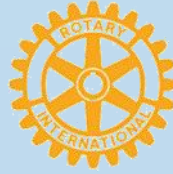


Rotary

District 5170



From the desk of District Governor Susan Valenta

December 2015



Be a Gift to the World. It is a simple message but has a profound effect. How easy it is to take things for granted – the warmth and safety of our homes, the food on our tables, the purchases made with the click of a key or the flash of a credit card, and the abundance of gifts we enjoy – especially during this holiday season.

We are living in the best of times – so, how fortunate for us. We are living in a world that can see inside the nucleus of a cell, a world that connects instantaneously across the globe, a world where a rocket will deliver a payload of supplies to the far reaches of space. We are living on a planet that has enough food to feed everyone – and technology to provide safe, clean water to every inhabitant.

One afternoon, my granddaughter and I were walking, and we played a game of 'what would you do if' – 'what would you do if you had all the money in the world' was the question. Her response was that she would buy this huge house so that all the children had a place to live. She envisioned a world for others that she could share. A world where children were safe, warm, and fed.

At the December Cabinet meeting, the

brave, bold initiatives of the Interactors of District 5170 underscored the world our youth are willing to create. They have undertaken two projects to raise awareness and raise funds to combat homelessness and human trafficking. Equally impressive was the work of District 5170 Global Grant Scholar, Hermes Huang, with his continuing studies and projects in South and Southeast Asia. Hermes is taking his education and experiences to empower people through research, training, and program development.

How inspiring to have our youth understand that the things many take for granted are a fleeting dream for others and these young leaders are willing to take proactive steps to improve the human condition. Rotarians can take pride in this new generation of leaders and the role we each play in having created the foundation of *service above self* within Interact, Rotaract, Youth Exchange, Rotary Youth Leadership Awards (RYLA), Enterprise Leadership Conference (ELC) and the myriad of youth programs and services our Rotary clubs initiate and support.

May your holidays be filled with friends and family, may your home be filled with peace and security, and may 2016 be filled with the promises we keep, and the gift that keeps on giving – you.



Cabinet Meeting Schedule for 2015-2016

Just Added Wednesday, January 6, 2016—
Cabinet Meeting 6:30-8:00PM

Arrive early for a time of fellowship prior to the meeting.

REGISTER NOW at events.rotarydistrict5170.org

Wednesday, February 3, 2016

Community Service Project Faire—4:30-6:30pm

Cabinet meeting—6:30-8:00pm

Wednesday, March 2, 2016

Vocational Service Project Faire— 4:30-6:30pm

Cabinet meeting—6:30-8:00pm

Wednesday, April 6, 2016

Club Service Project Faire—4:30-6:30pm

Cabinet meeting—6:30-8:00pm

Wednesday, June 8, 2016

Final Cabinet meeting for the 2015-2016 Rotary year—6:30-8:00pm

Reminder for Club Secretaries -

January 1 is the last day to make adjustments to your club's membership data on Rotary.org before the January Rotary International and District dues invoices are sent out. Changes made on databases that sync with Rotary.org may take a week or more to be reflected, so please make any last minute changes at Rotary.org.


Happy Holidays!

SAVE THE DATE!



April 29-May 1, 2016

DISTRICT 5170 CONFERENCE

▶ Join Rotarians, family and guests at the **2016** Rotary District Conference ▶ Meet Past Rotary International Presidents ▶ Join us for an exclusive tour and reception at the Blackhawk Automotive Museum ▶ Wheelchair Campaign Gala Celebration ▶ Discover the power of Rotary in Motion



Be a gift to the world
 Forums | Talent | Celebrity Speakers | Trade Show | Hospitality Suites



www.rotarydistrict5170.org



Be a gift
to the world



SAVE *the* DATE

*for an incredible evening with
2015-2016 Rotary International President
K.R. "Ravi" Ravindran*

**SUNDAY, JANUARY 3, 2016
SAN JOSE, CALIFORNIA**

K.R. Ravindran - 2015-16 RI President
Tea Bag Packaging - Rotary Club of Colombo

**There are only a few individual seats left.
Get your tickets today!**

SUNDAY EVENING, JANUARY 3RD (BUSINESS ATTIRE)

DoubleTree hotel in San Jose, California

5:00PM - Reception with Ravi & Past Rotary International Presidents

6:15PM - Dinner

DETAILS

Club tables seat 10 (\$800)

Seating preference will be in the order tables are purchased

Discounted hotel rooms available (\$99/night)

Opportunity for Club members to interact with the current Rotary
International President and three past Rotary International Presidents:

MAT Caparas | Cliff Dochterman | Rick King

MORE INFO

<http://tinyurl.com/pkyd8pd>

REGISTRATION

<http://tinyurl.com/qayhqsk>

Rotary News

Rotary Peace Conference 2016 January 15-16, 2016 Ontario, California

"The mission of the Rotary World Peace Conference 2016 is to bring together experts with solutions to major issues that are occurring in our personal lives, homes, schools, businesses and communities, not just in Southern California, but around the world. We are inviting leaders from health care, academia, government, public safety, religions, business, and communities to meet together to share

the solutions presented by experts. The format will allow for action plans to be developed such that real and measurable actions can be undertaken when attendees return home."

