

Rotary International Zones 24-32

Beyond Borders



Bermuda • Canada • France • Russia • United States



Director Julia reading to a child in Amesbury, Massachusetts

Julia Phelps

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Zone 24: Canada, Alaska and parts of northern U.S., Russia (east of the Urals), St. Pierre and Miquelon Zone 32: Bermuda, Northeastern United States

www.rotaryzones24-32.org Facebook: Rotary Zones 24 and 32 http://greatideastoshare.com http://zoneinstitute.net/

September 2015



It's that time of year ... Back to school for many ... bat not all!

If you believe the office supply stores *it's the most wonderful time of the year*. Students are returning to school and we are settling into the routine of going to bed earlier and doing homework. As a teacher and administrator I have to admit that there was always excitement in the air at this time of year; a sense of renewal and optimism. But for many children, teenagers and young adults around the world the opportunity of school doesn't exist. Literacy and basic education is an area where clubs and districts can focus their Foundation dollars here's why.

Did you know there are 67 million children in the world who have no access to education and more than 775 million people over the age of 15 are illiterate, and 64 percent of that number are women? More astounding is that 31 million girls don't have the opportunity to pursue an education. Every day, they are taken out of school and forced to work or marry. And one out of every five girls in the developing world who do start school, will not even complete the sixth grade.

However, we know that educated girls and women are healthier, have the skills to make choices over their own future and can lift themselves, their communities and their countries out of poverty. Even one more year in school makes a difference. A girl's income will increase by up to 25 percent every year she stays in school. If India enrolled 1 percent more girls in secondary school, the country's GDP would rise by \$5.5 billion. These numbers alone are enough reason for us to focus on basic education and literacy for everyone.

One strategy Rotary is using to address these numbers and increase literacy rates is by providing Global Grants for career-minded professionals related to basic education and literacy. These Rotary scholars are working alongside Rotarians and professional educators to implement new tools and techniques to educate children. It's estimated that 1.7 million additional teachers are needed worldwide to meet the goal of universal primary education.

Rotary clubs can also support activities to improve education and literacy. The programs range from volunteering in a classroom to after-school programs. These programs can be as simple as reading to a student once a week for 30-minutes as I did in our *Readers are Leaders* program in Amesbury, MA. They can also be as comprehensive as a concentrated language encounter (CLE) literacy programs. These low-cost text- or activity-based immersion programs can be effective with adults as well as children. Adult literacy programs can be sponsored by clubs or districts in collaboration with schools, colleges or other community organizations.

We can promote and increase student enrollment in school and prevent health-related absences by combining education programs with other important programs such as sponsoring school meals and providing safe drinking water and sanitation facilities. We can also ensure that schooling continues into the future by providing teacher training and needed classroom supplies.

It doesn't matter if you're a student on a tiny island, or in major city in the United States, or a small village in Africa, everyone is entitled to a free education. Rotary programs and projects can *Be a Gift to the World* by strengthening the capacity of communities to support basic education and literacy, reducing gender disparity in education, and increasing the number of adult literacy programs and participants.

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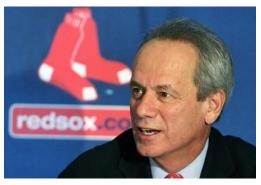
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Rotary Scholar and Baseball Celebrity Will Speak at Institute

Larry Lucchino, currently president and CEO of the Boston Red Sox, is a veteran of 36 years in Major League Baseball. He is also a former Rotary Ambassadorial Scholar to the University of Cambridge in England during the 1973-74 academic year, where he studied law. His scholarship was sponsored by the Rotary Club of New Haven, CT.

Before he joined the BoSox in 2002, Larry was President/CEO of the Baltimore Orioles (1988-93) and the San Diego Padres (1995-01). He has won rings with each Major League franchise; most notably the historic victory in 2004 that ended Boston's 86-year championship drought. In fact, in Lucchino's 26 full seasons as a President/CEO, his clubs have had a winning record of 2,132-1,899 (.529), have reached post-



season play nine times, have won four pennants, and three World Series.

