

Beyond Borders

Rotary
Zones 24 and 32



Bermuda—Canada—St. Pierre and Miquelon—United States



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Zone 24: Canada,
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Zone 32: Bermuda,
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January 2017

The Age-old Story Offers New Hope

Dear friends in Rotary Zones 24 and 32, it is my pleasure to send you all Rhino's and my warmest wishes for a peaceful, as well as a happy Christmas and New Year.

The Christmas period is a special time for all of us; a time of celebrations, of closeness and of hope. A time, too, to focus on the message contained in the story of a child in the manger, born to parents without a home, and reliant on the hospitality of strangers.

This story should resonate in our present world, holding as it does a message for all of us, regardless of our circumstance of birth or our faith: A message of challenge to moral action, one of optimism in our capacities for a new beginning, and it is a message of peace.

As a new year begins, the dream of Peace on Earth can seem very distant. In the past year, we have witnessed horrific violence and suffering in countries including Syria, Yemen and Iraq but also closer to home in many of our towns and cities. Internationally, ever more children, women and men are on the move, living precarious existences in refugee camps, as conflict and disasters continue to force them to flee their homes.

The circumstances of the birth of Christ, with its forced migration, homelessness and powerlessness, are being re-enacted for us the world over, in the conditions of migrants -- including infants and children -- as they wait, not knowing what the future will hold.

As we now move into a new year we are challenged to embrace the new. We need courage to depart from what has not served us well, and we need the inspiration to make new connections with each other and with the vulnerable planet on which we live.

Nelson Mandela and Archbishop Tutu reminded us that "a person is a person through other people." This fundamental awareness of the importance of our love for -- and dependence on -- each other should inform all our plans and actions, and should give us the wisdom to generate new models and new policies that will ensure inclusive action at home and abroad.

Our solidarity is the heartbeat of our society. Our bonds are stronger than we think, and stronger than that which at times divides us. The complex world in which we live challenges us, but it does not pose greater challenges than those faced and overcome by previous generations, or by brave movements of the oppressed in world history.

My wish at Christmas 2016 is that, together, we will continue to build the true Rotary world of which our founders dreamt, embracing the values, possibilities and responsibilities contained in that dream.

Rhino and I wish each and every one of you a blessed and happy Christmas and a New Year of restored hope and faith in Rotary's future.

Dean

Help Wanted: Zone Newsletter Editor

Do you want to stay informed on what's going on across our Zones? Do you have a lot of knowledge about Rotary that you are willing (even eager) to share? Are you a self-starter who is interested in interacting with Rotarians? And are you the kind of person who (sotto voce, of course) frequently finds yourself correcting other people's grammar?

Zones 24/32 need you!



The task: To organize, compile and edit *Beyond Borders*, the monthly Zone 24-32 newsletter!

The time-frame: Beginning in July 2018 (volunteering soon will mean plenty of time to create a smooth transition).

That's right: Current editor Marty Helman is "retiring" from the job effective the end of the 2017-18 Rotary year, and already, Director-designate Jeffry Cadorette is looking for her successor. Might it be you?

Job Requirements:

- ◆ PDG reasonably active in the life of the Zones and knowledgeable about Rotary.
- ◆ Self-starter with the ability to meet monthly deadlines.
- ◆ Willingness to "assign" articles to the Coordinators and senior Rotary leaders and do what's required to maintain quality standards and content accuracy.
- ◆ Familiarity with Publisher (or similar) software.
- ◆ Professional editing and writing experience a "plus" but not an absolute necessity.

Our monthly *Beyond Borders* newsletter has become a strong communications vehicle since it debuted in 2013. Now is the time to help bring it to the next level!

Please contact Jeff Cadorette to express your interest in getting involved.

Jeffry's Journey

A Journey of 1000 Miles ...

Welcome to the inaugural entry of this monthly column (he said, optimistic that he can meet the monthly press deadline). Encouraged by Director Dean and with a title that she gets credit for, this will be an at times whimsical and at times serious walk with me down the path toward July 1, 2018, when I will officially accept the baton from our current Director.



I would be remiss if I did not give a shout-out to the Zone Nominating Committee for Director, convened by and chaired by PDG Terri Fitch, for its professionalism, time, commitment and diligence in conducting the interviews last September in Albany, NY. On behalf of all of my colleagues who met with the Committee that day, we say thank you. I am humbled by your selection. While I'm not aware who all of the folks are who interviewed that day, I am definitely aware that each of them had to have displayed a long history of dedication and sacrifice to our organization to have met the criteria necessary to sit with the Committee for an interview. I share this selection with each of them and I am in awe of their hard work over time. I pledge to the Committee that I will do my best to uphold the confidence in me you have displayed in your selection.