- Rudy Westervelt, Conference Convener

This two day conference will feature 9 main speakers and 13 different tracks. There is a one-day conference just for Interact, as well. This is a conference worth looking into! Go to www.peaceconference2016.org to see the list of speakers, get information on pricing and more!

2015 YEAR-END DEADLINES FOR CONTRIBUTIONS TO THE ROTARY FOUNDATION

Credit Cards:

- Via rotary.org – must be authorized by midnight on Thursday, **31 December 2015**.
- Via fax (847-328-5260), phone (866-976-8279) - must be received prior to the close of business on Thursday, **31 December 2015**.



Credit card contributions should not be sent to Rotary's Lockbox Addresses below; rather they should be done online at Rotary.org to ensure timely recording or fax them to 847-328-5260.

Mail (least preferred):

Both the postmark on the envelope and the date written on the check must be no later than Thursday, **31 December 2015** and received by Friday, **8 January 2016**

Note: Contributions mailed at the end of **December 2015** intended as early gifts for **January 2016** will be treated as **December 2015** gifts. It is best to begin mailing **January 2016** gifts in the month of January.

Connect With Korea – Touch The World

**Rotary International Convention, May 28– June 1, 2016
Seoul, Korea**



Register NOW for Seoul 2016

Registration Fees Per Registrant for the Convention:

- Rotarian, Spouse, Guest age 19 or over: \$375 until March 31. Then \$440.
- Rotaractor, their Spouse/Partner/Guest: \$100 until March 31. Then \$130.
- Interactor, Exchange Student, Children 5 to 18 (under 5 free): \$10.

To register go to <http://www.riconvention.org> -- click on the Seoul Convention logo/link "Register for the 2016 Seoul Convention." Then you can choose "Register Online" or "Register by Fax or Mail." Click on "Resources" to read more and decide what you want to sign up for, whether online or not.

To register online, you must have access to the RI members-only password protected area of the RI website. www.rotary.org/myrotary/en/home. To register for access to the site, go to www.rotary.org/myrotary and click on "Sign In/Register".

Uniendo America Project Fair

January 28-30, 2016
Tegucigalpa, Honduras



Our Uniendo América Project Fair (UAPF) is an annual event that RI Districts 4240 and 4250 share to bring together all of Central America (from Belize to Panama) speaking English and Spanish. We are 127 Rotary Clubs who have been working together for 23 project fairs distributed amongst each country every year to present an array of service projects for you to participate in.

This year, the Tegucigalpa Rotary Clubs have been honored to host the event from January 28th to 30th, 2016 where you can meet and greet great Rotarians like you and partner with them on the humanitarian projects that they have prepared for you to know, evaluate and eventually fund focused in the 6 areas of interest The Rotary Foundation requires.

Our goal is for you to have an amazing experience getting to know new Rotarian friends and reacquainting with old ones, talking shop about a theme that is very close to your heart and that is serving the ones who need it the most.

PROGRAM 2016

Thursday January 28th

Registration: 12:00 pm - 5:00 pm
Welcome Dinner: 8:00 pm - 10:00 pm

Friday January 29th

Registration: 8:00 am - 10:00 am
Booths - Project Presentations:
9:00 am - 5:00 pm
Coffeebreak
Lunch: 12:30 pm - 2:00 pm
Coffeebreak
Free Night

Saturday January 30th

Round table discussions
Areas of Focus: 9:00 am - 10:45 am
Coffeebreak
Conclusions
Round table discussions: 11:00 am - 12:30
Lunch: 1:00 pm on adequate



¡Live the Experience!
from January 28th to 30th

Registration: \$ 150
Stand/Booth: \$ 100



From the Uniendo America Project Fair promotion team:

We invite you to participate and enjoy the Project Fair Event -Uniendo América 2016, which will take place in the city of Tegucigalpa and its headquarters will be in the Hotel Honduras Maya.

For more information, visit our web site: www.projectfairuniendoamerica.com

or our Facebook fan page: <https://www.facebook.com/Project-Fair-Uniando-America-Honduras-2016-776178039163880>. If you wish to make your registration, please do so in this link: www.projectfairuniendoamerica.com/registration. You can write us to our email: projectfairhonduras2016@gmail.com for any consultation or concerns.

