From the District TRF Chair

By PDG Russ Hobbs

Each new Rotary Year brings the excitement of new leadership, new ideas, and of course a new theme: *Rotary Connects the World*. While we look forward to “connecting with the world,” we should reflect back on what was yet another record breaking year. The total giving for District 5170 hit a new “high water mark” at $1,856,314, eclipsing last year’s record high of $1,219,862. That ranked us number one in the United States. That also ranked us number one in Zones 25/26, which includes 10 Districts in California, Nevada, Arizona, Hawaii, Oregon, Washington, and British Columbia. That also ranked us #7 in the World. So it was, as the song writer said, "A Very Good Year".

Our TRF Team and the clubs worked very hard, to make that happen, but we also had a few unexpected things come our way. Our Polio Plus Goal was $146,082, but we ended up with $324,171! We were helped by two large donations from Dr. Dover of Capitola Aptos, and PDG Ron Sekkel and his wife Cindy. Our Endowment Fund exceeded last year by over $775,000 because of the highly successful Richard D. King Recognition Dinner chaired by DGN Richard Flanders, and large bequests from an honorary Rotarian, Jean Paul Jacobs, and PDG Jim Mealey.

My personal thanks to the dedicated and hard working TRF Team for the outstanding year we had in 2018-19, (DG Tim Lundell, PDG Joe Hamilton, PDG Orrin Mahoney, PDG Dwight Perry, PDG Ed Jellen, PDG Jeff Orth, PDG Arlene Greenberg, then DGND Richard Flanders, Cecelia Babkirk, Jon Winston, Phil Dean, Pat McMenamin, Paul Yeadon, Gevetav Kadambi, Carey Lai, Heather Shaw, Katia Gomez, and Kennedy Richardson).
A Message from District Governor
Ramesh Hariharan

Dear Readers of TRF News Today:

Welcome to the 2019-2020 Rotary Year, in which it is my honor and privilege to serve as your District Governor.

We have good reasons to feel proud of our District – especially because our Foundation giving is the highest in the US!

Why is that? One reason might be that, together, we see a world where people unite and take action to create lasting change – across the globe, in our communities, and in ourselves.

And together, we will strive to make this world a better place. To quote Rabindranath Tagore: “where tireless striving stretches its arms towards perfection . . . [and] the world is led forward by ever widening thought and action” . . . let us march forward.

Cheers in Rotary Service,

Ramesh

Our 2019 – 2020 District TRF Committee Chairs

Russ Hobbs, RC of Santa Cruz: TRF Chair
Tim Lundell, RC of Los Gatos Morning: Annual Giving Chair
Patrick McMenamin, RC of Livermore: Paul Harris Society Chair
Jon Winston, RC of Santa Cruz Morning: Grants Chair
Phil Dean, RC of Livermore: Major Donors Chair; Triple Crown Chair
Arley C. Marley, III, RC of Los Altos: District TRF Website Coordinator
Jeff Orth, RC of Gilroy: Endowment, Major Gifts, Bequests
Jim Bell, RC of Fremont: Polio Plus Chair
Ed Jellen, RC of Oakland: Editor of District 5170 TRF News Today

You can click HERE to see how our District 5170 Global Grant Scholar, Carson Smith, is doing!
Hurricane Maria and a TRF Trip to Puerto Rico, By PDG Russ Hobbs

Was it "Divine Intervention" or "just a coincidence" that made Scotts Valley Rotarian Georgie Hildebrand and her husband Andy sell their home and business in 2016 and move to Puerto Rico?

Georgie, a Past President of the Scotts Valley Rotary Club, Assistant Governor for Area 7, and Rotary Foundation District Grants Coordinator, moved to Puerto Rico with her husband Andy, because they wanted to move to a place that was: (1) part of the United States; (2) offered a relaxed style of living; and (3) had tax benefits. Georgie joined the San Juan Puerto Club which had over 100 members, but only a couple of women. The Club is over 100 years old, but had never written (only participated in) a Global Grant, nor did they give much thought to The Rotary Foundation.

