, Zone 24 East & Zone 32, Elizabeth.Davis@rotary.org

As time goes on, I will continue to do my best to keep you all up to date on how COVID-19 is affecting operations for the Foundation and donor giving.

As you all probably know by now, the majority of Rotary staff have been working remotely from home since last week. As of Saturday evening, a statewide shelter-in-place order went into effect across Illinois meaning that residents may only leave their places of residence to carry out essential activities (such as going to the grocery store, seeking medical attention, etc.). This means that until the order is lifted, **no** personnel are now being permitted to enter Rotary's One Rotary Center building.

Here's what that means for our donors:

1. The Rotary Support Center does not have phone or contribution processing capabilities at this time. They are only available to answer inquiries via email. Their email address is rotarysupportcenter@rotary.org. **Members should not email contributions to this email address.**
2. **Any contributions sent to One Rotary Center will not be processed for some time.** Additionally, our capability for accepting faxed contributions has also been placed on hold indefinitely. We highly encourage members who would like to contribute to do so online at myrotary.org/donate. Club officers do have the option to donate on behalf of their club members once they sign in. This link will give the instructions: <https://my.rotary.org/en/node/334806>. You need to be signed in to My Rotary.
3. At this time, our lockbox address, The Rotary Foundation 14280 Collections Center Drive, Chicago IL 60693, listed on contribution forms is active. **However**, should USPS discontinue service, this will become an issue as well. **Again, the best place to make a contribution is online at myrotary.org/donate.**

Please help me by sharing this information with any club and district leaders that you are currently working with. One of the best things that we can do now is simply to keep our folks as informed as possible and let them know that we are here to assist.

Should you have any questions about any of this information, please let me know. And most importantly, please continue to take care of yourselves and stay well!

Best wishes,

Elizabeth

Working with many community partners can truly make a difference

By PDG Rick Benson, ARRFC, Zone 32

Our Westport Rotary Club, D7980 in CT, (WRC) conducted a Club Visioning exercise in 2015, setting many goals, three of which were to:

1. Be a district leader in total dollars and per capita giving to the Rotary Foundation,
2. Spend 25% of all funds raised on international service
3. Organize an international service trip every two years.

We achieved all three. Members are more engaged, have a better understanding that supporting TRF leads to projects which change and save lives, and our membership has grown.



Our most recent trip from March 5 – 15, 2020 had two primary objectives - Celebrate the conclusion of GG 1754533 in Nagarote, Nicaragua and do hands on work funded by a \$15,000

District Managed Grant to build new classrooms at a new English-speaking school in the western highlands of Guatemala. Twenty-one Rotarians from three clubs plus spouses and family members comprised the team, all of whom paid their own way.

The \$70,250 Nicaragua Global Grant was the culmination of an 8-year partnership with the WRC, Builders Beyond Borders (B3), and three other CT NGOs to support NicaPhoto – an after-school enrichment/academic tutoring program for children who live in the poorest barrio of Nagarote. Three prior District Managed Grants, hands on trips by B3 in 2017, WRC in 2018, and many other volunteer teams allowed NicaPhoto to move from small rented quarters to their own beautiful campus. The GG paid for toilets, the septic system, water and electric distribution, kitchen equipment, library and computer lab, school supplies, and extensive WASH and nutrition training.

The Grace English School started in 2017 in Chimaltenango, Guatemala as the only English Language school option in this community of 75,000 for K – 5 . Founder Logan Sierra dreams of having their own campus with



space for K through high school. Logan, an orphan from Chimaltenango, was educated in PA, but returned to his home town believing any child who can speak English will get into college and get a job, breaking the

string of poverty. On land donated by a local partner, volunteers from Connecticut and Australia built the first 8 classrooms, our team added 2 more. We moved 1700 cement blocks, crushed stone, sand, and fill, dug footing trenches by hand, made re-bar assemblies, sifted sand, mixed concrete, and laid block for the classroom walls.



