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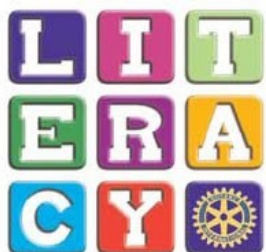
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30 June 2020...it will be here before you know it

Whoa! Slow down you say, Jeff. I'm just getting started! The fact is that this month 25% of our year of service together will be completed. One of the things that most folks say when they have competed a year in a position of leadership in our organization is how FAST it seemed to go. My personal experience as well.

That phenomenon then lends itself well to a reverse calendar. For this writer, when I have a project to work on or tasks to complete, I often go to the end date, then work myself backwards to plug in the mileposts/dates appropriate in order to complete all of the items necessary for an extraordinary outcome. It avoids the opposite possibility which is always reacting from day-to-day, not PLANNING for what is ahead.

Famous philosopher (by that, I mean baseball catcher) Yogi Berra once said, "If you don't know where you are going, you'll end up someplace else."

Rotary is primarily a winter sport. We hope that the summer months have been fulfilling for you in carrying out all of the duties and responsibilities of your current assignment. We hope that you have had front of mind the primary task we each have which is to make clubs stronger, healthier and to Grow Rotary. To support our customers, our clubs and their members. We encourage you to look ahead to 30 June 2020. Visualize the outcomes and accomplishments that will allow you to feel then, as though the year you have just completed was extraordinary, then work backwards to fill in the mileposts that will allow that to happen.

So now, our work begins in earnest. All of us on the Zone Leadership Team (see the left border of this newsletter) are committed to helping you know and get where you are going. To not have you end up someplace else. Reach out to us. Let us know how we can help. None of us are mind readers. We only know what you need if you tell us. Our job is to make your job easier.

Personally, the extraordinary outcome for me is if on 30 June 2020 we can feel as though we helped to move the needle for our organization. That together, we were able to aim our organization on a trajectory that allows it to stay relevant in the decades ahead. Whether it is your club, your district, our Zones, or our organization, that we have left it better than we found it.

At midnight on 30 June 2020 I am going to be standing on a beach somewhere. (there may or may not be an adult beverage involved). I'll be toasting each of you with a grateful heart for all that you have done this year. My hope is that each of you will be somewhere feeling that you didn't leave anything on the table. That you did the best job that you could. That's all that we can ask. Do the best you can. Work backwards from that moment we will all share together. Plug in the mileposts and dates for YOUR extraordinary outcome. Know that we're always here to help. 30 June 2020...it will be here before you know it

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Valarie's View from the Wings

By Valarie Wafer, Director-Elect

Summer 2019 is coming to a close and it's allowed me time to reflect on the quiet and peaceful summer that I have enjoyed at home. I've spent time with family, celebrated weddings with friends, and read my book on the front porch (my favourite thing to do). But as summer winds down I've come to realize that this is the calm before the storm, and the fun is just about to start.

At the time of my nomination, there was a lot of work that needed to be addressed immediately. The main task was to choose the location for the 2020 Zone 28/32 Institute. As site visits were underway, I came to a realization that spurred my planning; "we can't keep speaking of change in Rotary, we need to guide leadership to enact change." The General Chair of the 2020 Institute, PDG Drew Kessler, not only listened but supported whole heartedly! The support and guidance of Drew and the team has resulted in the planning of a Leadership Summit followed by two Symposiums throughout my RID tenure, and I'm so excited for the changes coming our way. Now that contracts have been signed and the team is in full swing on planning, my training as RID is underway.

The intention of this column, "Valarie's View from the Wings", has been to communicate my journey to directorship and share my experiences. As I've learned new things and experienced various new aspects of Rotary, I've been excited to share it all with you. Yet now is where the learning really starts. As September is often thought of as back to school time, so too is it time for me to begin my official training for RID. Starting this month, RIDEs will be attending a series of scheduled webinars with current board direction and governance training support from Rotary International. We will attend board meetings beginning in January as observers, and continue our training in Evanston throughout the early months of 2020, leading to July 1.