Larry will talk about how his Rotary scholarship shaped his life, baseball, and what it takes to create a winning team at the Rotary Zone Institute in Providence. Be there! —Liz Cullen, Zone Institute Chair

Attention Council on Legislation Delegates!



The required training for all 2016 CoL delegates will be held at the Zone 24-32 Institute on Friday, September 25. There will be a breakout session, after the training for CoL, on Friday afternoon for all interested Rotarians to discuss the proposed legislation and provide feedback to delegates, on the issues the Council will be addressing. CoL delegates are strongly encouraged to attend this breakout session.

COUNCIL ON LEGISLATION

The cost for PDGs who are attending only this portion of the Zone Institute is \$99. The cost includes Friday's breakfast and all registration and CoL materials.

I want to encourage you to come for the entire Institute which starts on Thursday afternoon at 1:00 p.m., and concludes Sunday morning after brunch. I understand, however, that some of you have professional commitments and will only be able to attend on Friday.

I look forward to seeing all of you in September and then at the CoL in 2016. — Julia Phelps, RI Director 2014-15

Foundation Facts

Use Cultivation to Achieve Solicitation Success

By Jenna Archuleta, Zone 32 Major Gifts Officer

You've accepted the position, taken the training, and are ready to call your first major gift prospect. You review your research on the individual and begin dialing the phone. And then, you decide you need to think about it a little before you make the call. Hours turn to days, which turn to weeks and months that go by without you calling. "What am I waiting for?" you ask yourself.

All fundraisers have been in this situation. But, with proper preparation, soliciting a major gift can be a simple, enjoyable experience.

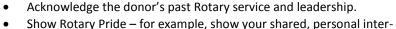
Solicitation is the third of the four-step fund-raising process of **Identification, Cultivation, Solicitation** and **Stewardship**. All steps are important, but many new major gift fund-raisers make the mistake of starting with solicitation. Measuring success in major gifts is very different than annual giving. With annual giving, success is measured when donors give money.

With major gifts, success can be learning about the donor's family, educational background, or favorite Rotary project. Cultivation is the key to any successful major gift solicitation. Cultivation involves gathering information via insightful questions and thoughtful consideration of donors' goals. Cultivation often starts with a request to have coffee.

So before you start, get to know your potential donor. What is special about Rotary for them? Why have they made charitable gifts in the past? What is their personal, professional, and Rotary history? What causes do they care about?

In these first meetings, do more listening than talking. Connect around shared Rotary passions if possible. Work with your Major Gifts Officer to develop a customized cultivation strategy for each potential donor in your portfolio. Keep in mind that the major gift fundraiser's role is to use your meetings and other communications with this potential donor to develop a Rotary relationship.

The success of your cultivation depends on asking for the right gift amount, for the right program, at the right time. The time is right for solicitation when your conversations and research have provided enough background to know that **now** is a good time for the donor to give, you have a mutual understanding of which programs or projects the donor is passionate about, and you have enough information to know an appropriate gift range for which to ask. When the time approaches for you to make a solicitation, keep these best practices in mind:



- Snow Rotary Pride for example, snow your shared, personal interest in Rotary's outstanding service projects around the world
- Be considerate by asking for <u>consideration</u> don't begin the conversation with the question, "Will you give a gift", start instead with "Will you consider making a gift?"
- State the specific amount you are asking for them to donate.
- State the specific designation such as a particular area of focus or a fund.
- BE QUIET (let the potential donor speak first)

Prepare for your solicitation meeting by writing out what you plan to say and rehearsing it aloud. Common errors of major gift solicitation include:

- Talking too much
- Sounding cold or inconsiderate
- Using words like "should" and "ought"
- Asking apologetically or with embarrassment
- Breaking eye contact
- Rushing the ask
- Breaking silence too soon after the ask

If you have done your homework and followed all the steps above, your solicitation is successful. Carefully cultivating your donor and learning more about their background and charitable goal will help you align his or her goals with the available giving options to create an enticing solicitation the donor will gladly fund. If you focus on cultivation, successful and simple solicitation comes naturally.