I never aspired to the position and role of RI Director. Since serving as Governor, I have been blessed with amazing assignments and opportunities to serve Rotary. Oh my. Each of them has given back to me more in personal and professional development than I have given in time or effort. Each of them has broadened and deepened in me my belief in our mission, my network of Rotary friends, and my understanding that Rotary is uniquely positioned to make a difference in the world that we live in. Having received much from the organization, I see this role then as an opportunity for me to give back to Rotary. (That is a position that was brought into focus for me by my classmate and friend PDG Dan Spencer and was a prime mover for me in deciding to throw my hat into the ring.)

This was my time. Four years ago I was not ready. My kids were still in college. There were appointments and opportunities to serve that had yet to be made and accepted which would better ready me to represent our constituents around the globe. Four years from now? No way to know what that time will be like relative to focus, health, commitments, etc. This was my time. I went into the process and the interview with the mindset that it was an honor to even be considered, and no dishonor to not be selected. And here we are....

While there is no "official" role for the Rotary International Director-nominee, we are hard at work. Thank you to each of you who responded to our survey about the 2018 Institute. We hear you. Already, we have engaged the meeting management firm Helms Briscoe (<http://www.helmsbriscoe.com>) to assist us in site selection and dates. We will be mindful of your responses and comments. Our goal will be to respect your time, give you value for your investment of time and resources, give you a program that is fun and meaningful to you, and assemble a team who can deliver on that.

Until next month, stay safe, and thank you for all that you do for Rotary.

—Jeffry Cadorette, jeffrycadorette@gmail.com

Whose Database Is It?

Rotary youth alumni are doing remarkable things, as the article at right suggests. But many of our youth have lost contact with Rotary. This is not surprising — young people — especially high powered young people — are on the move with education and job opportunities and it's easy to lose contact.

When I became District 7410's Alumni Chair, I quickly discovered that RI's alumni database for my District is little more than a data dump. I downloaded



reams of data but did not receive actionable contact information. What I had was piecemeal, aged information that was of little or no use. Indeed, my own listings on the spreadsheet were under three different names!

It's easy to blame Rotary International, but let's face it: Their data is only as good as what we input! We need to reach out to all our programs that produce alumni: Youth Exchange, RYLA, Friends of Rotary, scholarship recipients, etc. It's up to us to keep in touch with our alumni and to share updated information with the District and Rotary International.

I'm currently planning a mixer for youth alumni that will take place over the winter vacation. Former Interactors who live nearby will be invited as well. I am hoping this will develop into a youth alumni e-club membership. To further this plan, I am inviting speakers to present the many facets of Rotary and the purposes of membership. Whatever comes of the mixer, I plan to listen, really listen, to what the young people have to say — and I plan to update the database!

Look to your own clubs and think outside the box. Maybe you can develop a new path to attracting members — and if so, please be sure to share it!

—Carol Hemphill,
Zone 32 Assistant Rotary Coordinator

Conflict Resolution

Help Needed to Aid Two Million Refugees

By Lauren Cardinal, Rotaract Club of Queens University, District 6330

The Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR), also known as the UN Refugee Agency, is the world's leading organization aiding and protecting people forced to flee their homes due to violence, conflict and persecution. To achieve this objective, UNHCR works in 126 countries to provide on-the-ground assistance in emergency and refugee situations.



Forced displacement, mostly from war and conflict, has risen sharply in the past decade; much of it is a result of the crisis in Syria, but also from a proliferation of new emergencies and the escalation of unresolved old ones. We are currently facing the worst displacement crisis since World War II.

Millions of the most vulnerable people are failing to survive in desperate living conditions that leave them exposed to both physical and emotional risks, with no chance or hope for a stable future.

In 2016, UNHCR launched the *Nobody Left Outside* Campaign with the goal of providing shelter to two million refugees by 2018. We believe that shelter should be a non-negotiable human right. Shelter provides protection, safety, privacy, comfort, safeguards health and is the basis for recovery and survival. Once people have a home, they can begin to rebuild their lives.

UNHCR is best equipped to manage this shelter crisis and provide the necessary aid to refugees, but we need your help. You — and your Rotary club or District — can help us reach our goal of sheltering two million refugees by donating today.

- ◆ \$525 will provide a family with a durable tent.
- ◆ \$800 will provide a refugee family with a brick house, equipped with sleeping mats, blankets, a cooking set and water cans.
- ◆ \$1,500 will allow a family to live rent-free for nine months in a building renovated with new walls, doors, windows and weather-proofing.
- ◆ \$2,550 will help renovate an abandoned building to create safe, private spaces with shared toilet and cooking facilities.