Wheelchair Distribution Project

March 30-April 3, 2016
Monterrey, Mexico

Join District Governor Susan Valenta for the culmination of the District Governors Wheelchair project for a Wheelchair Distribution trip to Monterrey, Mexico. The trip will take place March 30-April 3, 2016. For further details and information on how

to register please go to this link on the District Website: <http://clubrunner.blob.core.windows.net/00000050083/en-ca/files/homepage/wheelchair-distribution-in-monterrey-mexico/Monterrey-MX-trip.pdf>



Howard Tours with Rotary District 5170

Rotary
District 5170



Wheelchair Distribution Project

**Creating Friendships, Providing Community Service
and Mobility to People in Need**

Monterrey, Mexico
March 30—April 3, 2016



You will never be the same after you have looked into the appreciative eyes of someone whose life you have changed.

Since 2004, Rotarians from District 5170 have worked with Rotarians in Monterrey, Mexico to create something special - a lifetime of friendships, an opportunity to work, side-by-side with the Monterrey Rotarians on community service projects and the ability to personally deliver wheelchairs to those who lack mobility. This year's trip will provide enduring memories and emotions, but that will be just the beginning of the experience. In addition to delivering wheelchairs and a hands-on service project, those who join us will:

- Explore the sights, sounds, history and cultures of the country visited.
- Visit additional humanitarian sites and projects.
- Build friendships with the people Mexico.



Howard Tours
516 Grand Ave.
Oakland CA 94610
Tel: 510-834-2260
Fax: 510-834-1019
www.HowardTours.net
CST No.: 101526-10

From the Chair of the Rotary Foundation Committee

Cecelia Babkirk, District Rotary Foundation Committee Chair

Email—rotariancecelia@gmail.com

Dear Fellow Rotarians,

The season of giving, of sharing and caring, is well underway and I hope that your charity of choice was "OUR" own foundation – The Rotary Foundation. If you haven't done so yet, please write the check or, better yet, join Rotary Direct and automate your contribution.

The Rotary Foundation once again earned Charity Navigator's 4-Star rating for its low administrative costs and the high level of Stewardship of its funds. The funds go to many worthy programs, including Humanitarian Grants (District and Global Grants), the Rotary Centers for the Studies of Peace and Conflict Resolution, the End Polio Now campaign and many other initiatives. From my own interaction with the foundation, I know first-hand that the leadership and staff are constantly evaluating the programs to make sure that YOU, the Rotarian donor, are getting the best, most sustainable results from your contributions.

I had the honor of participating in a special sustainability review, where I visited three projects in Guatemala during November. Each had tremendous elements of sustainability. One involving

the empowerment of young Mayan women, tugged at my heart. Called the "Starfish" (Estrella de Mar) program, this \$40,000 Global Grant is empowering 140 young women and changing their families in palpable ways. Where 12-year-old girls join the program, younger siblings are staying in school, alcoholic and abusive parents are abandoning those behaviors and whole families are experiencing economic improvement. All with **YOUR** contributions to **OUR** Rotary Foundation.



A "Starfish" class participating in an exercise meant to change behavioral patterns and bring these girls out of their shell. This is the first step in the process to empower these young women to become leaders in their communities and enable them to work outside their normal environment.

A \$69,000 Global Grant has provided truly clean water in a community which is very distant (seven hours of bad road) from the

Continued on next page...

Continued from previous page



We attended a mentor session with one of the Starfish families. The daughter, on the left is in the program, but the entire family receives mentoring. 75% of indigenous girls live in abusive or alcoholic families. Through the efforts of the daughter and the Starfish mentor assigned to the family, the father stopped drinking and the younger brother returned to school. All five live in this one room home.



Rotary was Here! This is a 66 cu. meter water tank constructed through a \$69,000 global grant. This may seem unremarkable, but its remoteness and the changes that have resulted in the health of the villagers make this a highly sustainable project that will reap rewards in perpetuity.

capital, Guatemala City. The water system included a giant water tank, water purification and piping to every home in the village. This was the most sustainable of the projects, according to the "best practices" for Water and Sanitation projects. A side benefit to clean drinking water (yes, I drank it from the tap at the school) is that there is now enough water for the villagers, who are subsistence farmers, to grow an additional crop each year, so they receive an unexpected economic benefit.



The village Water Committee and I spent some time inspecting the chlorination system and talking about how best to adjust the levels, given that the spring that is the source of the water gushes into the tank and through the system, causing rapid depletion of the chlorine tablets.

Continued on next page...

Continued from previous page

Finally, right here in our own country, Rotary Clubs which are working with the Navajo to bring solar lighting to traditional homes, are embarking on an ambitious global grant to provide economic development in the form of a vocational training center to the area most under-served in New Mexico. This is a new project and if you or your club are interested in participating, please let me know.



Yes, that home – a traditional Navajo Hogan – has a mud roof! Many Navajo live in remote areas with no available electricity. This is being remedied, hogan-by-hogan, by multiple Rotary Clubs, including the Los Gatos Morning Rotary Club in District 5170.