Calendar of Events

September 14, 2015 — Webinar: The How-Tos of a Million Dollar Dinner. 10:00 AM - 11:00 AM PDT (1:00 PM to 2:00 PM EDT) To register: <u>https://</u> <u>attendee.gotowebinar.com/</u> <u>register/7903247067793049601</u> FMI: Chris Offer at <u>ChrisOffer@live.ca</u>

September 21-27, 2015 — 2015 Zone 24-32 Institute, Providence, RI. "Get Fired Up for Rotary" at the Omni Providence Hotel, Rhode Island Convention Center in Providence, RI. Register: http://rotaryzones24-32.org. FMI: PDG Liz Cullen, lizcullen@yahoo.com

Saturday, November 7, 2015 — Rotary UN Day, New York City. Registration is open: www.riunday.org.

January 15-16, 2016 — Presidential Conference—Peace and Conflict Resolution, Ontario, CA. FMI: www.peaceconference2016.org

January 18-23, 2016 — International Institute, San Diego, CA.

February 19-20, 2016 — Presidential Conference—Disease Prevention and Treatment, Cannes, France. FMI: www.rotary-conferencecannes2016.org

February 27, 2016 — Presidential Conference — Economic and Community Development, Cape Town, SA. FMI: www.rotarycapetown2016.com

March 12-13, 2016 — Presidential Conference, Literacy and WASH in Schools, Kolkata, India. FMI: www.rotaryteach.org/ presidentialconference

March 18-19, 2016 — Presidential Conference, WASH in Schools, Pasay City, Philippines. FMI: www.2016 RotaryPresidentialConferenceManila.org

April 11-15, 2016 — Council on Legislation, Evanston.

May 29-June 1, 2016 — RI Convention in Seoul, South Korea.

September 27-October 2, 2016 — Rotary Zone 24-32 Pre-Institute and Institute in Winnipeg, Manitoba.



I Became a Rotarian — in Cameroon

By PDG Peter Smith, District 7820

It wasn't until 2003, after attending Rotary for 15 years, that I finally called myself a Rotarian. Sure, I had worked on community projects, and raised money, but the change came when I went on my first NID to Cameroon.

Since then I have travelled to the West African country seven times. My focus has been to involve D-7820 in gathering, shipping and distributing numerous containers of hospital, school and other humanitarian equipment. This would not have been possible without our Rotary Foundation and support of most of the clubs in my District.

Our efforts have modernized 35 hospitals with birthing beds, O.R. tables, wheelchairs, and surgical and dental equipment. One 112-bed hospital can boast all-new adjustable beds, with mattresses and linen in addition to numerous other medical supplies. Many lives are being saved because of Rotary and the availability of Rotary Foundation grants. Needless to say, The Rotary Foundation is my personal charity of choice.

We have also sent computers, books, and supplies to over 22 schools. With funding from Foundation grants and our clubs, four 72-passenger school buses have been shipped to Cameroon. As of last April, one school bus is on the road 60 hours a week and as of last April had already logged over 300,000 km. This bus transports all school children no matter what school they attend. Rotary at work!





Since 2011, I have concentrated on a remote tribal community of 55,000 ruled by King Fonzo 11. Through grants and donations, 15 schools have received new latrines with wash stations, school books and an upgraded potable water system.

The King has bestowed on me the title of Chief and allotted me a parcel of land! My 11-year-old grandson Cameron accompanied me on a subsequent trip. I placed him in a tribal school so he could experience the full culture of the Awing tribe. The school had no school books or suitable toilet facilities, but Cameron had a great time. He was subsequently brought into the tribe as a child of the King, a recognition he cherishes.

This year I brought an oxygen concentrator to the Awing hospital. This unit immediately started saving lives and word has spread quickly: Patients from outlying areas now come to Awing for medical treatment. Polio immunizations remain critical, and every trip involves an immunization clinic.

I estimate that \$5,000,000 in equipment and supplies has so far come to Cameroon through the Rotary Foundation and the generosity of clubs throughout D-7820 as well a many clubs in D-9150.