By advocating for the rights of those forcibly displaced, providing critical assistance and working with communities, governments and non-governmental organizations, UNHCR accomplishes Rotary's mission of achieving local and global impact.

Lauren Cardinal was a Rotary Youth Exchange student from District 6330 to Slovakia in 2008-09. She joined the Rotaract club at Queen's University, participating in volunteer trips to El Salvador in 2012 and 2013. Lauren recently completed her Master of Public Administration at Queen's School of Policy Studies and an internship with UNHCR Canada in Private Sector Partnerships. She is pursuing a career in foreign policy and security to help promote peace and ease the plight of those who are impacted by conflict.

To learn more: Alexia Krepiakovich, UNHCR Canada, KREPIAKE@unhcr.org or 416 926 7963 or go to www.unhcr.ca

Membership Matters

Building a Club Around New Folks in Town

By Bob Wallace, Zone 24 East Assistant Rotary Coordinator



Farid Siddiqui and past RI president Wilf Wilkinson celebrate on charter night of the Toronto-Danforth Club.

A potential new member, Farid Siddiqui, was asked to join the Toronto Sunrise Rotary Club in District 7070. After members of this club including District Governor Jim Loutit (Toronto Sunrise is Gov. Jim's home club) met this new Rotarian and got to know him, they learned that he had been a Rotarian in Bangladesh before he moved to Toronto.

That was exciting, but it gets even better. Farid mentioned that he had several friends who were also former Rotarians from Bangladesh, all now living and working in Toronto. He also said that the morning meeting time didn't work well for him or his friends.

This led to a discussion about forming a new club. But, the Toronto Sunrise Rotarians said, we will need 20 members to get chartered; how many potential new members do you think you know? Oh, maybe 30, was the response.

A potential of 30 new Rotarians in a newly chartered club certainly got everyone excited! District 7070 membership extension chair Ted Koziel got involved, and beginning in late summer, he began to meet regularly with this group of potential Rotarians. Wanting to involve them right away, Governor Jim invited them to participate in the 7070 District Conference, which was held at the end of October. Many of the potential members attended, and they thoroughly enjoyed the conference.

This led to the work of forming the new club. The potential new Rotarians, it turned out, included many former Rotarians with lot of experience but not necessarily tied to the way things are always done in our District. For example, they chose a meeting time of Sunday evening, something completely new to us but convenient for them.

It all came together very quickly and on December 9 the new Toronto-Danforth Club, held a huge charter celebration. That night, 40 Rotarians were inducted, and four more Rotarians have joined since.

The lesson we learned was that Rotarians come from all areas of the world, and all welcome the opportunity to become members. We just have to get out in our communities and find them!

Volunteers Needed

The Rotary Foundation (Canada) needs volunteers to help us with our partnerships with the Government of Canada.

Positions to fill:

Grant Committee members: experienced Rotarians in managing Global Grants. Help needed to analyse the grants request.

Communications manager: experienced Rotarian with skills in communications, to promote the program, and to manage the Government of Canada program on the website. ClubRunner knowledge required.

Environment specialist: Rotarian experienced in environment issues



If you are willing to help and have the qualifications please contact: Paul Beaulieu Grants Committee Chairman, Rotary Foundation (Canada), Beaulieupaul1@gmail.com

Flexible Enough?

It's up to your club to decide how — and if — you want to use the new options. Here they are:

Meeting schedule. Your club can vary its meeting days, times, and frequency.

Meeting format. Your club can meet in person, online, or a combination.

Attendance requirements. Your club can ease attendance requirements and encourage members to participate in other ways.

Multiple membership types. Family memberships, junior memberships and corporate memberships are all possibilities.

Welcome Rotaractors. You can invite Rotaractors to join your club while they remain members of their Rotaract clubs.

Peace on Earth

Rotary at Holiday time means community dinners, activities for youth and elders, Secret Santas, Holiday parades, and fundraising via tree and food and calendar sales. Shown here is a sampling from the season!



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Polio Plus

Delivering Those Drops — and So Much More

By PDG Brian & Dorothy Menton, District 7010

One always comes back from a Rotary humanitarian trip tired but exhilarated. Our trip to be part of a National Immunization Day (NID) in Kaduna state in Nigeria was no exception. Our team led by PDG Ann Lee Hussey (D-7780) consisted of 10 Rotarians from Canada and the United States.

Upon reflection, two things impressed us. First, the complexity of organizing and implementing an NID; and second, the role Rotarians and Rotaractors played in hosting us.

