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Zone 24: Canada,
Alaska and parts of northern U.S.,
St. Pierre and Miquelon

Zone 32: Bermuda,
Northeastern United States



June 2019

I just can't even believe it...

As you read this, many of us will be in Hamburg, Germany at our International Convention. It is our annual celebration of the Rotary year that will soon end. All across the Rotary world in the 200 countries and regions where we are located, and in as many different ways, districts and clubs will be thanking all of those who have served and gearing up for our annual changeover of leadership. From our International President, to our Zone leaders, to our district leaders, and our club leaders and with every imaginable title or acronym, terms of office are ending and terms are beginning. It seems like just yesterday that we were at this point last year. I just can't even believe it.

Not to be lost in this time of celebration for the Rotary year about to end and of anticipation for the new Rotary year about to begin should be all of the children and families who have had their lives saved and changed by the humanitarian work that your efforts have made possible. They're celebrating in their own way, unaware of our Rotary calendar. They are forever thankful to you for the sustainable, positive impact you have had on their lives. You may never know their names or see their faces, but they know the Rotary logo and what you as a grassroots humanitarian have done for them.

To all of the leaders whose term will end at midnight on 30 June, thank you. We are grateful for the direction you have provided for us. We are better because of you. The world is just a little bit safer because of you. Know that. It was never possible for you to help everyone, everywhere. What was absolutely achievable was for you to provide the leadership that allowed your constituents to help someone, somewhere. And you did. You discovered and executed ways to Be the Inspiration. The ripple effect from that can and does truly change the world.

To all of the leaders who will begin their year of leadership at 1-minute past midnight on 1 July, we all send you our support and our best wishes for the year ahead. Find new ways to prove that Rotary Connects the World. Be intentional. Be extraordinary. We all thirst for your leadership.

Stand on the shoulders of those who have served before you, last year and for the past 114 years. Help us to Grow Rotary in the year ahead so that we can serve more, accomplish more. It may not always be easy. There may be hurdles at times in your path. We're all here to support you though.

A new Rotary year is upon us. To all of you from Alaska, Canada, the French Islands off of Canada, Michigan, New York, New England, the Mid-Atlantic States, and Bermuda ... finish strong. Start strong. Thank you for all that you do. We're proud to be a part of your team.

Realize your maximum potential. Midnight on 30 June is upon us.

I just can't even believe it.

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Valarie's View from the Wings

By Valarie Wafer, Director-Nominee

Leadership Development is a Journey, Not a Destination



Dear District Governors of Zone 24/32,

Your leadership role may change on July 1st but your leadership in Rotary is just beginning. As each of you make this transition, I challenge you all to find and embrace your continued and evolving leadership role. What excites you about the next step in your role as a senior leader of your district? Where do you see yourself this time next year? The possibilities and opportunities are endless.

The journey to leadership takes time, commitment and training. These skills are learned, honed, polished and practiced throughout the year of service. These leadership skills are vital to the future of our zone, our clubs and our districts. You now have the tools, don't put them away.

As you prepare to hand the Governor baton over to your Governor Elect, Rotary thanks you for your service. I know you have had a fantastic year as I experienced it personally and read about it on social media and emails. New clubs, new club models, embracing Rotaract as our partners.... you have done it all and have moved the needle! Congratulations.

As District Governor, you have been out in the field. You are in the best position to know your District, where you are today and where you need to get to. You know who your champions of change are and who your Rotary superheroes are. They are waiting for a tap on the shoulder and it is your job to nurture, support and promote, that is leadership, that is how we grow Rotary.

As in business, investment in our people pays dividends. Consider including a line item in your district budget for development. This may be Rotary Leadership Institute, District Assembly training or attendance at the Zone conference in Niagara. Exposure to Rotary outside our clubs is usually the catalyst to change and development.

On July 1 my leadership role will change as well, to Director-Elect. I am looking forward to my development as I prepare for July 1, 2020. Just as I was tapped on the shoulder for future leadership, my predecessors have reached out to nurture and support me, and I thank them for all their guidance. That is succession planning and that is leadership!