Niagara Falls 2019
People Coming Together

Silent Auction—contact [Carol Toomey](#)

Every district has been contacted to donate at least one item to the silent auction to benefit polio. Anyone can bring something but please let us know in advance what you are bringing. We will be able to prepare a bidding sheet in advance.

Remember many people are traveling with a carry on. If you have something too big or an item that can't go in a carry on, just take a picture of it and we will display it with the picture. You can arrange to ship it to the person with the winning bid.

Calendar of Events

September 17-18, 2019 — Zone 24-32 DG, DGE, DGN training, Niagara Falls, Ontario, Canada

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

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

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

September 23-26, 2020 — GETS, GNATS Leadership Training, Toronto

November 19-21, 2020 — Life on Land Symposium, Anchorage, Alaska

January 14-16, 2021 — Life Below Water, Hamilton, Bermuda

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

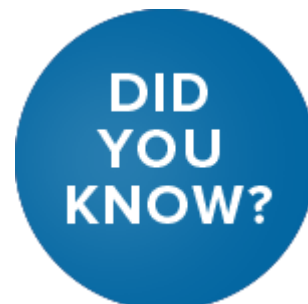
Facebook:

[Rotary Zones 24 and 32](https://www.facebook.com/RotaryZones24and32)

Blog:

<http://greatideastoshare.com>

Zone Conference Niagara Falls, Ontario



Wednesday September 18
District Chair Training
Foundation

Membership

Public Image

International Service

District Trainer

REGISTER NOW

The Aspiring Leader scholarship opportunity is available until September 14. Contact the [Registrar](#) in order to register.

[All information for 2019 Zone Conference in Niagara Falls, Ontario](#)

Live nearby? Register for the Friday night gala.



House of Friendship

EVERYONE's invited, and this is your chance to tell our attendees all about YOUR business.

Sept. 19-21st, 2019

The Sheraton & Crowne Plaza, Niagara Falls

In order to have an accurate count of tables, and to have payment before the event,

[click here](#) to register for a table.

Your registration for a table is not complete without payment.

Have you received an acknowledgement of your House of Friendship table? Chances are that you may have mentioned it to someone but to have a table reserved for you, you must register.

If you have trouble registering, please contact

Carol Toomey carolrotary@gmail.com or

Registrar Ariane Carriere ariane.carriere@rotary7040.com

If you are interested in a sponsorship of the 2019 Zone Conference,

Contact Joe Lauren jlaureni@yahoo.com or

Nabil Oudeh nabiloudeh@ccrinternational.com

Upstate New York: Rotarians Fight Poverty



*By David Hannan,
7120 District
Governor*

While the Bull Market rages on Wall Street, the economy in Upstate New York, encompassing the four new districts of Zone 32, has remained stagnant for over a generation. Rotarians here face impoverished communities on a scale uncommon in the developed world. The impact on literacy, health, economic development, and life expectancy has been substantial, but Rotarians are fighting back.

Rotary District 7120 has partnered with Common Ground Health, a not-for-profit agency serving 9 of the district's 11 counties. Common Ground "convenes medical and non-medical partners to set community priorities, share best practices and resolve health challenges collaboratively." CEO Wade Norwood was a keynote speaker at the Empire Multi-District PETS meeting in March for Districts 7120, 7150, 7170, and 7190. He is pictured speaking at a meeting involving the four Rotary clubs of Chemung County, hosted by Elmira Rotary Club on August 13.

The data provided by Common Ground Health demonstrates the severity of poverty in our region (Socio-Economic Status by Zip Code) and the impact on life expectancy (Years of Potential Life Lost.) Darker areas are worse on both images. Comparing the two images demonstrates the correlation between low Socio-Economic Status and premature mortality. Most significantly, poverty is not limited to inner-city Rochester (upper left on images.) There are wide swaths of poverty throughout our rural areas including Wayne County where I live (upper right), as well as in Elmira (lower right) which never recovered economically from the flooding of Hurricane Agnes in 1972.