Zone 24-32 Donors Reach New Foundation Levels

Congratulations to the following individuals and organizations in Zones 24-32 that became Major Donors — whose giving reached increased Major Donor or Arch Klumpf Society levels — during the past Rotary year. Gifts represent life-time donations to Annual Giving, PolioPlus or the Endowment. This list does not include those who requested anonymity. Note: + designates a deceased donor. Names of 2014-15 Bequest Society members will be published in a future issue.

Arch Klumph - Foundatior	n Circle
Gerrit H. Hendricks	5370
Arch Klumph - Trustees Circle	
Edward B. Rasmuson and Cathryn Rasmuson	5010
Melvin W. Hollinger and Wilma L. Hollinger +	5050
F. Ronald Denham and E. Lynn Denham	7070
G. Holger Hansen and Anne C. Hansen	7450
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Victor A. Maris and Thelma Maris	5360
Donald M. Bumstead + and Edith Bumstead +	6330
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Donald L Kimmel	7430
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Gift Of Life , Inc	7470
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Michael Evans	7010
Robert Greer and Shelley Greer	7010
James G. Williams and Naomi Williams	7010
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Thomas Urling Walker and Mabel Walker	7040
Bill Irwin and Marion E Irwin	7070
lan E Lancaster and Jane Elizabeth Wheeler	7070

Arch Klumpf Foundation Circle: \$1 million Arch Klumpf Chair's Circle: \$500,000 Arch Klumpf Trustees Circle: \$250,000 Major Donor Level 4: \$100,000 Major Donor Level 3: \$50,000 Major Donor Level 2: \$25,000 Major Donor Level 1: \$10,000

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Rotary Foundation Major Donors Level 1 ... list continued from previous page

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How Nigeria Turned the Tide

In the past decade, Nigeria has turned from the biggest problem in the African polio fight to an example of how to do things right.

To make this turnaround possible, the PolioPlus team devised new, nimble ways to get the vaccine to where it was needed. Carol Pandak, staff director of Rotary's PolioPlus program, explains what was done:

Because parents complained that the focus on polio did not address health needs that they felt were more pressing, the campaign set up health clinics where children received the vaccines and parents could obtain aspirin, cough syrup, soap, bed nets and other essentials.

Because some areas were too dangerous for the immunization teams to enter, the cam-

paign created lightning-strike "hit and run" teams. These teams were positioned near conflict areas and raced in and out whenever there was a lull in the fighting.

And the PolioPlus partners established Emergency Operations Centers modeled on the CDC's Atlanta war room. Here, the vaccination teams and their logistics officers were able to report and deal with roadblocks, vaccine shortages, loss of refrigeration and other issues to vaccination in real time. Previously, this information had not been available until AFTER the National Immunization Day was over. The operations centers were also instrumental in keeping Ebola at bay in Nigeria.

—Adapted from "It's Been One Year ... Can this Last?" by Marilyn McKenna, nationalgeographic.com

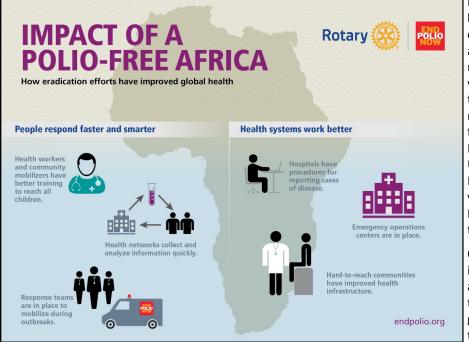


Nigeria Moves from Problem to Solution in Ten Years

By Michael McGovern, chair of Rotary's International PolioPlus Committee

To put the one-year anniversary of a polio-free Africa in perspective: It was only a decade ago that polio struck 12,631 people in Africa – three-quarters of all cases that year.

I had the privilege of speaking earlier this year at the UN Economic and Social Council about Rotary's work as part of the Global Polio Eradication Initiative. The UN wanted to hear from the most successful partnerships in the world of human development, and it was a great honor to talk about the achievements in which you have all played a part.