Many more partners and volunteer teams will be needed to complete construction in 12-18 months. We held meetings the last day with two local Rotary Clubs about future Global Grant to fund a Vocational Training Team to train Grace teachers in CT and provide infrastructure, toilets, desks, library, computers, athletic & school supplies. Rotarians, using the leverage of our Rotary Foundation, and working with many community partners can truly make a difference.

Contact dgrick7980@gmail.com to partner with us.



Call for Nominations for the Donald MacRae Peace Award



Do you know a Rotarian or Rotary organization that deserves plaudits for their international work?

Every year, a Rotarian or Rotary organization is celebrated in Zones 28 and 32 for outstanding achievement consistent with the ideals expressed in the Fourth Object of Rotary:

“The advancement of international understanding, goodwill and peace through humanitarian activity of international significance.

Every Rotary Club and District in Zones 28 and 32 is encouraged each year to submit an application for the Donald MacRae Peace Award.

Is this the year for you to honor one of your Rotarians?

Candidates for the awards will have demonstrated the advancement of international goodwill, understanding and peace through peace-making efforts or humanitarian activity of international significance. The award is open to Rotarians and non-Rotarians, but the applicant must have a relationship with the Club or District that is nominating them.

The award honors the contributions of Halifax Rotarian Donald MacRae who, at the International Convention in 1918, proposed that Rotary become an agent for the promotion of goodwill and peace among nations. This was the first time that an international vision of Rotary was publicly expressed.

Who has won the Donald MacRae Peace Award in the past? The list reads like a “who’s who” of our two Zones’ most active internationalists:

2018: PDG Bill Gray, District 7040, primary contact and chief fundraiser for 15 Matching Grants and 14 Global Grants throughout the world.

2018: Rotarian David Ives, Rhinebeck Rotary Club, executive director of the Rotary Peace Forum and former Nobel Peace Prize finalist.

2017: PP Leo Seguin, Westlock RC in District 5370, for development work in Ethiopia through Rainbow for the Future.

2017: Dr. Jerry Lowney, Norwich CT club in District 7980, for a lifetime of medical missions to Haiti.

2015: Safe Passage, a Yarmouth, ME (District 7780) non-profit that provides literacy and improves lives of the poorest of the poor in Guatemala.

2015: Past RI president Wilf Wilkinson, for the work he did to lift up “Peace is Possible” during his tenure as RI president.

2013: Dr. Robert Raiche, founder of Friends Forever, a program that teaches Protestant and Catholic youth in Northern Ireland how much they really have in common.

2013: PDG Ron Denham, founder of the Water and Sanitation Rotary Action Group, for a lifetime of advocacy in this area.

For the complete list of past recipients, go to the Zone 28 and 32 website;

<https://portal.clubrunner.ca/50077/SitePage/donald-macrae-award>

While you are there, check out this year’s application form. Filling out the application to honor someone is easy and recognizing the work of eligible deserving individuals is exceptional and just the right thing to do!

Deadline for receipt of applications is May 15, 2020, and they should be emailed to:

Zone 28: PDG Dan Doherty, dohertyd@telus.net

Zone 32: PDG Marty Helman, martyrotary@gmail.com

Any questions, comments or ideas are welcome. Marty and Dan are here to help. Thanks for making it a priority and taking the time to say Thank-You to a deserving person or group.

[YOU CAN DOWNLOAD THE NOMINATION FORM HERE](#)

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What Are We Doing During This Time?

Walls is offering non-profits the use of a Wall for one month right now, great for District and Zone websites to show how Rotarians are serving each other during this crisis. <https://blog.walls.io/showcases/rotary-club-social-walls-for-events/>

Rotarians Respond to COVID-19

As Rotarians, we are people of action. When there is need in our community we act. The effects of COVID 19, health, economic, and social, will come to all our communities. As Rotarians, we can mobilize our spirit and our resources to serve in this time of need.