This has given Rotarians information on where to focus our philanthropic and service projects. Past District Governor Don Milton (2017-2018) offered an incentive for clubs to fight Child Hunger and Poverty

in their communities. Nine clubs were recognized at our 2018 District Conference for developing or augmenting a program providing backpacks with food for at-risk students over the weekend. The Honeoye Falls-Mendon Club received second place supplemental funding for its collaborative effort with the school district to build a greenhouse on school grounds.

The first-place award was given to Elmira Heights Rotary Club for its collaboration with the Cornell Cooperative Extension of Chemung County and a Poverty Reduction Coalition. Together they are working on a Poverty Spotlight Survey and a Natural Leader's Initiative. Elmira was one of only 3 cities nationwide to implement the Poverty Spotlight Program. (New Orleans and Washington, DC, were the other two.) This Rotary club distributed gift cards for completion of the survey, assisted with childcare during the Leadership training sessions and set up instructional displays at a local Farmers' Market.

District 7120 understands that "education is the ticket out of poverty." Our fundraising projects and District Grant awards this year were heavily focused on literacy and education. Among these were the multi-club Wayne County Spelling Bee to raise awareness and funds for literacy, many scholarships for graduating high school seniors, Bath Rotary Club's purchase of a Krayon Kiosk for the local library, Avon Rotary Club's English Literacy Program for migrant workers to assist in their children's homework assignments, more backpacks with food projects referenced above, Honeoye Lake Rotary Club's installation of an educational kiosk at a hiking trail, Newark Rotary Club's installation of a customer service desk at the library, Clifton Springs Rotary Club's purchase of supplementary lab items for science classes, ROC City Rotary Club's creation of an urban learning display, and Watkins-Montour Rotary Club's provision of textbooks for children in Malawi.

Rotary alone cannot resolve the poverty in our communities, but we are committed to being part of the solution by partnering with agencies like Common Ground Health.

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Membership is a Project!

By Tracey Vavrek, District Governor 2019 - 2020, Rotary International District 5370

There are two main pillars in the 2019-20 Rotary Club citation, one of which is membership. Often when clubs think of membership, recruitment comes first to mind. Membership however is much more than recruitment and involves orientation and education, retention, engagement, we care, exit interviews, membership experience, and ESPECIALLY FUN! All of these affect club culture which really has the largest impact in membership.

The citation recommends a membership committee of five people per club and I recommend treating this pillar like a project. I believe membership is the responsibility of every club member although the committee takes the lead role.

Since July 1st, I have visited over 40% of the 60 clubs in District 5370 which geographically includes three Canadian provinces and two territories. It has been exciting to see the innovative ways Clubs are working on membership through experiences and culture. Culture is how people feel when they are part of something that is important to them.



I am thrilled to share some successes that are out of the box thinking and only a sampling of what I have witnessed over the last two months.

The Yellowknife True North Club have moved all of their summer meetings outdoors and hold their weekly dinner on a different member's deck. This nontraditional meeting environment works well for our northern friends.

The Wainwright Club is built on fellowship. They start their meeting with a roundtable of friendship sharing and check-in with all members which helps each member build a strong connection of trust.

In Lloydminster Alberta, the Border City Rotary Club designed a corporate membership program that works well for local companies and this has engaged a variety of new people in service.



The Athabasca Club starts each meeting with a greeting circle which grows as members arrive. Each person shares a hug and catch up moment. This club's culture is built on trusting relationships.

Three neighboring Alberta clubs, Stony Plain, Spruce Grove and Parkland After Dark, are committed to growing Rotary by supporting each other in projects and most importantly in membership. When someone is exploring membership

options, the person is encouraged to explore to all three clubs and to join the club that fits them the best.