Whether or not you or your club contributed directly to one of these projects, your contributions to OUR foundation, The Rotary Foundation, improved the lives of all these people and many more! So please continue to give generously!

Finally, I want to thank Alan Bennett and Sandy Stabile for expressing interest in The Rotary Foundation Cadre of Technical Advisors. I am working now to get you connected to this organization. We are continuing to look for Rotarians with “the right stuff” to volunteer and help make Our foundation better and better. Please contact me if you have questions!

I wish you all the happiest and warmest holiday season ever!



This is the “after” photo. No, the Hogan as not cleared of its furnishings – the Navajo in these areas live the most simple of lives and desperately need economic opportunity – something that Rotarians are uniquely qualified to do through global grants.

From the Grants Corner—Got Global DDF to Spend???

Georgie Hildebrand –D5170 Grants Chair

Email—georganna@antarestech.com

If your club designated its DDF to Global Grants your options are to write your own Global Grant or transfer your DDF to another Club who has already completed the groundwork necessary to write a Global Grant and completed most of the Application. Your District 5170 Grants Team is trying to connect Clubs that are looking for Global DDF with clubs who have Global DDF to spend. If you have a question as to how your club designated DDF, just click on this link to find out:

https://docs.google.com/spreadsheets/d/1dY0C9DJs2j9aGmMo_Vksf2P4GsHglmuSx42fJjn3yfi/pubhtml

There are five projects in our District that have substantially completed their Global Grant Applications and are still looking for funding in the form of DDF (or cash). E-mail the contact person if you would like more information. If you would like to support one of these projects, simply fill out the DDF transfer form to transfer your DDF to the project. <https://drive.google.com/file/d/0BzZv4Kz9o1-3RDNJdl9DY3V2MkE/view>

Club: Palo Alto Project: Heal Country: Mexico

Area of Focus: Disease Prevention Contact: Walt Hays skhays@igc.org

This project involves a Vocational Training Team. It's leaders are physicians at UCSF who have formed a group they call the HEAL (Health, Equity, Action, Leadership) Initiative. (See <https://mail.ucsf.edu/owa/www.healinitiative.org>.) The project will send dedicated young doctors, called HEAL fellows, to train local health professionals in Chiapas, Mexico, one of Mexico's most high-poverty areas. There they will collaborate with Compañeros en Salud (CES), the Mexican affiliate of U.S.-based Partners In Health, led by the renowned Dr. Paul Farmer. In addition to training, the Grant will develop and implement a badly needed primary care Electronic Medical Record platform (EMR). We will do a program on the project for any contributing club and invite interested members to join us on any trip there.

Club: Alameda Project: Clean Water for Schools Country: Mexico

Area of Focus: Water & Sanitation

Contact: PDG Carolyn Schuetz csandlb@comcast.net

Drinking water in the public schools is now contaminated, forcing children to buy water or soft drinks or contract water-borne diseases. The project is to purchase and install

Continued on next page...

Continued from previous page

water purification equipment in at least 10 local schools. School authorities have been involved in the planning of the project, which will include training of school maintenance personnel to maintain the equipment. Sustainability is addressed through the schools' on-going purchase of water.

The lead host for the project is Past District Governor from D4110 Oscar Garcia, who visited our District as a Partner in Service, speaking to many of our clubs. We wish to support Oscar in this effort to protect the health of the school children. There would be the possibility of visiting Chihuahua during the project. There is currently a Draft Global Grant initiated. The more DDF and/or cash we can obtain from other D5170 clubs, the more schools we can equip and the more children we can save.

Club: Castro Valley Project: Hospital Oxygen Country: Nejo, Ethiopia

Area of Focus: Maternity & Child Health

Contact: Obse Lubo Obselubo@gmail.com

Nejo hospital is a rural hospital in western Oromia region government owned and operated; the hospital lacks basic supplies and very underserved. Out of the many problems and challenges facing Nejo hospital and the surrounding health care centers, is lack of reliable oxygen source.

Due to lack of consistent oxygen source in the area, patients die from easily treatable diseases such as Pneumonia, Asthma and upper respiratory disease. Currently, the nearest source of oxygen supply is in the Ethiopian capital of Addis Ababa, which is 320 miles away from Nejo and 12-hour car ride one way from the hospitals in West Oromia region. The cost of these trips and the time needed to travel round-trip make it difficult for each hospital to keep their tanks filled. Many times each year the hospitals go weeks without oxygen. Lack of consistent oxygen supply prevents the doctors from performing life-saving surgery and patients with respiratory problems more often succumb to their infections or allergic and asthmatic crises.

The objective of oxygen generator plant is to provide a full functioning oxygen generator that can supply oxygen to five rural hospitals, several health centers and clinics in W Oromia region. Implementation of the oxygen Generator in Nejo, will save lives and improve quality of life by ensuring a full supply of medical oxygen to this hospital and aforementioned five regional hospitals and clinics in the W. Oromia region. This will improve the capacity of the hospitals to care for people ill with respiratory

Continued on next page...