<https://www.facebook.com/groups/2601683210109535/>

Zoom Help Center

Although there are many platforms in use for meeting online, Zoom seems to be one that is used often. Go to the Zoom Help Center

<https://support.zoom.us/hc/en-us/articles/360029527911> for all sorts of information.

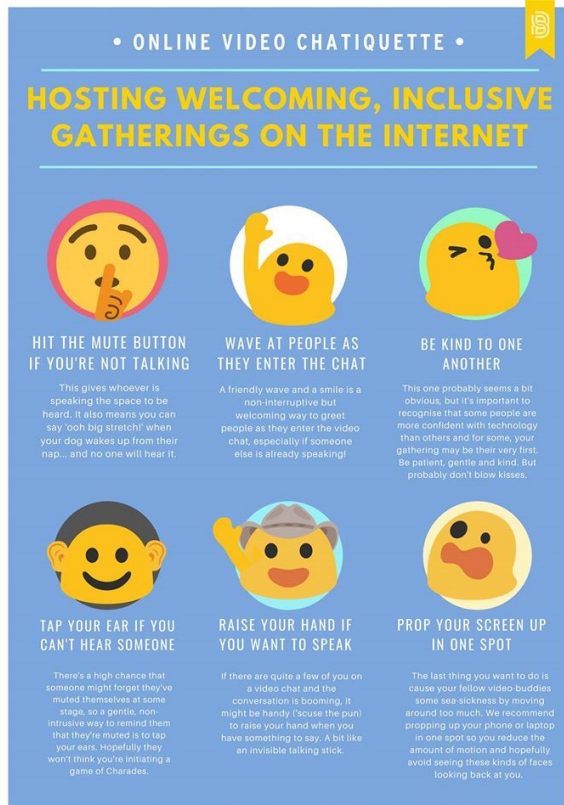


Membership Minute

The Membership Minute that came out on March 26 has many ideas that you can use right now.

<http://msgfocus.rotary.org/q/1f5L4kwrObJA7YntK1qSMed/wv>

Online Chatiquette



By Evan Burrell, Rotarian, Australia

Physical distancing has encouraged us to find new ways to connect with one another. One way that some people are maintaining a sense of belonging and a healthy social routine is through the use of technology.

Video conferencing platforms such as Zoom and Skype are enabling us to continue our Rotary meetings with members, share our ideas for projects and continue cultivating our relationships in the wake of COVID-19.

But it's not always easy to know the social etiquette behind online gatherings. Creating the space for everyone to feel welcome is such an important part of inclusive participation, so I've helped translate that into the digital world.

Here are the top tips. Share them around; I hope they help!

1. Hit the mute button if you're not talking

This gives whoever is speaking the space to be heard.

2. Wave at people as they enter the chat

A friendly wave and a smile is a non-interruptive but welcoming way to greet people as they enter the video chat, especially if someone else is already speaking!

3. Be kind to one another

This one probably seems a bit obvious, but it's important to recognise that some people are more confident with technology than others and for some, your gathering may be their very first. Be patient, gentle and kind. But probably don't blow kisses 🙅🙅

4. Tap your ear if you can't hear someone

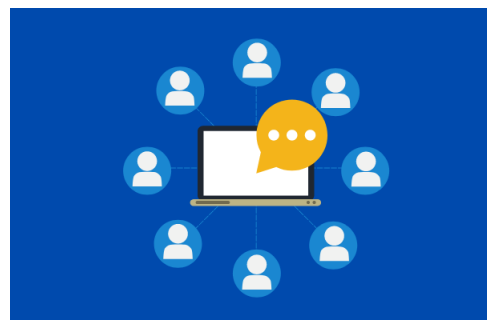
There's a high chance that someone might forget they've muted themselves at some stage, so a gentle, non-intrusive way to remind them that they're muted is to tap your ears. Hopefully, they won't think you're initiating a game of Charades.

5. Raise your hand if you want to speak

If there are quite a few of you on a video chat and the conversation is booming, it might be handy ('scuse the pun) to raise your hand when you have something to say. A bit like an invisible talking stick.