Nigeria is the most heavily populated African country and ranks as the seventh most populated country in the world. The median age is only 18. The country has much potential but it faces real challenges. Despite this, the country has mobilized tens of thousands of people to immunize millions of children.

Ann Lee involved us in an enlightening process that demonstrated the complexity of organizing a NID: vaccine storage after its arrival from India, meeting with vaccine teams, determining vaccine sites for the day, and the work of the Emergency Operations Centre (EOC) where they discuss obstacles and how to overcome them. At each level, the goal was to make the system work no matter what the challenges might be.



Our team vaccinated over 5,000 children. We were part of a much larger NID:

At our last meeting at the Emergency Operation Centre, the committee reported that over 3.5 million children were vaccinated in Kaduna state.

Could they have done it without us? Most certainly. I believe we were of the greatest assistance not in giving the drops but in working and socializing with our fellow Nigerian Rotarian and Rotaractors. By being there, we showed that the family of Rotary cares about their country and their children and shares their goal of a polio-free environment such as our own children enjoy.

From the time our flight arrived at Abuja, we were never without the company of a Rotarian or Rotaractor. The warmth and fellowship they offered us was amazing. Their commitment to making their community a better place to live was evident in the projects they shared with us. Each of the three Kaduna clubs invited us to join them at their meetings and each meeting was filled with songs, laughter and fellowship. We also enjoyed being part of a Rotaract meeting.

At one of the meetings we met PDG Yinka Babalola, who will be RI Director from 2018-20. He reassured us that as long as we were with a Rotarian we would be safe. He was correct as at no time throughout our trip did we feel insecure.

We returned home to Canada feeling very proud to be a part of Rotary.

Foundation Facts

Engage Your Family in Your Rotary Giving

By Chris Offer, Endowment/Major Gift Officer, Zone 24 West

The family that gives together, stays together. Why? Because when families come together around shared interests and values associated with money, wealth transfer is more successful, communication improves and relationships grow. There are few things more rewarding than connecting as a Rotary family in the spirit of generosity.

Including your partner, children and grandchildren in a discussion on making a major gift or bequest to The Rotary Foundation is gratifying and fulfilling for the whole family.

Whether you identify family narrowly or across generations, a plan to support The Rotary Foundation in which members young and old have meaningful participation can be a powerful way to connect with each other and Rotary. And remember, it's not the amount of money your family gives that is important. Rather, it's coming together that will make the biggest impact.

A good place to start a conversation around family support for The Rotary Foundation is to determine what benefits you want to gain by giving together as a family. What are the goals? Do you want to use generosity to bring the family closer and experience something together? Is your hope to have a meaningful impact on one of Rotary's areas of focus? Do you want to encourage the next generation to give their own resources? Or is it a tool for planned giving and a Rotary legacy gift?

With family giving, children learn about their parents' past stories and present passions. They understand why their parents are committed to Rotary. Parents witness firsthand that they instilled a sense of social responsibility in their children. Philanthropy means supporting Rotary projects you care about, changing lives for good and making a difference together as a family.

When starting a family strategy to support The Rotary Founda-

tion, there are several steps to consider as you look to find consensus around common values and to build a shared vision that will lead to effective, rewarding support for The Rotary Foundation:

- ◆ **Establish goals and expectations**, including commitments of time and participation. Some families find it effective to ask for financial contributions from each member to ensure commitment and buy-in.
- ◆ **Communicate clearly** how decisions will be made. Establishing decision-making that will allow everyone to participate and encourage ownership.
- ◆ **Be candid with your family** about your beliefs surrounding money. Philanthropy can open the door to engaging conversation about the role of money in our lives and our culture.
- ◆ **Don't be afraid to answer the tough questions** from younger children that arise about topics such as homelessness or income equality, and integrate the concept of Rotary service and the importance of social responsibility into your discussions.
- ◆ **Discuss the ways in which philanthropy benefits** the community locally and internationally.
- ◆ **Ask for support from a member of the Zone Foundation team** or a Rotary Foundation major gift officer. You will find their names and contact information in this newsletter.

These conversations can be challenging, especially if you are involving multiple generations. Working together to apply shared principles and interests can create meaningful impact in the community today and a philanthropic legacy for future Rotary work around the world.



\$1 Million for Peace

A U.S.-based family foundation offered to match all gifts up to \$500,000 to the Sakuji Tanaka presidential fund within the Rotary Peace Centers — and as the December 31, 2016 deadline for the match approaches, word comes that the challenge grant has been fully reached!