Their focus was on their own community—sound familiar? That all changed on September 19, 2017 when Hurricane Maria, the most destructive hurricane to ever hit the island, came calling. After that, The San Juan Puerto Rico Rotary Club found itself at the epicenter of the Rotary world, because clubs and districts around the world wanted to help. The leadership of the club was at first dazed at the response, and baffled at how to proceed, and then they remembered that Georgie had a lot of knowledge in this area. She had the experience in how to: (1) write grants; (2) interface with Rotary International; and (3) work with other districts around the world.

The first thing that Georgie did was call her old friend and mentor PDG Joe Hamilton, and with the help of Cupertino President Helene Davis, put together a $100,000 Community Development Grant that would: (1) help businesses get back up and running; (2) renovate the historical YWCA building; and (3) have a vocational training component. On April 7, 2019 Helene Davis, President of the Cupertino Rotary Club, led a group of 28 Rotarians from Cupertino, Santa Cruz Sunrise, Santa Cruz, Sunnyvale, and Modesto, to Puerto Rico to see the results

Continues on next page
of this grant. We were met by Georgie, the Rotarians from the San Juan Rotary Club, and the recipients of the grant.

We saw first hand how this grant, because of our donations to The Rotary Foundation, gave hope to the business community that had been devastated by Hurricane Maria. While in Puerto Rico, we also did some sight seeing— a cruise aboard The Amazing Grace sailing ship, El Yunque National Forrest, a coffee plantation, La Fortaleza (the Governor’s Mansion), San Juan National Historic Site, and a farewell party at Georgie's beautiful home in a gated community on a former Sugar Plantation.

Georgie is currently working on six new Rotary Foundation Grants for her club from other districts around the world, and if you would ask the Rotarians from her club they would say--Georgie and Andy coming to Puerto Rico was way more than "Just a Coincidence".

Training in carpentry skills

Humacao Marine Center

Andy, Russ, Georgie, and Joe at an active sugar cane mill
TRIPLE CROWN DONORS

The Triple Crown Donor recognition was established in District 5170 in 2018. It is designed to honor those individuals who have made very generous contributions to The Rotary Foundation. To qualify for this award, one must accomplish three objectives:

• Be a Major Donor – When your cash donations to the Foundation total at least $10,000. There are 315 Major Donors in the District.

• Be a member of the Bequest Society – When you commit a total of $10,000 or more to the Permanent Fund of the Foundation via your Estate Plan. There are 68 Bequest Society Members in the District.

• Be a Grand Donor - When your cash donations to the Foundation during the current Rotary year reach $1,000.

In its first year, Triple Crown Donor recognition was awarded to 19 District Rotarians. This year (2019), 18 of these Rotarians repeated as Triple Crown Donors for the 2018-2019 year and nine additional Rotarians became Triple Crown Donors for a total of 27. Please note that a person is recognized as a Triple Crown Donor only for the year in which they meet all three criteria. That means that there are no Triple Crown Donors at the beginning of July, 2018. The recognition has to be earned each year.

This District is very generous in its members’ donations to The Rotary Foundation. It ranked number 1 in donations in Zone 26 for the past year, number three in the US and number 8 in the world, and plans to do even better in the 2019-2020 year. We expect another increase in the number of Triple Crown Donors this year.

MAJOR DONORS

In the 2018-2019 Rotary year, the District took special care to notify its members when they were close to becoming Major Donors. This effort was quite successful as 48 Rotarians became Major Donors for the first time (Level 1). We have looked at the data again and are now contacting those Rotarians who are close to becoming Major Donors and letting them know how large a donation is required to receive that recognition. From this District, we are expecting a great response.
As of June 30, 2019, District 5170 had 142 Paul Harris Society (PHS) members.

During the 2018/2019 Rotary year, 24 District 5170 Rotarians joined the Paul Harris Society, an increase of 20% PHS members since June 30, 2018.

92 PHS members (or 65%) of District 5170’s 142 PHS members made a donation of $1,000 or more to The Rotary Foundation, during the 2018-2019 Rotary Year, with a result of at least $92,000 in PHS donations to The Rotary Foundation during 2018-2019.