6. Prop your screen up in one spot

The last thing you want to do is cause your fellow video-buddies some sea-sickness by moving around too much. We recommend propping up your phone or laptop in one spot so you reduce the amount of motion and hopefully avoid seeing these kinds of faces looking back at you.



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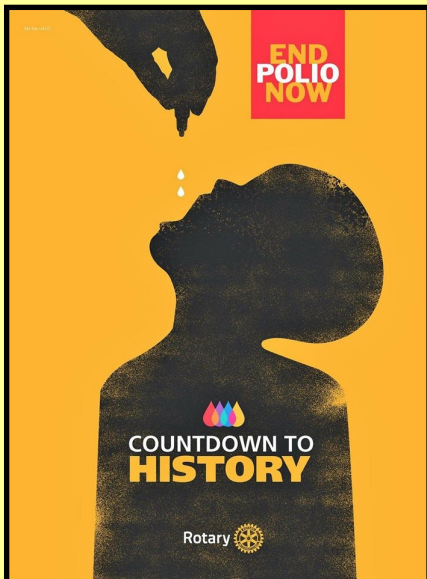
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How Does Your District Raise Polio Awareness?

By Stella Roy, Zone 24 E, End Polio Now Coordinator

How does your District work together to raise awareness and fund-raise for the End Polio Now Program?

Here are one successful District's efforts - D7790

DG Suzanne Uhl-Melanson is passionate about the goal to eradicate polio. She and her AG Yves Portier jumped out of a plane for Polio. As a result, her clubs are well aware of the fight. Humbly she gives much of the credit to her two polio coordinators, Scott Boucher from Maine and Dino Marzaro from Quebec, for each doing an average of 5 club presentations per year in their areas and one or two at the Assembly, training, PETS and their conference.

District Foundation Chair Yves Fecteau has been the first in the year for the last two years to give **\$25,000 of DDF to Polio**. Thank you D7790

D7790 has had a voluntary contribution area on the request for District Dues for clubs of a suggested \$3.00 per head to polio. The Treasurer then sends this money for each club to the Rotary Foundation.

This year D7790 have 100% club participation, This is the first year in the three years I have worked with the Districts in 24E a District has had 100% of the clubs giving money to Polio. Thank You D7790 and your Polio Team



District Polio Coordinator Dino Mazaro for the Quebec clubs still travels the world to help with vaccinations and thank the health care workers for their efforts. I have been lucky enough to witness first hand his passion and dedication on several trips with Anne Lee Hussey to Africa and India but I know he has also organized trips himself to places like Pakistan. He is a remarkable speaker in French and English. When I asked him what he does he said "He attends the Quebec planning meeting every September with 8-10 clubs and they share ideas they are going to do for World Polio Day in October, and he also offers to speak to the Rotary And Rotaract clubs, who he says are very involved.

District Polio Coordinator Scott Boucher for the Maine Clubs also travels to the clubs every year. I was so impressed with Scott when I met him at the multi District PETS in Mount Washington and he brought in Dr. Arie Voorman, a Polio Officer from the Global Program
(continued next page)

with the Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation to present on Surveillance which was an under reported area of the Polio Program.

Scott shared some great ideas for Polio events.



Clubs Host purple pinkie stations at a variety of community events such as the University of Maine Hockey Games, Local Breweries, Local Restaurants



Skowhegan Putting for polio (Sugarloaf)



Two clubs combine together for an Annual Polio walk in Camden and West Bay Camden "Make Polio Extinct" when dressed as a dinosaur.



Multiple Bingo events partnering with restaurants

A local Quebec Rotarian owns several restaurants and puts Polio Placemats down for all customers during the month of October leading up to World Polio Day.



Strike out polio at a bowling lane

Multiple Beer and wine tasting



What Does Your District Do to keep up the Momentum for our Rotary Polio Program?