The Dawson Creek Sunrise Club meets bright and early at 7 am Friday mornings which is not always the best time for some people from their community who wanted to join Rotary. This Club responded by creating a Passport Membership option for people to meet in the evening to work on service projects.

The Grande Prairie After Five Club creates spur of the moment service projects at meetings like preparing personalized thank you cards to various groups, scheduled fun activities at meetings like doing yoga, wine tasting and going for walks with families. The Club has also sponsored an EarlyAct Club for children age 6-12 which has resulted in some parents becoming Rotarians.



I encourage everyone to look at ways to take club culture from good to great!

MOSAIC: CREATING A DIVERSE ROTARY



“We become not a melting pot, but a beautiful mosaic. Different people, different hopes, different yearnings, different hopes, different dreams,” united in service to create a better world. Jimmy Carter

Art: RC Squamish, BC

DISARMING DISABILITY By Sarah Tuberty, Co-Facilitator for Diversity and Inclusion Break Out Session
(Hamburg 2019 Rotary Youth Exchange Officers Pre-Convention)

“Gross, I don’t want to hold that hand”
“How did you even get this job?”
“Deformed!”

Hello! My name is Sarah Tuberty. I am a past president of the Boston University Sargent College Rotaract Club, and I was born with a limb difference. My left hand is smaller than my right and I am missing all my fingers. The above are messages that I have been told throughout my life. I felt ashamed of my body. I hid my hand, avoided new social interactions, and often felt “defective” and “less than.” Only recently, through disability studies coursework in my Occupational Therapy Doctoral program, have I found my pride.



Disability is the largest minority group in the United States, making up 20-25% of the population. It is the only minority group that any person can become a part of at any moment. It is also the last of the civil rights movements. Yes, Disability Rights are Civil Rights! These are people who don’t have access to the goods, services, employment opportunities, housing, and social equality that are given to people who are “able-bodied.” Often Disability is considered synonymous to “less than.” This perception comes from the able-bodied world creating the narratives about the disabled world. Look to our media outlets: how often are disabled people been positively portrayed in the media? Typically, stories told are “life with a disability must be so difficult, that person is better off dead.” Or “let’s celebrate how amazing it is that this person wakes up and faces the world

because having a disability must be so difficult.” The last one becomes “[inspiration porn](#).” This happens when “inspiring stories are told” to make the able-bodied person look good and feel good, while exploiting the person with the disability.

The funny thing is, disability is a social construct: our society made rules on how people with disabilities are treated. This means we have the power to re-write these rules. The best way to do that is by engaging with the community. This is important for us as Rotarians because “service above self” is our motto. It is imperative to be mindful in how we create our service projects and events. Really implement the 4-way test. When considering a project to benefit the disabled communities be sure to partner with the community. This ensures that the services have a meaningful impact.

Welcome people with disabilities to your Rotary communities. **Recognize that people with disabilities have a beautiful and unique perspective to bring to the table. It is essential we make room for all of us at the table.** We have a more beautiful and better world as a result. When we make the world accessible for disabled people, we make the world more accessible to everyone. Let’s build a world where everyone, disability or not, can be proud of who they are and be seen as an equal.

Check out the [Disarming Disability podcasts](#), and share videos [here](#) and [also here](#) at a club meeting, and then discuss. For practical ways for your club to be more accessible, [check this out](#).

Edited by Cecily Smith, RC Metro NYC, Zone 32 ARC. Questions and ideas contact rotary7230pr@gmail.com

Three Pillars of Positive Membership Experience

By PDG Kris Chittur (2018-19), RID 7230, Zone 32

As we know, word-of-mouth is the best promotion. Your members' enthusiasm about your Club is critical; their poor/lackadaisical opinions repel prospective members.