Continued from previous page

ailments, cardiovascular diseases, gynecology and obstetrics issues, and pediatrics problems. Each of the above mentioned hospitals have 65 inpatient beds and 10-15 beds are Maternity ward for pre and postpartum care. These hospitals serve over half a million people. This oxygen generator, when completed, will be the only oxygen supply center for the health service providers in this remote part of Western Ethiopia serving 2.5 million people.

Club: Livermore Project: Water VTT Country: Nicaragua

Area of Focus: Water and Sanitation Contact: Patrick Coyle pat@coyles.com

We will participate in funding and implementation of a specific Engineers Without Borders-USA (EWB-USA) designed project in the community of El Llanito, near the municipality of Santa Lucia, Nicaragua for a water pumping, storage, and distribution system based on an existing well. In addition we will work with Nicaraguan Rotary clubs to do training during a water and sanitation needs assessment, to develop candidate projects for future EWB-USA and Rotary projects.

We will coordinate closely with the Regional Rotary WASH Team in Nicaragua being formed by Sandy Forster, WASRAG Board Member and Rotary District 5810 2012-2013 District Governor, together with José Álvarez, President of the Granada, Nicaragua, Rotary Club. They have representatives from each Nicaragua Rotary club and are seeking to create a country strategy and consequent priorities for Rotary water and sanitation projects.

Club: Los Gatos Morning Project: Economic Development Country: Nicaragua

Area of Focus: Community Development

Contact: Rob Ronnie robrennie3@aol.com

The goal is to set up a STEM vocational training program for low income or unemployed individuals in Nicaragua to produce solar units that can be used to provide lighting or to charge cell phones in houses and schools without electricity. The program will provide the skills to build units using materials sourced in Nicaragua were possible which in turn will be sold to generate the income required to make the program self sustaining.

Funds from the global grant will be used to set up the program, train the trainers and supply the initial batches or raw materials and parts. On the back end the grant team will engage with local business partners and NGO's to support the program by purchasing units either for sale or donation to

Continued on next page...

Continued from previous page

schools and families that are off the grid.

A further benefit to the community and families may be derived from the use of the donated units to generate income via charging others to use the units to charge cell phones. LGMR sees this as a win, win, win proposal providing skills and income to community members, providing a method for local business and organizations to give back to the community, providing lighting or charging capacity to families without electricity and finally providing the ability for these families to generate some additional income.

Remember, you must either write a Grant Application or transfer your Global Grant DDF before the end of the Rotary Year, June 30, 2016. Click here for more information about all grants: <http://rotarydistrict5170.org/SitePage/grants>

When Clubs join forces to combine their DDF funds, WE CAN DO EVEN MORE GOOD IN THE WORLD.

The Annual Fund Corner

Jim LeBlanc, D5170 Annual Fund Chair—The Rotary Foundation

December is here and we are at the mid-point of the year! The Annual Fund team has been making the rounds of clubs, with a presentation about why **Every Rotarian** should give to The Rotary Foundation **Every Year (EREY)**. If your club has not seen the presentation and would like to, please contact me (jamesleblanc1@comcast.net) and one of our team will be there to see you!

The Rotary Foundation is making it easier and easier to participate, at whatever level you choose, through its Rotary Direct program. You can automate your

contribution never have to think about it again.

The Rotary Foundation funded \$67 million of humanitarian grants in 147 countries last year, including right here at home. Your contribution makes that possible.

As you enjoy the holidays with family and friends, think about how you can make a life better by making a generous contribution during this season of giving.



Area 3 Membership Meeting

Sandi Pantages, Rotary Club of Niles (Fremont)



About 180 Rotarians, friends, and guests filled the meeting room on December 3 for an Area 3 Membership Meeting, featuring Past Rotary International President Cliff Dochterman. The organizer and emcee was Area Governor Daren Young who noted that the meeting was "all about the guests" and all guests were introduced.

The meeting was intended to show off Rotary at its best, with an engaging speaker and a room full of energy. Also present were Past Rotary International Presidents M.A.T. Caparas and Richard D. King, District Governor Susan Valenta, several past District Governors and upcoming District Governors.

A focus of Niles Rotary has been to bring guests to our club meetings. When guests see the service and social activities of Rotary, they are more likely to become members; the guest focus also acts as a public relations tool for Rotary. Last year Niles Rotary added 12 members, and 6 members have joined so far this year. An integral part of the Membership process is an active and successful Mentoring Program so that the new members are retained.

Cliff Dochterman spoke about gift giving during this holiday season, which tied in generally with his R.I. Presidential theme of "Real Happiness is Helping Others." Cliff suggested that a reasonable gift idea for an older guy is just a pair of black or brown sox – nothing fancy – and he also made the point that we should all take the time to call our friends or family often.