Let's now use our skills, passion and innovation to challenge the status quo, shake it up and establish Rotary of the future.



Calendar of Events

June 1-5, 2019 — RI Convention, Hamburg, Germany

June 2, 2019—Beyond Borders Dinner, FC St. Pauli Millerntor-Stadion, Hamburg, Germany

September 19-21, 2019 — Zone 24-32 Conference, Niagara Falls, Ontario, Canada

[Register here](#)

January 19-25, 2020 — International Assembly, San Diego, California

June 6-10, 2020 — RI Convention, Honolulu, Hawaii

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.rotaryzones24-32.org

Facebook:

[Rotary Zones 24 and 32](#)

Blog:

<http://greatideastoshare.com>



Together, we see a world where people unite and take action to create lasting change — across the globe, in our communities, and in ourselves.

Rotary's Vision Statement

**JOIN US September 17-18 and 19-21
in Niagara Falls, Ontario for
a most amazing, enriching Zone Conference**



**...We believe that watching the clock
shouldn't be the most exciting thing in
the room.**

Bringing together brilliant speakers, ideas, and people....Niagara Falls. An extraordinary value for your time & money. An exciting event open to all Rotarians. And an event you won't want to miss.



Niagara Falls 2019
People Coming Together



**Pre-Conference September 17-18, 2019
Conference September 19-21, 2019
Sheraton on the Falls and Crowne Plaza Niagara Falls - Fallsview
Niagara Falls, Canada**

[Register here](#)

Many thanks to Sandhya Maini who set up the Zone Conference registration. As of June 1, the Zone Conference registrar will be Ariane Carriere who can be reached at ariane.carriere@rotary7040.com

Greetings from Your Friends in Michigan, Ontario and New York

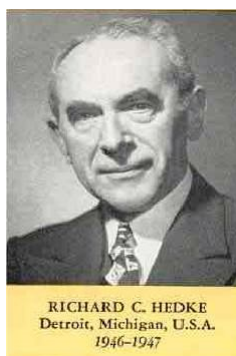
By Chris Etienne, Zone 29 New Districts Liaison



We are moving in on the close of the 2018-19 Rotary year and many of us are headed to Hamburg, Germany for the Rotary International Convention. We are also moving closer to our zone realignment, including the five districts in Michigan and Ontario preparing to join Zone 24 (soon to be Zone 28), and the four districts in upstate New York preparing to join Zone 32.

Interestingly enough, seven of the Rotary clubs soon to join your paired zones were among the first 100 Rotary clubs chartered in the world. Here is a bit about them:

Rotary Club of Detroit, Michigan was the 16th club chartered and is in District 6400. The club was chartered in 1910. Member Richard Hedke was president of Rotary International in 1946. Detroit was host to the Rotary International Convention in 1934 and 1950.



Rotary Club of Rochester, New York was the 36th club chartered and is in District 7120. The club was chartered in 1912. Records indicate that Paul Harris attended the 25th anniversary celebration of the club.

Rotary Club of Syracuse, New York was the 42nd club chartered and is in District 7150. The club was chartered in 1912 on the same day as the Rotary Club of Pueblo and the Rotary Club of Toledo. This club has long supported programs for disabled children including the operation of Camp Goodwill for many years.

Rotary Club of Binghamton, New York was the 64th club chartered and is in District 7170. The club was chartered in 1913. The club has a foundation and has raised funds with Club Talent Reviews, Water Follies, Travelogue Series, Touring Circuses, Field Days and Auctions.

Rotary Club of Albany, New York was the 68th club chartered and is in District 7190. The club was chartered in 1913, just prior to the International Convention being held in Buffalo, New York with 930 delegates.

Rotary Club of Grand Rapids, Michigan was the 77th club chartered and is in District 6290. The club was chartered in 1913. Throughout its history, a list of active and distinguished members includes hundreds of well-known men and women, including former President of the United States, Gerald R. Ford, an honorary member for 49 years.