The Otto and Fran Walter Foundation, which had previously given generously to the Rotary Peace Centers, set up the challenge because of past RI president Sakuji Tanaka's incredible efforts to promote peace. Walter Foundation directors — including PDG Marty Helman and her Rotarian husband Frank Helman — knew that if approached, other Rotarians would donate to the Rotary Peace Centers in a way that would also honor past RI president Sakuji Tanaka presidential fund.

Gifts came from all over. Here in North America, Sakuji Tanaka's 2012-13 governors were particularly generous.

Rotarians throughout Japan responded, and so did "ordinary" Rotarians and Rotaractors who were moved by president Tanaka's theme of "Peace Through Service."

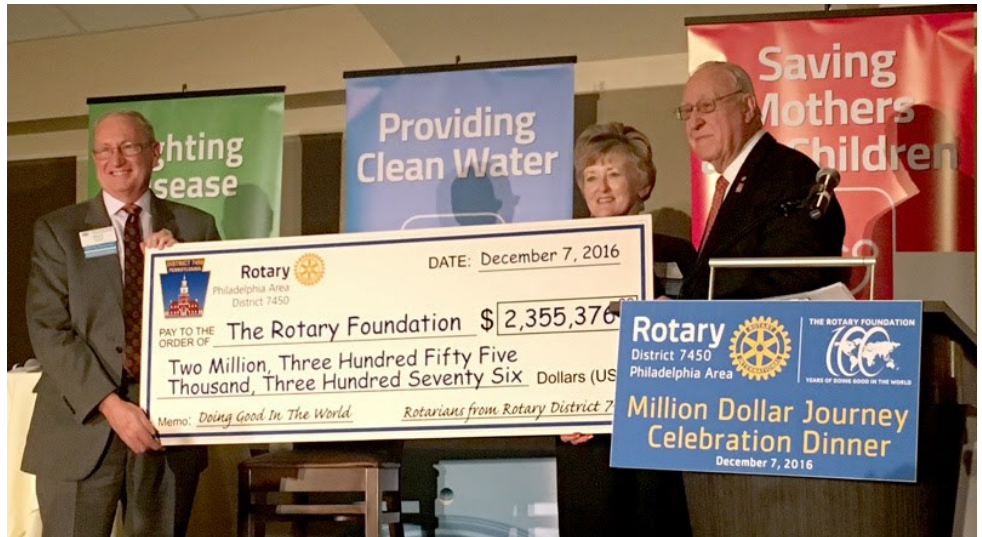
All gifts—no matter how large or small—counted toward the match, and as the December 31 deadline loomed, it was clear that the financial goal was met. The \$500,000 raised, matched by another \$500,000 from the Walter Foundation, means that the Peace Centers will receive a cool \$1 million from the outreach.

This campaign represents the largest contribution to a presidential fund in The Rotary Foundation's history!



Major Gifts

District 7450 Raises \$2.3 Million



Over 640 Rotarians from the Philadelphia area were there at the Million Dollar Journey Celebration when District 7450 announced that it had raised \$2,355,376 for The Rotary Foundation. This effort was led by DG Dave Haradon (left) and Bonnie Korengel, campaign chair, who presented the check to RI President John Germ, guest keynoter for the evening. In addition to celebrating the Million Dollar Journey achievement, Rotarians celebrated the 100th Anniversary of the Rotary Foundation and the 100th Birthday of the local Rotary Club of Chester chartered earlier in 1916.

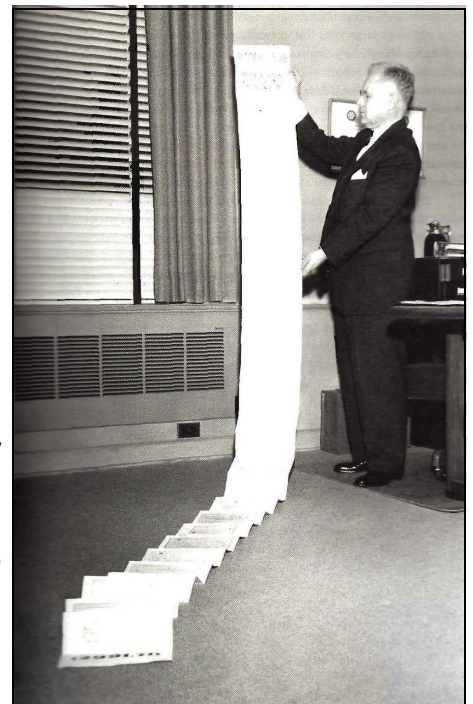
"This has been an extraordinary effort during the past year to successfully raise these funds supporting our Foundation," Governor Dave said. "Only in Rotary can you find the talent, expertise and dedication to do such marvelous work that makes such a huge impact in people's lives in our local communities and around the world."