THE FIRST CALL

Linda Robertson from 24 West sent me this article about OUR POLIO WORKERS and SYSTEMS working again to combat COVID-19 in Afghanistan, Pakistan and Nigeria, Just like they were utilized for EBOLA.

I feel so proud to be part of Rotary, one of the Primary Support Organisations for Polio Eradication and how when ever there is a health crisis it is OUR POLIO SYSTEMS that are used to combat the disease.

This article gives a good reason to think about DDF for Polio.

Remember it is matched 1:1 by the world fund and then 2:1 by The Gates Foundation.

A big thank you to all the health care workers who are going house to house and educating people about the virus, the surveillance systems that are being used and the leaders at ROTARY, WHO, UNISYS, GATES FOUNDATION and CDC who are working tirelessly to help stop the spread of this Virus.

Please read this and share it with your leaders and clubs <http://polioeradication.org/news-post/the-first-call/>

Keep well

Stella Roy

!!! REMEMBER THIS ???

ZONE 24 & 32 DROP TO ZERO CHALLENGE

INCREASE
Polio GIVING
by 5%

AND
Rotary
International
Director

JEFF
Cadorette*

**will jump
out of an
airplane!**

(Hopefully with
a parachute)



**Based on combined district
totals by 30 April 2020
compared to 30 April 2019**

*With Director-elect Valarie Wafer and other team members to be announced.

Drop to Zero Challenge Event and Dinner POSTPONED to 18 June 2020

By District Governor Cindie Kish, RI Director Jeffry Cadorette

(SAVE THE DATE. The dinner and jump have been rescheduled to 18 June 2020. The dinner will be a part of D-7210's previously scheduled annual district celebration and changeover ceremony. Details will follow.)

By way of historical perspective. In the spring of 2019, Director Jeffry was attending a District Conference in District 7210 as an invited speaker. Also in attendance in that capacity was Past Vice President Dean Rohrs. After the festivities had ended one day, PRIVP Dean and RID Jeffry were around a table with the D-7210 Leadership Team. Pizza was plentiful. There may or may not have been adult beverages involved. At some point, the conversation turned to our polio eradication efforts. RID Jeffry was concerned about the prospect of donor fatigue. He wanted a way to challenge districts and Rotarians to increase cash giving to PolioPlus in the 2019-20 Rotary year. Someone (legend has it that it was DG Cindie) suggested that if cash giving could be increased, perhaps RID Jeffry should jump out of an airplane. That night, the Drop to Zero Challenge was born. The jump expanded to include RIDE Valarie Wafer, DG Cindie, DGE Tony Marmo, DGN Mike Polasek, and PDG Drew Kessler. PRIVP Dean Rohrs, being the wiser one in the group, opted for ground support on the day of the jump.

The challenge was this. If Zones 28 and 32 could increase cash giving to PolioPlus by 5% as of 30 April 2020 compared to 30 April 2019, the group would jump.

9 May 2020 was pegged as the day of the jump in Gardiner, NY. D-7210 led by DG Cindie added in a dinner the evening of the jump to celebrate the success of our zone's polio eradication fundraising efforts and to raise awareness of the polio eradication effort.

As of this writing, you rose to the challenge. We are well on track to not only meet, but to exceed the 5% increase in cash giving by 30 April. And then, a global pandemic happened.

The jump and celebration dinner, like hundreds of other events, needs to be postponed. What **CANNOT** be postponed are continued cash contributions to Polio Plus. We have received many emails asking why polio funds can't or shouldn't be diverted to COVID-19 efforts. Two different battles. Both have to be won.

Thank you to all who accepted the challenge to increase cash giving to PolioPlus. Don't stop. Elizabeth Davis has advised you that the only way to get donation in right now is to go to my.rotary.org/donate. We need to continue our efforts to eradicate polio. Parallel to that, not instead of that, we need to work in our communities to get on the other side of this pandemic. With your efforts, we can celebrate both on 18 June. Thank you for all that you are doing to keep Rotary alive for your members and your communities during this challenging time.

Stay safe and healthy. Take care of each other.