Rotary Club of Saginaw, Michigan was the 93rd club chartered and is located in District 6310. The club was chartered in 1914. In 1917, the club headed a city-wide organization of the Boy Scouts. In 1925, it acquired Camp Rotary which now consists of more than 1,000 acres with a 30-acre spring fed lake. The camp is leased to the Boy Scouts for a \$1 a year.



Thank you again to RID Jeffry for the opportunity to share. Looking forward to our future time together as Rotary Connects the World.

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Bringing About Membership Growth

By Bill Robson, Rotary Coordinator, Zone 24 West

As another Rotary Year comes to a close, a great year I might add under President Barry, I reflect on what we have achieved and what we could have achieved in membership growth.

At the end of April, Zones 24 and 32 had increased membership by over 800. Worldwide we were up over 23,000 Rotarians. However, despite the modest turnaround in our Zones and most of the other Zones in North America we cannot be complacent. We MUST continue to "GROW ROTARY".

Zone 24 and 32 leaders have given an undertaking to Director Jeffry that we will start 15 new clubs in 2019-2020. New clubs which will embrace different ideas and different approaches to what a club can and should be. Passport clubs, Satellite clubs and After-hours clubs are all examples of what we could be looking for. However, this should not be at the expense of standard bricks and mortar clubs and looking for younger Rotarians should never preclude or exclude anyone else.

Resolutions passed at the Council on Legislation in 2016 regarding new club types and recent changes announced after the 2016 C.O.L. regarding Rotaractors gives us a unique opportunity to fulfill our undertaking to R.I.D. Jeffry.

Our Membership Leads Program provides us with an amazing number of prospects through the R.I. website, hundreds of potential members who have approached us to indicate an interest in our organization. Unfortunately, many, if not most, of these contacts go un-contacted. This is, as the saying goes, "Low Hanging Fruit" and yet there is almost no action on these. We cannot afford to ignore these leads!

These resources can help you understand what to do with membership leads:

[Online Membership Leads course](#) — This Learning Center course will show how a prospect experiences the membership leads process, and how club and district leaders can create a consistent, positive experience for prospective members.

[Connect to Membership Leads](#) — Find prospective members who want to get involved. [Managing Membership Leads](#) presentation — A training tool for helping clubs and district leaders understand the entire process for managing leads.

How to Manage Membership Leads (for [clubs](#) and [districts](#)). Learn how to find and manage your online membership leads.

In addition, use these resources to help your club grow:

[Assess your club](#)

[Engage current members](#)

[Connect with prospective members](#)

[Make new members feel welcome](#)

[Develop your club](#)

[Membership Minute](#)

Swap [membership best practices](#)

Share [club flexibility stories](#)



Never forget, however, our existing members, use these resources to learn strategies that will keep members excited about Rotary:

[Best Practices for Engaging Members](#) — Take this Learning Center course to develop strategies for engaging people at all stages of membership.

[Practicing Flexibility and Innovation](#) — Take this Learning Center course to help you better serve the needs of members and prospective members.

[Enhancing the Club Experience](#) — Tailor this member satisfaction survey to get opinions on your club's future. Then act on the results and consider implementing your members' ideas.

[Improving Your Member Retention](#) — Learn when and why members leave your club and generate strategies to keep them engaged so they will stay.

[Connect for Good](#) — Encourage members to get involved in their club, community, and the Rotary world for a more meaningful experience.

[Understanding Why Members Leave](#) — Use this exit survey to address the reasons that members may be leaving your club.

In Memoriam

PDG Bill Patchett , January 24, 1939 - May 10, 2019



On Friday, May 10, 2019, the Rotary family lost a member who truly knew what it meant to Be The Inspiration. PDG Bill Patchett died on the morning of Friday, May 10, 2019, just ahead of the lunch meeting of his beloved Rotary Club of Cobourg.