Dining for Dollars

Long-time RI general secretary George Means displays a scroll of checks that Rotarians redirected to The Foundation by foregoing meals at their weekly meetings in this undated photograph from Dave Forward's *Doing Good in the World* (page 183). The Million Dollar Meals project started in clubs in New England and quickly spread throughout the Rotary world.

The cost of a meal may not seem like much of a donation, but the goal was to collectively raise \$1 million. Sound familiar?

A Million Dollar Meals campaign could be just as relevant today, when the average club member spends more per annum on his/her own meals than s/he does to support The Rotary Foundation! Now that's food for thought!



Philanthropic Partners

Rotary founder Paul Harris and Easter Seals founder Edgar “Daddy” Allen shared friendship and a passion for service and volunteerism. They were men of their times who believed that with financial success comes a responsibility for others.

Like Paul Harris, Edgar Allen was born in New England and ended up a business man in the Midwest — in Allen’s case, Cleveland, OH. Allen was working full-time at age 16 and started his own company in 1888, when he was age 26. Allen made his fortune by supplying utility poles and railroad ties in a time when the country’s transportation and communications networks were expanding rapidly.

Allen moved his family to nearby Elyria, OH, for new business opportunities, in 1907. That same year, his son Homer was injured in a streetcar



accident. Allen believed Homer’s life could have been saved if Elyria had had a hospital. As a result, after his son’s death, Allen sold his business and donated \$100,000 to build a hospital. He was to be treasurer and manager of the Elyria Memorial Hospital for 14 years.

Allen was made an honorary member of the Elyria Rotary Club in 1919 and became an active member two years later. Interestingly, his classification was “Capitalist,” later changed to “Crippled Children’s Societies.”

Allen was the first President of the Ohio Society for Crippled Children from its inception until 1934. He died in 1937. “Your life and mine shall be valued not by what we take ... but by what we give,” he said.

Foundation Centennial



Rotary and Easter Seals—a Shared History

Edgar Allen, supported by the Elyria Rotary Club, lobbied the Ohio state legislature to provide funding to care for children with disabilities. Legislation supporting Allen’s initiative was passed in 1920, and centers for children with disabilities were opened at hospitals throughout Ohio.

In 1921 the National Society for Crippled Children was formed, with Allen as president and Paul Harris as its first chairman. In 1929, The Rotary Foundation issued its first grant: \$500 to Allen’s International Society for Crippled Children. The funds were donated by Paul Harris, who directed that the money go to help children with disabilities.

In 1930, Allen and Harris co-wrote “The Crippled Children’s Bill or Rights,” which was adopted at the initial White House Conference on Child Health. This led to the first U.S. federal funds for children’s services when the Social Security Act was adopted.

In its first decade, Crippled Children had grown to 33 state societies, but with the onset of the Depression, both government funding and private support plummeted. To offset these losses, the Society built a fund-raising campaign around Easter seals: colorful stamps that could be affixed to the back of envelopes to show support and thank donors. The first campaign in 1934 raised \$47,000, more than twice the Society’s average annual budget. In 1944 the organization expanded its mission to include adults with disabilities. In 1979 the name was changed to the National Easter Seal Society.



Rotarians Edgar Allen and Paul Harris (left) saw their dream made real when Franklin Roosevelt included funding for children with disabilities in the Social Security Act (right). Today, the Rotary Club of Blue Bell, PA, is partnering with Easter Seals to purchase much needed equipment for special needs children and adults..

From those humble beginnings, the Easter Seals’ March of Dimes efforts supported children in the U.S. afflicted with polio and paid for research that resulted in the Salk vaccine. Meanwhile, Rotary has gone on to commit to the eradication of polio worldwide. And the Easter Seals Society now provides services for more than 1.3 million children and adults with disabilities and support to their families.

A shared past can lead to a shared future! The Rotary Club of Blue Bell, PA, D-7430, is continuing the story. After a presentation at its club by the local Easter Seals Society Chapter, the club applied for a Rotary Foundation District Grant and put together the \$5000 funding to purchase a GAZE Eye Tracking Computer systems for Eastern Pennsylvania Easter Seals Society (center photo). The Chapter is using the system to evaluate and train quadriplegic children and adult clients, giving them the ability to communicate and interact with the world around them. As a result of this gift, nearby clubs are now reengaging with their local chapters of the Easter Seals Society.

What a way to celebrate a shared past and 100 Years of “Doing Good in the World.”

—Ron Smith, Rotary Foundation Coordinator, Zone 32

Rotary International

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Public Image

Rotary on Stamps

One hundred years of Rotary across the globe has resulted in many commemorative postage stamps. Rotary on Stamps, the Rotary fellowship dedicated to counting and collecting these stamps, estimates that over 2000 postage stamps have been issued by more than 130 nations worldwide to honor Rotary International.