Rotary members have led the way when it comes to fundraising, advocacy, raising awareness, and generating volunteer support to tackle polio. We've partnered with the best in the world – the World Health Organization, UNICEF, U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, and the Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation.

Our role as constituents in both the polioaffected countries and the countries whose governments help fund the effort has ensured that all partners in the



initiative have maintained their political commitment and financial backing for the drive to eradicate polio from the human experience.

Rotary members have also been extremely generous, donating \$688.5 million to fight polio throughout Africa, including more than \$200 million to Nigeria.

However, keeping Nigeria and the rest of Africa free from polio will require vigilance. More than 5 million children are born in Nigeria each year and vaccinating them could be disrupted by militant attacks or by renewed loss of trust. And the battle to win cultural acceptance has not been won. Last month, for instance, Kenya's Conference of Catholic Bishops urged its followers to boycott, recycling some of the same tired claims of bad intent that first circulated in Nigeria over a decade ago.

Visit <u>endpolio.org</u> to download a <u>tool kit of materials</u> to help you share this progress – and the need for continued commitment in the coming years – with your Rotary club and District, your communities, and your elected officials.

We are on the verge of eradicating a human disease for only the second time in history, after smallpox. Three decades ago, Rotary shared its vision for a polio-free world. Let's make that vision come to life, today.

Rotary International Support Team

Club and District Support

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John Hannes, Senior Coordinator John.hannes@rotary.org 847-866-3275

David Massey, Coordinator david.massey@rotary.org 847-866-3269

The Rotary Foundation

Major Gifts Officers Carolyn Ferguson: Zone 24 Carolyn.ferguson@rotary.org 905-304-6831

Jenna Archuleta: Zone 32 Jenna.archuleta@rotary.org 847-424-5251

Annual Giving Officer: 24/32

Chris Boyce Chris.boyce@rotary.org 847-866-3261

Rotary International

One Rotary Center 1560 Sherman Avenue Evanston, IL 60201 847-866-3021

Rotary Contact Center

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www.rotary.org



Making Public Relations a Priority

By Dave Clifton, Zone 32 Rotary Public Image Coordinator

District Governor Jim Fusco and Public Relations Chair Laura Spear know the importance of getting clubs in District 7910 to understand how PR affects membership development, community visibility, new partnerships, and fundraising efforts.



Amazing PR: District 7910 Conference started with a food packaging project — in a crowded mall!

Since early last year, District 7910 has been evangelizing and encouraging adoption of the new Rotary branding, using the Rotary *Voice and Visual Identity Guidelines* on Rotary Brand Center as its foundation. The 2014-15 year featured monthly PR workshops on subjects including using the Rotary logo appropriately, creating a club brochure, and creating a club presentation. Links to YouTube recordings for these workshops were posted on a new PR section of the district website along with other training materials, information on the new branding guidelines, PR best practices, sample materials that can be customized for club use, and other, general online PR resources. The May 2015 District Assembly training on PR featured a summary of the new guidelines, and every club that attended received a hard copy of the guidelines, which are now available from shop.rotary.org.

But it takes more than materials: District 7910 has sponsored several Public Image events, including a Social Media seminar and a PR Expo Dinner and Awards event, which encouraged clubs to showcase and be recognized for their PR efforts. This will be followed by a hands-on PR Forum, including breakout sessions that support the required PR requirements for the 2015-16 Presidential Citation award. Additionally, Laura Spears has been speaking at various club meetings on the identity guidelines and other ways to enhance Rotary's public image.

Need a starting point for your clubs? Check out the <u>Public Image Materials</u>, available on the Rotary7910 website. .

Many clubs in District 7910 are now taking advantage of non-traditional promotional media. The Hudson Rotary Club and Rotary Club of Nashoba Valley used Facebook and Twitter to promote their Spirit of Hudson Food & Brewfest in August, and about 2000 people attended! The Rotary Club of Auburn posts its newsletter on its Facebook page. The Rotary Club of Westborough uses Google Drive to post photos.

There are numerous other examples that show how successful clubs in this District think beyond traditional coverage and showcase their club and the Rotary operating principles of Join Leaders, Exchange Ideas, and Take Action.