Sometimes referred to as “pick your pocket Patchett”, a moniker he was proud to own, Bill was a relentless fundraiser for our Rotary Foundation. From his hospital room, just a few weeks before his death, Bill recorded a video encouraging people to become major donors or to suggest others who might be interested in this opportunity to change lives with a significant donation. “Help me achieve my goals,” he says in the video, which was played on Saturday, May 11, at the District 7070 Assembly, after words of tribute by DG Mary Lou Harrison and a period of silent reflection.

Bill’s impact went far beyond Rotary. He believed everyone had a role to play in building strong community, and his fundraising efforts generated millions of dollars for local organizations too numerous to mention. An [article about Bill’s legacy](#) outlines just some of his community contributions.

We extend our condolences to Bill’s wife, Delphine, and to the whole family. The family asks that people respect their privacy at this time, and they hope that friends and supporters will take the time to give back to the community in Bill’s memory, to honour his legacy. A small family gathering will be held, and condolences are being received via www.maccoubrey.com.

In District 7070, we are considering the best way to honour PDG Bill’s legacy and to ensure that his inspiration will live on in the lives of people he never met, but who were given better future through the support of our Rotary Foundation.

PDG Don Evans 14 September 1947 - May 20, 2019



We regret to announce the death of PDG Don Evans. Don died on May 20 while on vacation in Peru.

Don was active in Rotary for more than 33 years. He is a Past President of the Rotary Club of Vancouver (2002-2003) and has held many different positions with his club. He has been active with District 5040 in Strategic Planning, as a member of the District Foundation Committee and as a PETS Trainer. He was named Rotarian of the Year for District 5040 in 2014 and is served as Governor for 2017-18.

Don is a graduate of Harvard Business School. He established DJE Holdings Ltd. in 1998 following his retirement after 31 corporate years in the telecommunications industry.

Active in the community, Don is a Past Chair of the Board of E-Comm 911 (Emergency Communications for Southwest B.C.), and a long-time member of the Vancouver Board of Trade. He has a major passion for railways and railway preservation and is President Emeritus of the West Coast Railway Association and a Director of the Association of Tourist Railways and Railway Museums.

He was awarded a Queen Elizabeth II Golden Jubilee Medal in 2002 for his active community and the Caring Canadian Award which was presented in 2016 by the Governor General of Canada.

Our condolences and thoughts are with Don’s wife Deb and their family. A celebration of life will be announced later.

June is Fellowships Month



Rotary Fellowships began informally in 1928 when Rotarians with a shared interest in the language Esperanto joined together. In 1947, a group of Rotarian boating enthusiasts began flying the Rotary flag from their crafts, calling themselves the International Yachting Fellowship of Rotarians; this fellowship now boasts the longest continuous existence. The scope of Rotary Fellowships has greatly changed over the years, but today their purpose is still to unite the Rotary family in friendship and provide venues for enjoying their favorite recreational or professional activities. They could be groups of Rotarians, their family members, Rotaractors, program participants, and alumni who globally unite around a common interest, vocation or recreational activity, with the primary purpose to network and further friendship. For general information on Rotary Fellowships program, visit www.rotary.org/fellowships.

Membership Video

By Lawrence Furbish, ARC, Zone 32

Getting new members is important, but keeping them after they join is critical. This month's animation is how to maximize your chances of doing just that - by engaging them.

<https://app.vyond.com/videos/1327debf-fa77-472f-a0de-2f320fa314dd>

The animation crew is going to take the summer off for a bit of R&R - but, don't worry, we will be back in the fall. We are working on ways to make the episodes more accessible to all.

You can now find all membership videos from previous months at <http://tinyurl.com/MembershipVideos>



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Record setting Zone Peace Centers webinar held

By Chris Offer, Chair Peace Major Gifts Initiative Committee, Rotary Club of Ladner, District 5040



In May 2019, Bryn Styles, Chair of the Rotary Peace Centers committee, Senior Major Gifts Officer Carolyn Ferguson and I, hosted a zone webinar focused on innovation, growth and funding of Rotary's Peace Centers. Remarkably more than 200 people registered for the webinar. I don't know if this is a record, but it clearly shows the interest in Rotary's Peace Centers and demonstrations popularity of Rotary online education.