Many of these stamps tend to be issued on anniversaries — and so it is no surprise that the latest stamp, from Pakistan, honors the 100th anniversary of Rotary. And sometimes these stamps have an interesting genesis. This one was designed by Mahru Arif Ali, a member of the Rotary Club of Lahore Model Town, and spouse of the current District Governor.

Sometimes stamps are issued at the time of an International Convention in the issuing country. The most recent example is the stamp issued by Korea in time for the 2016 Convention in Seoul.

Other stamps commemorate and promote Rotary's service ideals. We particularly like Portugal's 2015 stamp that urges us all to "End Polio Now." Because the message is in English, it seems fair to ask the proposed audience for this stamp!



Turn Your Passion Into Service

A whopping 73 Rotary Fellowships are listed on the Rotary website, and each is an opportunity to turn a vocation or hobby into service.

Although much of the attention in recent years has focused on Rotary Action Groups, many Fellowships offer tremendous opportunity to meet Rotarians interested in similar activities— and have fun while giving back.



My fellowship— Quilters and Fiber Artists — creates, donates and sells beautifully warm quilts to support Polio-Plus at the International Convention each year, and in between times, the Fellowship members support each other's charitable quilt-making.

Shown here were the results of a project that resulted in 300 quilts to go to children in a preschool program in Guatemala.

A complete list of Rotary fellowships is available at: <https://www.rotary.org/myrotary/en/rotary-fellowships>. Check out this list and see how you can turn your hobby into service.

Telling the Rotary Story Turns Talk into Action

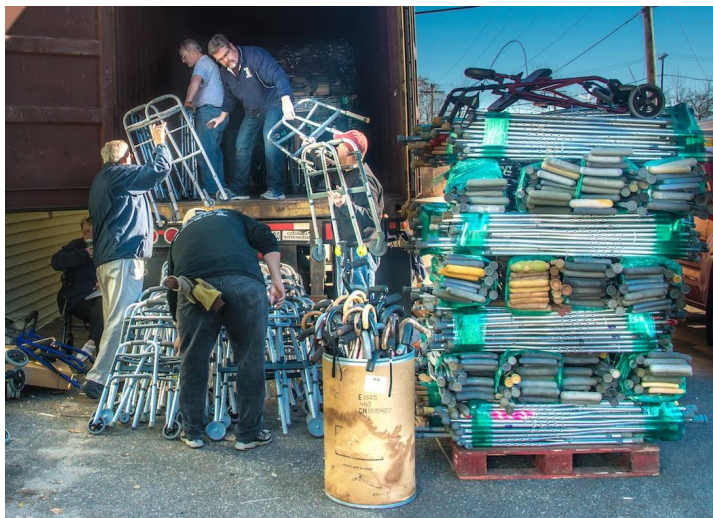
District 7780 in northern New England has been collecting crutches, walkers, canes and other mobility devices and shipping them to Africa since 2010. And every so often, this service also helps neighbors a lot closer to home.

The story starts in 2006: That's when Crutches4Africa was founded by Dave Talbot, of Golden, CO. Dave, who is a polio survivor, was in Uganda on business when he first saw "crawlers" and realized that if he had been born in the developing world he would not have had access to the surgeries and mobility support he continues to need to walk upright. Dave returned home, joined the Rotary Club of Mountain Foothills (D-5450), and started Crutches4Africa, which began as no more than a series of community-wide collection points for mobility devices that would otherwise be discarded.

District 7780 Rotarian Dennis Robillard was introduced to Crutches4Africa at the 2009 Birmingham International Convention House of Friendship. Dennis was inspired, and shared what he learned throughout the District and beyond. "Because of insurance and other regulations, these items really don't get re-used in North America," Dennis explains. "So here we are saving our landfills, and in so doing, giving people a chance -- a basic human right -- to move around, to go to school or hold down a job -- just to walk."

Every year since 2009, clubs around the District have collected enough mobility devices to fill a 40-foot container. Sometimes shipping fees have been partly covered through Rotary Foundation grants; other times they have been covered through donations.

Ann and Steve Demeranville, both members of the Boothbay Harbor club in District 7780, were particularly



pleased to join Rotarians and Interactors from throughout the District to help load a container truck this past fall. That's because Ann went in part to donate her own crutches — no longer needed after successful surgery this year!

But sometimes mobility needs arise that are a lot closer to home. And when Rotarians get together and talk about what we do, good things happen!