Your club:

*Does good work for your community
Participates in projects that make the world a better place
Has fun!*

Learn some simple ways you can let the world know!

District 5170 Winter Public Image Workshop
Thursday, January 14, 6pm - 9pm
Santa Clara Police Community Room
601 El Camino Real Santa Clara

Who should attend: Presidents, PR Chairs, PI Chairs and
committee members, bulletin editors, and all interested!

Length 3 hours minutes max

Snacks will be supplied

Please RSVP to deborahcoburnrice@gmail.com

**Get
Your
Club
Noticed!**



Deborah Rice, District 5170
Public Image Chairman
deborahcoburnrice@gmail.com

District 5170 Competitions: Newsletter, Website, Facebook and Public Image

District 5170 is having several friendly competitions surrounding Public Image year:

Phil Dean and Sandi Pantages are heading up competition for:

- Club Newsletter
- Website
- Facebook

For more information on the above competitions and details on how to enter, please go to this page on the District website: <http://www.rotarydistrict5170.org/SitePage/ri-and-district-awards/newsletter-and-web-awards-2015-2016>

Deborah Rice is heading up a competition for:

- Best story that appears in the media
- Best promotional campaign for a club event
- Best promotional campaign for a club project

- Best flyer created from Rotary Brand Central

The competition for best story, promotions for an event and project and flyer will be awarded to one club in each category.

To enter that competition, please submit a printed or electronic version (in PDF) of your material by April 1, 2016 to deborahcoburnrice@gmail.com. Judging will be done by a committee of PR Professionals and will be based on creativity, readability, punctuation and grammar, and use of Rotary Brand Central where applicable.

All awards will be given out at the 2016 District Conference, to be held April 29-May 1, 2016.



“Like” and “Follow” Rotary District 5170 on Facebook

Do you have a club event, project, social, or just would like to share great news about your members? Be sure and ‘Like’ and ‘Follow’ Rotary District 5170 on Facebook and begin ‘Sharing’ your posts on <https://www.facebook.com/RotaryDistrict5170>.

Vocational Service

Jim Gibson, District Vocational Service Chair

email—jimgib007@aol.com

Greetings Rotarians!

Rotary Clubs in District 5170 have an opportunity to expand our member's business through sharing our life's work. We might even consider how we human beings are all "connected"... through our work, through our values and ethics, and even through our humanity.

We Rotarians introduce ourselves with our name and our "classification" at Rotary meetings. I would think the reason for this is for us to come to know what each of us does in our "calling," in our work. Somewhere along the line, we might consider briefly introducing ourselves at our meetings by saying what company we work for and what our position is and what we do in the company. Our use of our classification is good, but perhaps too broad, but the understanding of Rotarians following *The Four-Way Test* should give us the confidence and faith and trust and "insurance" that we would be treated fairly and honestly by using a Rotarian's "product or service." Actually, that is one of the reasons Rotary found success in its early years of existence. *We should do business with each other!* If our vocation (i.e. *passion*) is understood by our fellow Rotarians (whom we trust), then there is so much more opportunity we could offer to those in our community. One

immediate opportunity to alert other Rotarians to our vocation is to use the *Rotary District 5170 Yellow Pages* (its free). The Yellow Pages tells the other 4,000 Rotarians in our District what you do. We always remember that business is appreciated...especially from our fellow Rotarians. And in the Rotary "process," we believe in "Service Above Self" to our Rotary family, to our community, and to the world. Yes, it is in the Rotary process we connect with mankind.

Since it is Christmastime, please allow me to share a piece from one of my favorite writers—Rabbi Lawrence Kushner (no, not Harold—although he's good, too). The paragraphs below are taken from "*Stranger on the Bus*" from *Invisible Lines of Connection*.

A light snow was falling and the streets were crowded with people. It was Munich in Nazi Germany. A woman, named Sussie, had been riding a city bus home from work when SS storm troopers suddenly stopped the coach and began examining the identification papers of the passengers. Most were annoyed, but a few were terrified. Jews were being told to leave the bus and get into a truck around the corner. Sussie watched from her seat in the rear as the soldiers systematically

Continued on next page...

...Continued from previous page

worked their way down the aisle. She began to tremble, tears streaming down her face. When the man next to her noticed that she was crying, he politely asked her why.

"I don't have the papers you have. I am a Jew. They're going to take me."

The man exploded with disgust. He began to curse and scream at her.

"You stupid cow," he roared. 'I can't stand being near you!'"

The SS men asked what all the yelling was about.

"Damn her," the man shouted angrily.

"My wife has forgotten her papers again! I'm so fed up. She always does this!"

The soldiers laughed and moved on.

Sussie never saw the man again. She never even knew his name.