The Webinar outlined Rotary's most significant peacebuilding program. The Rotary Peace Centers Program annually grants academic fellowships to up to 100 peace fellows from around the world. Within Rotary's area of focus of Peacebuilding and Conflict Prevention, clubs invest in projects that address the causes of conflict, including poverty, inequality, ethnic tension, lack of access to education, and unequal distribution of resources.

Bryn Styles described the new Peace Center certificate program. Located in Sub-Saharan Africa, the site of the new center will be announced soon. This will be the first of up to three new centers over the next decade. The certificate programs will be a one-year course with a residency component, online courses and research projects. Bryn also highlighted the extraordinary growth in the number of applicants for Rotary Peace Fellowships. This shows the maturing status and standing of the program. In 2019 we had a 44% increase in the number of qualified candidates. Only the best of the best are being selected as Rotary Peace Fellows.

Carolyn Ferguson told participants that the expansion is possible because of the generosity of the many Rotarians who continue to make substantial direct and endowed gifts to the Peace Centers. She outlined opportunities for Rotarians to support Peace Fellows with a variety of gifts and announced the new Legacy Society for bequests of \$1 million or more.



I laid out the ways for Rotarians to engage in peace initiatives with Rotary's partner the Institute for Economics and Peace. This includes the new Rotary Positive Peace Academy (www.RotaryPeaceAcademy.org). The academy is a four-hour online course that Rotarians can take at their own pace and time. On completing the course, you will have a clear understanding of the link between Rotary's six areas of focus and the eight pillars of positive peace. Later in 2019 a Rotary positive peace workshop curriculum will be posted on Rotary.org. This will give clubs and districts the opportunity to train future leaders.

The webinar was a success due to the passion of Rotarians for Rotary's peace. Rotary's tomorrow depends on what we do today. Slides, video recording and documents from the webinar are available at: <https://sway.office.com/VuHvscMh4I7lw6y?ref=Link>





We Will Evolve Strategy to End Polio

By Mike McGovern, Rotary International PolioPlus Committee Chair

This morning's email brought notice of two more polio cases in Pakistan. I dread these emails. Reading through the email of the most recent case, it goes on: "The child belongs to a Middle-class family; father is a cloth Merchant with frequent travel to Quetta. A chronic refusal family. According to father he doesn't trust on vaccine quality and efficacy. Site of paralysis: Right and left Lower Limb"

This e-mail reminds us that any announcement of a polio case involves a family and a child who face a new reality. I pray that this father's new reality includes an understanding that he made an error of judgment and while there is no cure for polio, there is a cure for unfounded fear. It is to step up in his community and to speak out so that other parents do not make the same mistake. Fortunately, most parents understand how vaccines can help their children.

Thanks to vaccines, 350,000 disabling cases of polio in 1988 dropped to 33 last year. Thanks to vaccines, there has been an 80% drop in deaths due to measles since 2000, but still over 110,000 died from the disease in 2017. Measles cases in the world quadrupled last year and we are also seeing an uptick in polio cases. A November 2018 article on the WHO website has some thoughts to be considered. "The increase in measles cases is deeply concerning, but not surprising," said Dr Seth Berkley, CEO of Gavi, the Vaccine Alliance. "Complacency about the disease and the spread of falsehoods about the vaccine in Europe, a collapsing health system in Venezuela and pockets of fragility and low immunization coverage in Africa are combining to bring about a global resurgence of measles after years of progress. Existing strategies need to change: more effort needs to go into increasing routine immunization coverage and strengthening health systems. Otherwise we will continue chasing one outbreak after another."

Can the same be said about polio? In mid-May, I met with Dr. Berkley, and the directors of the WHO, the CDC, UNICEF and Global Health for the Gates Foundation and this very question served as a backdrop for our discussions. We know from a technical viewpoint how to end polio. Our challenge now is how to reach those who refuse vaccines and who are taken in by false narratives. My belief is that to reach every last child with polio drops, the polio partnership needs to do exactly as Dr. Berkley said. The Rotary polio program has been known as PolioPlus since its beginning. We know the villages that are inaccessible due to fears or actions by anti-government elements. It is going to take the "plus" of PolioPlus to overcome our opponents. FDR, a polio survivor said, "The only thing we have to fear is fear itself" We have come so far with optimism, innovation, determination and the generosity of Rotarians. As we near the end of polio, we need to evolve strategy and overcome fear and we will be able to do so with your continuing generosity.