Members become enthusiastic if they have a positive club experience. The three pillars for this are engagement in Club functioning; active, meaningful projects; and opportunity to avail of Rotary/District programs. With these, membership growth is inevitable.

Conversely, members don't renew their membership (except for uncontrollable factors such as death), and prospects don't join clubs, because the experience was wanting. Catchy phrases, coddling Rotaractors, and discounted fees cannot make up for this want. Positive club experience is pivotal.

Some Issues to Consider

Plan! So how well does your Club encourage or discourage member engagement? Members *need* to feel that the Club **belongs** to them. Without that, yours is just a lunch/dinner club. See Best Practices for Engaging



Members, Beyond Borders (April 2019).

Second, does your Club present enough opportunities for members to develop personal relationships? **Relationships are the glue that hold Clubs together!** Some Clubs have monthly events (cocktail hour, dinners, movies, whatever) to help develop such relationships. But in many Clubs, members have no relationships to speak of, and attendance at meetings become a chore.

Relationships are also enhanced by meaningful action projects: people who work together develop relationships. But many clubs' only worthwhile event is an annual fundraiser, followed by check writing to **other** organizations, followed by another fundraiser.

No active involvement in any project, contrary to our *slogan*, "People of Action". **Absentee check-writing is a Club-killer.**

But don't sweat to come up with such projects: Most probably, your club is already funding service organizations - just ask them to participate! A Homeless Soup Kitchen seeking funds? Write a check - and have Rotarians serve soup once a month (and publish photographs with the "Rotary" template). Local garden needs shrubs? Write a check - and have Rotarians participate in planting with "Rotarians in Action" vests. That engages the members and increases your club's visibility!

Third, **plug into our vast network, and aggressively encourage members to do so!** Every Rotarian should have his/her current information in the District and Rotary database, and a "My Rotary" account. Only then will members know of opportunities presented by Zone Conferences, seminars, NAYEN and the varied opportunities for personal and professional growth, and networking. These events engage and excite members.

Does your club or district have a Friendship Exchange program? Members can experience the thrill of staying with Rotarians abroad, share their homes and family lives, of seeing that country through local eyes, and building lifelong relationships - but only if members know about that program! Let members enjoy interacting with a High Schooler through the Youth Exchange Scholarship Program - and see their eyes light up when they talk about that!



So, make the Club experience worthwhile. Focus on what you do and how: your members **should want** to attend club events. And maximize access to our network and programs. **Your members are your best promoters!** With happy members, your Club grows, and you'll have a waiting list of wannabes.

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Consider a Global Grant Scholarship

By Gordon Crann, Scholarships Chair, Rotary Club of Hamilton – Tonic After 5

Most often when Rotary Districts and Clubs think about a Global Grant, it is for an International Service Project or a Vocational Training Team. There is a third option – a Global Grant Scholarship – that deserves serious consideration.

Global Grant Scholarships, along with Rotary Peace Fellowships, have taken the place of Rotary Ambassadorial Scholarships, which as Rotary's signature scholarship program from 1947 to 2013 helped fund university studies for more than 30,000 foreign students from over 100 countries.

In contrast to Rotary Peace Fellowships, Global Grant Scholarships are customizable as: the amount of funding can range from US\$30,000 to US\$400,000 per scholarship;

The area of study can be within any of the 6 The Rotary Foundation (TRF) Areas of Focus – not just Peacebuilding & Conflict Prevention; and the place of study can be any university – not just a university with a Rotary Peace Center.

A good example of a current Global Grant Scholarship is GG1989757 involving: District 7090 as Host District and the Rotary Club of Hamilton – Tonic After 5 as Host Club; and District 9940 in New Zealand as International Sponsoring District and Rotary Club of Karori as International Sponsoring Club.