Club Central: A Tool to Increase Effectiveness

Why use Club Central? It combines the most critical elements that make up cub vibrancy. Savvy club leaders can use it to set goals, make annual and long-range plans, assess progress and evaluate results using a single, integrated approach.

It is also a vital tool to help you, as a District leader, increase the vibrancy of Rotary in your region. Club Central replaces several of the traditional planning and report forms. It makes it possible to easily see club goals and progress online and to quickly determine actions that may be needed to help increase the effectiveness of clubs.

As a reminder: All Districts in Zones 24 and 32 are asked to have:

- 100% of Foundation and Membership data entered by October 31
- 60% of clubs providing updated data monthly through Rotary Club Central.

How are your clubs doing?

If you have questions on this report, need more information on Club Central or want to schedule training for your clubs, contact your Rotary Coordinator.

Ian Riseley Tapped to Be RI President in 2017-18

Ian H.S. Riseley, of the Rotary Club of Sandringham, Victoria, Australia, is the selection of the Nominating Committee for President of Rotary International in 2017-18. He will become the president-nominee on 1 October if no other candidates challenge him.

Riseley says that meaningful partnerships with corporations and other organizations are crucial to Rotary's future.



"We have the programs and personnel and others have available resources," says Riseley. "Doing good in the world is everyone's goal. We must learn from the experience of the polio eradication program to maximize our public awareness exposure for future partnerships."

Riseley is a practicing accountant and principal of Ian Riseley and Co., which specializes in advising local and international business-

es, and has a strong interest in international affairs. He received the AusAID Peacebuilder Award from the Australian government in 2002 in recognition of his work in Timor-Leste. He also received the Order of Australia medal in 2006 for service to the Australian community.

A member since 1978, Riseley has served Rotary as treasurer, director, trustee, RI Board Executive Committee member, task force member, committee member and chair, and district governor.

He and his wife, Juliet, are Multiple Paul Harris Fellows, Major Donors, and Bequest Society members.

-By Ryan Hyland, Rotary News

How Many Clubs Are Entering Their Goals?

District	Goals Entered July 2014-15	Goals Entered July 2015 to date	% Difference
2225	100%	81%	-19%
5010	75%	95%	20%
5040	72%	72%	0%
5050	68%	84%	16%
5060	73%	54%	-19%
5360	100%	51%	-49%
5370	75%	70%	-5%
5550	47%	47%	0%
Avg Zone 24W	76%	69%	-7%
6330	83%	90%	7%
7010	74%	76%	2%
7040	80%	80%	0%
7070	83%	50%	-33%
7080	84%	96%	12%
7090	57%	49%	-8%
7790	63%	62%	-1%
7810	62%	54%	-8%
7820	68%	28%	-40%
Avg Zone 24E	73%	65%	-7.67%
7210	32%	7%	-25%
7230	13%	13%	0%
7255	12%	6%	-6%
7390	62%	71%	9%
7410	98%	31%	-67%
7430	100%	100%	0%
7450	29%	33%	4%
7470	18%	36%	18%
7490	35%	31%	-4%
7500	95%	37%	-58%
7510	54%	31%	-23%
7640	27 %	15%	-12%
7780	75%	75%	0%
7850	35%	31%	-4%
7870	23%	12%	-11%
7890	57%	77%	-20%
7910	41%	57%	16%
7930	68%	64%	-4%
7950	44%	53%	9%
7980	62%	41%	-21%
Avg Zone 32	49%	41%	-7.95%
Overall 24/32			-7.54%

Data pulled from Rotary Club Central Aug. 24, 2015

Connect with Rotary in Russia: Here's How

How can your District get involved with Rotary in Russia? Clubs in District 2225 are seeking active partnerships with you.

Club Projects

<u>There are many pressing needs</u> in Russia, from helping children to improving medical care to supporting the elderly and disadvantaged, projects which could be funded via a Global Grant.

<u>Collaborating on smaller projects</u> supported by district grants and/or monetary or in-kind contributions.