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Pakistan Polio Programme Introduces Reforms After Rise in Cases

By Aziz Memon, Chairman of the National Polio Plus Committee, Pakistan, for Rotary International



ISLAMABAD: The polio programme will undergo major operational reforms after a continuous rise in the number of polio cases across the country.

The reforms include reducing the number of visits and follow-ups by polio vaccination teams, eliminating the use of data registers and limiting the number of questions families are asked.

Pakistan is one of the last two countries, alongside Afghanistan, where poliovirus cases are being reported.

A total of 17 cases have been reported this year; six from Khyber Pakhtunkhwa, five from KP's tribal districts, three from Punjab and three from Sindh.

Explaining the reforms, Prime Minister's Focal Person on Polio Babar Bin Atta told Dawn that polio workers used to carry registers that were introduced in 2016, which they will no longer carry.

"Polio workers said it was not possible for them to interact and convince families because they spent most of their time filling data in the registers," he said.

The number of questions for residents has also been reduced to prevent them from panicking, he said.

"Residents will be asked how many children are in the house and how many of them have been vaccinated.

"Earlier, workers were directed to ask how many couples were in the house, when they were married, how many children they had and if there were any

pregnant women in the house and when delivery was expected," he said.

Mr Atta said that during and after every vaccination campaign, polio workers, the area in-charge, the technical tehsil monitor, union council representatives and so on made as many as nine visits.

"Now there will only be two visits, by the polio worker and supervisor. It will help to restore community trust," he said.

In response to a question, he said that the next polio vaccination campaign will be held in the second week of June.

"Now we will focus on environmental samples, and make sure that the virus is eradicated from the sewage," he said.

A positive environmental sample is one in which the poliovirus is found in sewage water. Samples of sewage water are the basic parameter to determine if polio vaccination campaigns have been successful in an area.

A polio case can be reported in any city due to the frequent movement of people from one city to another, but the presence of the virus in sewage water indicates that the vaccination campaign did not achieve its target.

It also shows that the immunity of local children has fallen, and they are at risk of the disease.

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Wear Your Rotary Pin

Carol Toomey, RPIC, Zone 32 West

I have always been in awe of Rotarians who are not wearing their Rotary pin at their club meeting. "I forgot that today was my club meeting". Wearing the pin every day is a no brainer for me. It is a reminder of the four-way test in all my actions and allows others to see that I am a Rotarian.

And the habit has served me well. About a year ago, I was at the airport when a Rotarian approached me and asked me if I knew a club that was near the town of Sudbury. A member of his club was moving there, and could I help him find a club. Of course, I said yes. And I am very glad I did. Following an introduction, I accompanied him to a club. He is now a very active and very valuable member of the Nashoba Rotary club.

The first lapel pin in the history of the Rotary was designed and made by NY Club member, John Frick on October 14, 1909 and worn by President Bradford Bullock from 1909 to 1911. The pin was presented to the club and is now on display in the Club office. This was the forerunner of the traditional Rotary pin worn today.

A wheel has been the symbol of Rotary since our earliest days. The first design was made by Chicago Rotarian Montague Bear, an engraver who drew a simple wagon wheel, with a few lines to show dust and motion.

The wheel was said to illustrate "Civilization and Movement." Most of the early clubs had some form of wagon wheel on their publications and letterheads. Finally, in 1922, it was decided that all Rotary clubs should adopt a single design as the exclusive emblem of Rotarians. Thus, in 1923, the present gear wheel with 24 cogs and six spokes was adopted by the "Rotary International Association."