You are going about your business when you stumble onto something that has your name on it. Or, to be more accurate, a task with your name on it finds you. Its execution requires inconvenience, self-sacrifice, even risk. You step forward and encounter your destiny. This does not mean you must do everything that lands on your doorstep or that you should assume

every risk or make every self-sacrifice... But it does mean that you must tell yourself the truth about where you have been placed and why. You do not exercise your freedom by doing what *you* want. Self-indulgence is not an exercise of freedom. But when you accept the task that destiny seems to have set before you, you become free. Perhaps the only exercise of real freedom comes from doing what you were meant to do all along.

If everything is connected to everything else, then everyone is ultimately responsible for everything. We can blame nothing on anyone else. The more we comprehend our mutual interdependence, the more we fathom the implications of our most trivial acts. We find ourselves within an aura of sacred responsibility.

Even on a bus in Munich.

Yes, we are all connected, and perhaps our vocation, our work, our desire to help make things better by using our "expertise" on some project or program will enable our commitment to "service above self" to truly make a difference in other's lives.

Be well. Do good work. Have a wonderful holiday season!

Youth Service

Youth service programs are rolling along in District 5170! We have a wonderful team of dedicated Rotarians who are committed to delivering great programs and great experiences for the youth of our district. We are truly being a "Gift to the World" by sharing our talents with our youth, especially in this season of giving.



The December District-wide Cabinet Meeting, and pre-meeting project faire, led by the youth services team,

was a big success! Representatives from Interact, Rotaract, RYLA, ELC, and Youth Exchange were present during the faire. A good time was had by all, and a component of service was even present, as the Interactors engaged Rotarians in a Pay it Forward event.

Special thank you to all of the youth service chairs for their support of the event and for everything they do throughout the year!

Here are updates of what is going on across the district:

Interact: Rotarians and advisors are always welcome to attend Interact area events--check out the calendar of events

here: <http://www.rotarydistrict5170.org/SitePage/interact-event-calendar>

Upcoming district-wide events include:

Stars on Ice downtown San Jose on January 11, 2016. Click here for more information: <http://clubrunner.blob.core.windows.net/00000050083/en-ca/files/sitepage/interact/stars-on-ice-downtown-ice-fundraiser/Interact-Stars-on-Ice.pdf>

President's Winter Retreat (PWR) will be held February 13-14, 2016—More information will be forthcoming.

Interact students are encouraged to enter the District 5170 Interact Talent competition! The competition will take place at the District Conference in April. For more information go to rotarydistrict5170talentcompetition.com. Don't delay! The deadline for entries is January 4, 2016!

RYLA: A big thank you to all the clubs for submitting registrations---everyone who wanted the 4 designated spots received them! As a reminder, payment from Rotary clubs are due by January 31, 2016. For more information, please visit the RYLA website at: <http://ryla5170.com/rotarians/>

Continued on next page...

Continued from previous

Youth Exchange:

District interviews for the 2016-2017 Rotary Youth Exchange year have just completed. Further information will be forthcoming. **Please contact Darlene de la Cerna** dmdsc57@gmail.com 408-810-8855 with any questions.



opportunities, benefits and challenges of establishing and operating a business in the free enterprise system.

Click here to learn more about the ELC programs:

www.youthservicesandbeyond.org/elc/

ELC #1: February 24-26, 2016

ELC Silicon Valley West: March 9-11, 2016

ELC South Bay: March 16-18, 2016

EI Oakland: April 15-17, 2016:

[http://portal.clubrunner.ca/3190/](http://portal.clubrunner.ca/3190/SitePage/enterprise-institute)

[SitePage/enterprise-institute](http://portal.clubrunner.ca/3190/SitePage/enterprise-institute)

Speech Contest: This district-wide program is kicking into gear, with one club already hosting a speech contest. All of the information for the 2015-2016 Rotary year posted on the district speech contest webpage: <http://www.rotarydistrict5170.org/SitePage/speech-contest>

Club Contests: Completed by February 12, 2016

Area Contests: Held between February 22- March 4, 2016

Regional Contests: To be held between March 18- April 1, 2016

District Contest: Marriott Hotel San Ramon, District Conference May 1, 2016
Please contact Marco Renella at renella6289@gmail.com for additional information.

ELC: The Enterprise Leadership Conference (ELC) is designed to help develop the leadership and presentation skills of industrious high school juniors through a working introduction to the