GG1989757 is providing US\$30,000 in support of a medical research fellowship received by a brilliant, young Maori doctor Matt Wheeler for the 2019-20 year at McMaster University in Hamilton, Ontario to cover the Wheeler family's living and other expenses not funded by the McMaster fellowship. District 9940 is contributing US\$15,000 District Designated Funds (DDF), which is being matched by US\$15,000 from TRF, with no financial contribution from District 7790 or the Rotary Clubs needed to reach the US\$30,000 total scholarship amount.

Dr. Wheeler's research at McMaster will be part of his final qualification as a specialist haematologist and equip him to work with a focus on the prevention of atherothrombosis especially among Maori and Pacific people.

McMaster University is internationally recognized as a leader in atherothrombosis research; and Times Higher Education (THE) University Rankings currently ranks McMaster as 23rd top university in the world for medical education.

Typically, Zones 24 & 32 Rotary Clubs participate in Global Grant International Service Projects as International Sponsoring Clubs by providing funding and helping with reporting. As Host Club, the role of Rotary Club of Hamilton – Tonic After 5 is somewhat different. The Host Club is still required to set up a 3-person Global Grant Committee and help with reporting. However, the main ongoing responsibility of a Host Club during the Global Grant Scholarship period is to ensure Rotary engagement of the Global Grant Scholar, as well as other forms of advice and support related to settling into the community, and the appointment of a Host Counsellor to lead the Host Club process.

Since picking up and welcoming the Wheeler family at Toronto International Pearson Airport on July 16, 2019, Dr. Wheeler's Rotary engagement has included attending:

- the Rotary Club of Niagara-On-The-Lake's Rotary Rocks 25th Anniversary Picnic on July 30, 2019;
- his first Rotary Club of Hamilton – Tonic After 5 Members Meeting to observe a guest speaker's presentation on Empowerment Squared's Liberian Learning Center in West Africa on August 7, 2019; and
- making his own guest speaker presentation at the Rotary Club of Hamilton – Tonic After 5 Members Meeting on August 21, 2019.

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Tell YOUR Club's People of Action Stories!

By Laura Spear, ARPIC, Zone 32

While many people have heard of Rotary, few people actually understand what Rotary clubs do. In fact, 35 percent of the public is unfamiliar with any Rotary program, including their local club. That's why Rotary created the global People of Action ad campaign. The ads are available for download at Brand Center (Rotary.org/brandcenter), where you can also find guidelines and customizable templates, making it easier for clubs to tell your own stories in a consistent, compelling way. (You will need to login with your rotary.org username and password.)

The People of Action campaign is for people who do not know about Rotary or why it's relevant to them. We hope the campaign will appeal to potential members who want to make a difference in their communities, those interested in Rotary's causes, and people looking to establish relationships with others in their communities.

For example, in District 7910, the Rotary Club of Nashoba Valley sponsored a People of Action ad for the local high school's arts programs. Every vocal, instrumental, and drama event program throughout the school year included the ad, which highlighted club activities that serve the school and featured a photograph of its flagship meal packaging event whose volunteers are primarily students. The ad included a call to action to visit the club's website and Facebook page where more People of Action images are posted. Not only has the ad increased awareness of Rotary in its community, the club now has an Interact club at the high school and works with the students on joint service projects.

The most compelling aspect of any People of Action ad is the photograph. Make sure you use a powerful image that highlights Rotarians in action! The image should be genuine and un-staged, no handshakes or lines of members standing shoulder to shoulder, or the famous check presentation still shot. People should be positive and engaged in activity. Make sure you represent the diversity of your club in age, ethnicity, and gender. Your photograph should make the viewers feel comfortable and see people who may look like them. If the project has beneficiaries on site, try to show Rotarians interacting with them. Ask yourself, "Will people in my community connect with what they see in the photo?"



Find more guidelines on how you can highlight the impact that Rotarians make in our communities through **People of Action** ads and digital images on **Brand Center**.

Questions? Contact your Rotary Public Image Coordinator Team.