District 7780's Fryeburg club does a fundraiser at a local agri-

cultural fair each year. It was there that two club members were talking about the club's service projects when they were overheard by a community member and non-Rotarian. It turns out that Tammy Steeves had a recumbent bike worth \$3000 that she wanted to find a new home for, and based on the conversation she had just overheard, could Rotary help?

One thing led to another and, because Tammy wanted to give the bike to a veteran, Rotarians got in touch with Veterans Adaptive Sports and Training, a Maine non-profit that promotes lifelong health and well-being of veterans with disabilities through participation in physical activities and sports.

As serendipity would have it, the non-profit was looking for a recumbent bike to assist veterans in their physical training and rehab activities. So instead of helping just one vet, the bike will help hundreds over the next decade.

That's quite a ride! And once again, it shows the importance of speaking out loud (and loudly) about the work of Rotary!

Interested in learning more about Crutches4Africa and how you can join in? Check it out at www.crutches4africa.org.

Bowen Depke (Portland RC) and Ann Demeranville (Boothbay Harbor RC), District 7780, contributed to this article.

Calendar of Events

January 10, 2017— Webinar: Welcome to a new year with Director Dean Rohrs, 5:00 p.m. MST.

January 15-21, 2017 — International Assembly, San Diego, CA.

Thursday, February 23, 2017 — World Peace and Understanding Day.

February 23-24, 2017 — Mid-Atlantic PETS, Valley Forge Casino Resorts, King of Prussia, PA. www.mapets.org

February 24-26, 2017 — Pacific Northwest PETS, Doubletree Hotel, Seattle, WA. www.pnwpets.org

March 1, 2017 — Register for the 2017 Zone Institute in Hartford by this date to take advantage of early bird pricing: <http://bit.ly/2017zone>.

March 3-4, 2017 — Multi-District PETS for 7070, 7080, 7090, Toronto. bacarmichael@gmail.com

March 9-11, 2017 — Northeast PETS, Sheraton Hotel and Convention Center, Framingham, MA.

March 24-26, 2017 — Mid-Northeast PETS, Hanover Marriott, Whippany, NJ. www.petsmidnortheast.org

Other District PETS dates available online: www.rotaryzones24-32.org

Saturday, April 1, 2017 — Duke/UNC Peace Symposium, Chapel Hill, NC.

Wednesday, April 12, 2017 — AKS Canada Day, Evanston, IL. FMI: <https://sway.com/X8ccz3Dw76akpVNO>

Wednesday, April 26, 2017 — District 7980 Centennial Celebration, New Haven, CT, Omni Hotel. FMI: Colin Gershon, CMG@gershonmail.net

Monday, May 15, 2017—Deadline for applications for 2017 Donald MacRae Peace Award. See Zone website for details and application form.

Sunday, June 11, 2017 — Beyond Borders Dinner, Atlanta Aquarium. Register: <http://tinyurl.com/BBD2017>.

June 10-14, 2017 — 2017 Rotary International Convention, Atlanta, GA. FMI: www.riconvention.org.

International Convention 2017

In the Footsteps of Martin Luther King

Come to Atlanta for the International Convention — and come early to enjoy the Rotary Presidential Peace Conference which will take place just prior to the Convention itself.

Peace is the topic of this special event. We'll celebrate our successes as we look back at Rotary's history of making peace a priority, through our Peace Centers and our work on the underlying causes of conflict: poverty, disease, and illiteracy.



We'll also highlight the roles that Rotarians, Rotary program participants, and alumni have played in contributing to peace and international understanding. And we'll look ahead to what we might accomplish during the next 100 years.

The program will include internationally recognized keynote speakers, breakout sessions, and networking events that explore Rotary's commit-

ment to peace. Keynoter will be the Reverend Dr. Bernice A. King, chief executive officer of The Martin Luther King Jr. Center for Nonviolent Social Change and the youngest daughter of Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. and Coretta Scott King.

Where: Georgia World Congress Center

When: Friday afternoon—Saturday morning, June 9-10

Registration: On www.rotary.org, \$126.50

Beyond Borders Dinner:

Where Wolfgang Puck Presents the Catch-of-the-Day

The annual Beyond Borders dinner will be held in the Georgia Aquarium, considered to be one of the most spectacular venues in the city — and within walking distance of the Convention site. Have you registered yet?

No shark fin soup. Our dinner will be provided by Wolfgang Puck Catering, so you know it will be a memorable dining experience!

Tickets for the dinner are \$75 per person until April 1, and then go up to \$99 per person. Please note that Aquarium admission is extra. More to come on that shortly. Meanwhile, registration is open at <http://tinyurl.com/BBD2017>.