<u>Rotarians visiting Russia</u> to help with hands-on projects.



Vocational Training Teams - a valuable way to share knowledge while learning more about each other. VTTs support medical, children's and educational issues.

Scholarships – International study for university students.

<u>Youth Exchange</u> – Building stronger bonds of peace by giving teens experience in each other's culture.

<u>Friendship Exchanges</u> - Did you ever want to visit Lake Baikal, Kamchatka Peninsula or Siberia? Russians are well known for open, warm hospitality.

<u>*Twin Clubs*</u> - An outstanding opportunity to build stronger ties between Rotarians.

Interested in discussing the possibilities? Contact DG Valentin Naidanov <u>nvpo@mail.ru</u> or DGE Mikhail Kunitsyn michael.kunitsyn@gmail.com.



Changing Lives in a Changing World

By PDG Gayle Knepper

2015 is a year of special significance in Russia: Rotary celebrates its 25th birthday. From the chartering of the first four clubs in 1990 to today, passionate Rotarians in Russia have devoted innumerable hours to developing Rotary, tackling numerous and often significant obstacles. It united thousands of hands from around the world to fulfill a commitment that changed lives in communities, and ignited strong and sustainable friendships.

Emotion-filled stories told by Rotarians give a glimpse of the impact of this accomplishment as individuals from throughout our zones and the world helped to carry out the promise. Many who spent time in the cities and the villages, working side by side with Russian Rotarians, report, "It is the moment when I became a real Rotarian." Others simply say, "It changed my life."

From its roots of development in District 5010 (Alaska-Yukon), District 2225 (Eastern Russia) has been and remains part of the Zone 24/32 family since becoming its own en-

tity in 2012. Even after 25 years, many challenges exist – some old, some new. There is a pressing call for continued education about Rotary and its mission. With District 2225's geographic reach of 11.3 million square kilometers and six time zones (geographically, the largest district in the world!), it is not easy to stretch resources, travel to clubs, promote camaraderie and build public understanding.

There is tremendous need for friends to join with Russian Rotary, especially for humanitarian projects, building new connections and strengthening friendships. An exceptional first step is to personally experience Rotary in Russia. There is an outstanding opportunity to join colleagues from Zones 24/32 and Rotarians from around the world to celebrate 25 years of Rotary in Russia in Irkutsk (eastern Siberia), October 2 to 4. Irkutsk is a historic and cultural center with roots in the 17th century. This city of over half a million resi-

dents is located on the Trans-Siberian railway, 65 kilometers (40 miles) from Lake Baikal, one of the seven wonders of the world. A focus of the activities will be recognizing Rotary's journey in Russia, looking toward the future. Those attending will get to know Rotarians in Russia, see the impact of Rotary on communities and enjoy a truly memorable experience in this beautiful and distinctive part of the world.

Highlights include presentations of international visitors who were key in developing Rotary in Russia, round-table discussions on accomplishments and challenges; tour of the 350-year old city, visiting unique museums and places of interest; a trip to Lake Baikal, the world's largest and deepest (1,642 m; 5,387 ft) freshwater lake, estimated to be 30 million years old; Russian/Siberian food and entertainment, and much more.

Registration is \$150 US (paid in cash on arrival); accommodations at Hotel Irkutsk http://old.eastland.ru/en/; contact Indira, hotel manager (europe@eastland.ru or +1-01 -7(3952) 250-191) for help with reservations or logistics.

Visas are required for US and Canadian citizens. Red Star Travel <u>www.travel2russia.com</u> is highly recommended for visas (services for US and Canadian residents). Hotel reservations are advised prior to application. Updates on the celebration are at: <u>https://www.facebook.com/RotaryIRK/posts/870187483055508</u>_contact PDG Vladimir Donskoy, vladimir.f.donskoy@gmail.com.

Make plans now to join Rotarian friends in Irkutsk in October. It could change your life.

Rotary in Russia











Rotary Celebrates 25 Years in Russia Enjoy these scenes

Enjoy these scenes of District 2225 Rotarians engaged in service projects, fundraisers and fellowship — Russian style!