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By Fay Campbell, 7040 DGN and Friendship Exchange Chair

Friendship exchange is a great way to meet new Rotarians and see the good that they are doing in the world. It is a great way to discover and enjoy new cultures while staying in the homes of local Rotarians. We may also find opportunities for partnership on projects. I would encourage all the members in all Districts to consider a Friendship Exchange. It is a rich, eye-opening experience, that can lead to wonderful friendships.

In 2018 District 7040 hosted nine Rotarians from Bhopal & Indore India Rotary (District 3040) and nine Rotarians from our District went to India.



Rotary Club holds Diwali milan samaroh

OUR STAFF REPORTER
BHOPAL

A Diwali milan samaroh was organised by Rotary club East Bhopal at a hotel in MP Nagar on Wednesday. Along with the local families, 6 guests from Canada Rotary club-7040 under the Rotary friendship exchange program also participated in the event.

The members of Canada rotary club were all dressed up in Indian traditional attire and wore Indi-



an make-up. They performed Garba on folk songs. Traditions of both India and Canada were discussed in the program.

Juliya Minle, Franny Paterson, Jennifer Lafton, Michael Press, Stan Xavier

and Frag Chan were the guests from Canada. Dhiren Dutta, Alok Villore, Narendra Jain, Rakesh Jain, Mamta Bhasin, Manoj Jha, Vishnu Khanna and many others were present in the program.

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epaper.freepressjournal.in/c/34205905



Rotarians from Canada and the US at the Taj Mahal & a newspaper article on the exchange.

In 2019 our District also hosted 10 Russians and then four of us went on this exciting exchange Russia. Here are some of the highlights from the Russia Exchange.



Participating in Change Over and Induction ceremony in Perm Russia



Group picture at Potluck dinner hosted by Rotary Club of Orléans for Russians and visit to Akwesasne .

The group of Rotarians from Russia were on an exchange visit to Canada that included stops in Ottawa, Cornwall, Montreal and Gananoque/ Kingston.



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Miracle of Rotarians

By Carol Toomey, End Polio Now Coordinator, Zone 32

We have all heard of miracles. The first one that comes to mind (besides the biblical ones) is the landing of an airplane on the Hudson river with no casualties. It was even made into a movie. I saw it in the theater and watched it in amazement.

There are all kinds of miracles. We talk about them all the time. "It was a miracle no one was hurt when the bus went down the embankment." "It'll be a miracle if I can keep my white pants clean till the end of the day." "It will be a miracle if the puppy doesn't have an accident while we are at work."

You've heard them all.

What really was not a miracle is raising the amount of money we needed for the match from Bill Gates by June 30th.

In May, the amount raised by Rotarians along with the DDF was wanting. We had a little more than \$30 million in polio giving. That's 10 months for \$30 million or an average of \$3 million per month. If you add \$6 million for the last two months of the year, we would be at \$36 million. Not good. That's \$14 million short of our goal. If we didn't make the \$50 million goal, the \$100 million-dollar match would be affected. In other words, we would be leaving about \$28 million on the table, a loss to our eradication efforts that could not be recouped.

But never fear. When the word got out to Rotarians with phone calls and emails, they came through. "I have a check on my desk that I haven't mailed." "We can give a little more DDF." "I can give a little more than I planned to." "President Barry Rassin's birthday is at the end of the month. I will make a donation instead of sending a card to him." And so on.

We made the goal. In the end, we raised \$50.8 million for polio allowing us to accept the full match from the Bill Gates foundation. Rotarians made the effort to keep the promise to the children of the world. Some might say it was a miracle that we raised so much in such a little time.

I wouldn't call it a miracle. When we have a challenge, Rotarians come through. You just have to ask. Thank you to all that gave during the calendar year of 2018-2019 to polio.



ZONE 24 & 32 DROP TO ZERO CHALLENGE

INCREASE Polio GIVING by 5%

AND
Rotary
International
Director

JEFF
Cadorette*

will jump
out of an
airplane!

(Hopefully with
a parachute)



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

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