Overall, during 2018/2019, a total of 317 District 5170 Rotarians made a donation of $1,000 or more to The Rotary Foundation, resulting in an aggregate giving total of at least $317,000 (nearly one-third of a million dollars).

**Around the Clubs**

Your fellow Rotarians would love to hear about any projects in which your club, group of clubs, or area participated in or is working on, funded in whole or in part by The Rotary Foundation. If you might be interested in submitting an article for our “Around the Clubs” feature, please let me know. (Project related photos are very welcome.)

Ed Jellen, Editor, TRF News Today; EdJellen@gmail.com

**TRF News Today**

Did you know . . .

That past issues* of TRF News Today are available? Just click HERE

*With lots of good stuff, such as news about club TRF projects in District 5170; stats, puzzles and Rotary trivia; and helpful information about the Paul Harris Society, major donors, Triple Crown Donors, Annual Giving, and of course, The Rotary Foundation.
Amid a Spectacular Year, Some Challenges Still Remain

By PDG Tim Lundell

Having completed my year as your Governor, I am very pleased to be taking on the very formidable challenge of leading the Annual Giving Campaign...and hoping to contribute to the duplication of last year’s all-time record for Total Giving by our D-5170 Rotarians: $1,856,314.00! The Annual Giving component of that total was a very respectable $745,433.00, achieving 96.2% of the collective Annual Giving goals of the Clubs. What makes this number even more respectable is that there was no single large contribution, as has occurred in some prior years, helping to grow the total. The Annual Fund achievement was made up of many Rotarians observing our District’s historic commitment to being Double Sustainers ($200.00) or more, each year.

But amid those great numbers there are a few that are lagging, and those represent an additional challenge in this year of trying to duplicate success. Most of you know the significance of “EREY” ... that is, “Every Rotarian Every Year”. The objective of the EREY program is to have a contribution to the Annual Fund of at least $25 from every Rotarian in the Club. Clubs that achieve this goal, 100% EREY, are awarded special recognition from The Rotary Foundation. Think about it for a moment: $25 over the course of a full year to help your Club earn this award. That’s the cost of one nice lunch, or six gallons of gas, or any of a number of very modest expenditures we make every day.

So how did the Clubs do last year? Sadly, among the 54 Clubs that started the year, only THREE achieved 100% EREY. District-wide, our total participation in giving to the Annual Fund was only 56%.... meaning that nearly ONE-HALF of our members did not contribute even $25 to the Annual Fund. I know we can do better because we have done so in prior years, when we very typically recognize 10-15 Clubs reaching the 100% target. So that will be a goal of mine in reaching out to the Clubs this year as we get the Annual Giving Campaign under way. It is my sincere hope that the Club Foundation Chairs and Club Presidents will remind their Members that support of The Rotary Foundation is a core commitment and responsibility of every Rotarian. Please be sure we can count on YOU!
Rotary is giving US$100 million in grants to support the global effort to end polio, a vaccine-preventable disease that once paralyzed hundreds of thousands of children each year.

The funding comes as Rotary and its partners in the Global Polio Eradication Initiative (GPEI) address the final—and most pressing—challenges to ending poliovirus transmission, and as Nigeria approaches three years without any reported cases of wild poliovirus, bringing the Africa region closer to polio-free status.

“We have the wild poliovirus cornered in the smallest geographic area in history, and now there are just two countries that continue to report cases of the wild virus,” said Michael K. McGovern, chair of Rotary’s International PolioPlus Committee. “As we work with our partners to apply innovative new strategies to reach more children, and embrace lessons learned thus far, Rotary is doubling down on our commitment to end polio for good. I’m optimistic that the end of polio is within our grasp, but we must remain vigilant in rallying global political and financial support as we push towards a polio-free world.”

While there were only 33 cases of wild poliovirus reported in 2018, the last mile of eradication has proven to be the most difficult. Barriers to eradication—like weak health systems, insecurity, and mobile and remote populations—must be overcome. As long as a single child has polio, all children are at risk, which underscores the need for continued funding and commitment to eradication.