A group of engineers advised that the gear wheel was mechanically unsound and would not work without a "keyway" in the center of the gear to attach it to a power shaft. So, in 1923 the keyway was added and the design which we now know was formally adopted as the official Rotary International emblem. It is a way of identifying an individual as a Rotarian.

I can't imagine some of the opportunities I would have missed had I not been wearing my pin. About two years ago, I broke all the bones in my wrist after a really bad fall. An operation to repair the bones was necessary. My doctor operated on me at a hospital I had never been to. When the operation was over and it was time to go home, a nurse helped me dress. She noticed my Rotary pin (yes, I even wore it to the hospital). She told me that her daughter had gotten a scholarship from Rotary. It was to go on to a higher degree. I asked her what her name was and when she got it. It turned out that this girl was an Ambassadorial Scholar, AND not just any scholar. She had gotten her scholarship during my Governor year from my district. Imagine our surprise that her patient and her daughter had crossed paths a few years ago in a most important way. Had I not been wearing my pin, we would have never talked of Rotary, of her daughter's scholarship and later success. I would never have heard about this young person's success made possible by our choosing her to be an Ambassadorial Scholar.

These are the reasons I wear my pin.

How often do you wear your Rotary pin?



Rotarians Want to Have Fun!

Carolyn Crowley Meub, Past District Governor, District 7870

Committed to service above self, Rotarians are passionate about making a difference in their local and global communities. Regular meetings bring club members together to share ideas and make plans about how to create positive change. While deeply committed to their cause, with laser-focus on successful impact, a lesser-known fact about Rotarians is that they love to have fun!

Whether it's celebrating at the club's annual fundraiser, complete with elaborately themed food, music and attire, or simply planting trees in the local park on a Saturday morning, when Rotarians get together there is always fun to be had. Rotarians in District 7870 are taking fun to a new level...10,000 feet above the ground to be precise! Why? Of course, the answer is to serve others.

These adventurous club members will be skydiving out of an airplane, on June 29th at Vermont Skydiving Adventures, hoping to bring attention to the global water crisis. Along with friends of Rotary-founded nonprofit, Pure Water for the World (PWW), the group has a goal of raising \$100,000 to provide life-changing safe water programs to children and families living in underserved communities across Haiti and Honduras.

"Having visited Haiti, I have personally experienced the work

Pure Water for the World (PWW) does under the leadership of PDG Carolyn Meub. PWW is practically saving lives," says Venu Rao, District Governor 2018-2019, Rotary District 7870. "World Health Organization (WHO) research shows that when you provide only pure drinking water to a community, the community's health index improves only by 20%. If you also provide them with clean latrines, to eliminate open defecation, the community's health index raises to 50-60%. If you also educate the community members with hygiene and sanitation, the health index of the community goes over 90%. PWW supports the communities in both Haiti and Honduras in all the three areas. My wife, Gautami, and I support Carolyn's passion to the extent that we are willing to jump off a perfectly fine plane with her to raise awareness and funds for PWW."

Through the years, hundreds of Rotarians have joined PWW on service trips to Haiti or Honduras, *another adventure altogether*, where they can gain a hands-on experience of the transformational impact that is taking place in the communities PWW serves. And, true to their nature, these life-changing Rotarian trip-goers combine their passion for serving with lots of laughter and fun! Want to join in the fun? Learn more at www.jumpforsafewater.com or visit www.purewaterfortheworld.org.



Pictured from left to right:

(1) Gautami Rao, Hollis-Brookline, NH; (2) Gabriel St. Pierre, Rotarian, Charlestown, NH; (3) Katrina Langlois, President-Elect, Raymond, NH Rotary club; (4) Kevin McAllister, Rotarian, Windsor, VT Rotary Club; (5) Venu Rao, DG 7870, Hollis-Brookline, NH Rotary Club; (6) Chris Parkinson, PDG, Bow, NH Rotary Club; (7) Nancy Russell, DGE, White River, VT Rotary Club; (8) Carolyn Meub, PDG, Rutland South, VT Rotary Club; (9) Bill Stevens, Rotarian, Bellows Falls, VT Rotary Club