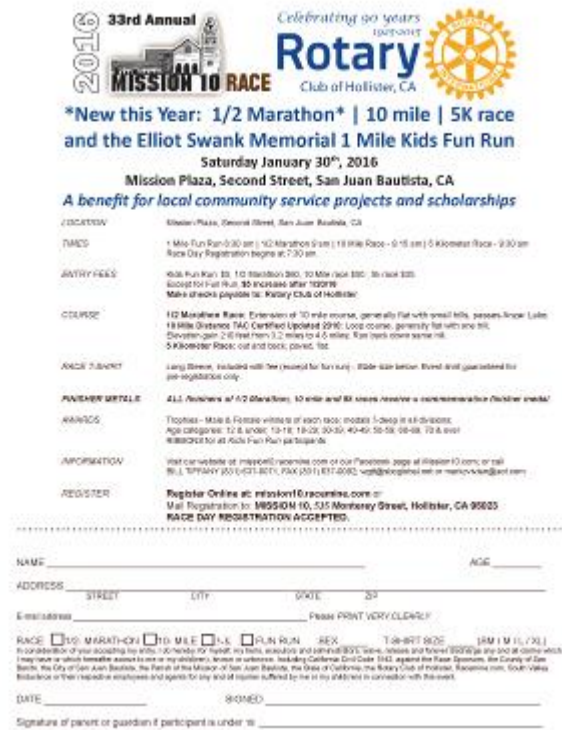
Youth Protection: Club leaders are reminded that club youth services certification application needs to be completed each year. Visit this link to see the current status of your club:

http://yex.rotary5170.org/ave_youth/CCAList.asp

It is highly encouraged that all Rotarians take the online youth protection awareness training course. It can be accessed at this link: http://yex.rotary5170.org/ave_youth/YPATraining.asp

All Rotarians with extensive involvement with youth need to complete a more detailed process. Further information can be found at this link: <http://www.rotarydistrict5170.org/SitePage/youth-protection-1>

Click on event flyers to be taken to the Club websites for more information



Immediate Past President of the **Rotary Club of Milpitas** Eric Emmanuel was named the 2015 City of Milpitas Local Hero by California State Senator Bob Wieckowski. Congratulations, Eric! Read the full story at: <http://www.nbcbayarea.com/news/local/Milpitas-Police-Officer-Named-Local-Hero-350793351.html>



On Saturday, December 12, the **San Lorenzo Valley Rotary Club** had their first Children's Holiday Shop. The goal was to provide children with the chance to appreciate the gift of giving. With the help of Valley Churches United, 5 children joined 7 Rotarians, 1 soon to be Rotarian, 1 friend of Rotary and 4 San Lorenzo Valley High School Interact students for a morning of shopping at the local K-Mart.

The children arrived with a list to helping with their shopping for family, teachers and friends. Each team was given a \$100 gift card and they worked to shop for the items on the list while keeping on budget.

After shopping, the teams met back at Felton Presbyterian Church to wrap the presents and enjoy lunch. Just as the wrapping finished, Santa appeared! Each child had an opportunity to meet Santa and received a stocking filled with special gifts for them. It was hard to tell who had more fun, the children, the parents or the Rotarians!



Rotary District 5170

2015-2016 Officers:

District Governor: Susan Valenta
 District Governor Elect: Jeff Orth
 District Governor Nominee: Orrin Mahoney
 Lieutenant Governor, AOS: Phil Dean
 Lieutenant Governor, AG's: Larry Barr
 Governor's Partner: Tom Valenta
 District Treasurer: Lorna Padia Markus
 District Administrator: Brittany Overbeck

Assistant Governors:

Area 1: Joe Goralka
 Area 2: Brian Schott
 Area 3: Daren Young
 Area 4: Julie Lewis
 Area 5: Stewart Cusimano
 Area 6: Gregg Giusiana
 Area 7: Cheryl Rebottaro
 Area 8: Sue McSorley
 Area 9: Steve Ross

District Chairs:

Club Service: Larry Dean
 Community Service: Charlene McIntyre
 International Service: Jeboy Koshy
 Vocational Service: Jim Gibson
 Youth Service: Margarethe Pfeffer

Membership: DGN Orrin Mahoney
 The Rotary Foundation: Cecelia Babbirk
 Public Image: Deborah Rice
 District Trainer: Tim Lundell
 Technology: Ross McClenahan

The District Office is located at 2570 N. First Street, San Jose, CA 95131.

The office is open Monday—Thursday, 9am-4pm.

www.rotarydistrict5170.org | Phone: (408) 273-4577 | Email: brittany.5170@gmail.com

To highlight your club projects and events in the District newsletter, please email the information to [Brittany](#) by the 10th of each month.

The District Office will be closed Thursday, December 24, Friday, December 25 and Friday, January 1.

Happy Birthday wishes to these District Leaders and Club Presidents!

Don Boys (San Juan Bautista)	January 4
Min Tsao (HuaRen in Silicon Valley)	January 4
PDG David Heagerty (San Jose)	January 5
Bonnie Schmidt (Tri-Valley Evening)	January 7
Jennifer Cullenbine (Milpitas)	January 17
JR Romero (Livermore)	January 19
PDG Dwight Perry (Castro Valley)	January 21
Rodger Griffin (Los Gatos)	January 21
Stewart Cusimano (Santa Clara)	January 26
PRIP M.A.T. Caparas (Manila)	January 28
Jeboy Koshy (Fremont Warm Springs Sunrise)	January 29
Ed Golden (Pleasanton North)	January 30