To support polio eradication efforts in endemic countries, Rotary is allocating half the funds it announced today to: Afghanistan ($16.3 million), Nigeria ($10.2 million), and Pakistan ($25.2 million). Additional funding will support efforts to keep vulnerable countries polio-free:

- Chad ($102,395)
- Democratic Republic of the Congo ($9.5 million)
- Ethiopia ($2.6 million)
- Iraq ($6 million)
- Kenya ($6.3 million)
- Mali ($1.2 million)
- Somalia ($1.4 million)
- South Sudan ($1.2 million)
- Syria ($1.7 million)
- Yemen ($2.1 million)

The World Health Organization (WHO) will receive $1.3 million to conduct research, and will also receive support for surveillance activities in its Africa ($10.9 million) and Eastern Mediterranean ($4 million) Regions.

Rotary has committed to raising $50 million a year to be matched 2-to-1 by the Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation, amounting to $150 million for polio eradication annually. Rotary has contributed more than $1.9 billion to fight the disease, including matching funds from the Gates Foundation, and countless volunteer hours since launching its polio eradication program, PolioPlus, in 1985. In 1988, Rotary became a spearheading partner in the Global Polio Eradication Initiative with the World Health Organization, UNICEF, and the U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention. The Gates Foundation later joined. Since the initiative launched, the incidence of polio has plummeted by more than 99.9 percent, from about 350,000 cases in 1988 to 33 cases of wild poliovirus in 2018.
Trivia Question No. 1:
Where is the most distant place relative to Rotary headquarters in Evanston, Ill. where a Rotary banner has been displayed:
(a) Cape Town, South Africa;
(b) Tokyo, Japan;
(c) Tierra del Fuego, Argentina;
(d) Seoul, South Korea; or
(e) In orbit around the moon?

Trivia Question No. 2: At the first Rotary convention in 1910, keynote speaker Daniel Cady told the audience that Rotary, then with 16 clubs, would have 1,000 clubs around the world within 80 years. So when did Rotary actually add its 1,000th club:
(a) 1921;
(b) 1931;
(c) 1941;
(d) 1951; or
(e) 1961?

Trivia Question no. 3:
Which of these names for what is now Rotary was considered by the Rotary founders at their third meeting in Chicago:
(a) Men with Friends;
(b) The Blue Boys;
(c) The Conspirators;
(d) The Round Table; or
(e) All of the Above? (Answers on last page)

Can you identify this famous Rotarian?

Did you know . . . That the members of the Rotary Club of Oakland #3 donated $84,529 to TRF’s annual fund in the 2018-2019 Rotary year, to Lead District 5170 in annual giving? (If not, now you do!)
The answer to each clue that mentions an award is the last, or first and last, name of the person after whom the award is named.

4 Membership development award
5 Initials of the Swiss hero of Rossini’s famous overture
6 From ___ to ___ (complete)
7 See 23 down
9 This suffix means the most
10 Outstanding young Rotarian award
14 Cpl. or sgt., e.g.
18 Texter’s indication of astonishment
19 Band at a luau
20 Subject to change
22 Wouk mutiny ship
23 Award for promotion and public image of Rotary
24 How to start four 5170 Rotary clubs?
26 Krill, for a whale
27 Growth on buoys but not girls
30 Commitment to The Rotary Foundation award
33 Needle
35 Cousin of inc.
37 ___ ___ double take (show astonishment)
38 Himalayan beast of folklore

Need a little help? You can find a list of District 5170 Awards by clicking HERE. Answers are on next page. Let me know how you did. EdJellen@gmail.com
Answers to Trivia Questions:

Where was the most distant place relative to Rotary headquarters in Evanston, Ill. where a Rotary banner has been displayed? (e) In orbit around the moon. (In 1968, Astronaut Frank Borman of the Rotary Club of Space Center Houston took a club banner on his orbit around the moon in Apollo 8.)

When did Rotary add its 1000th Club? (a) 1921

Which of these names for what is now Rotary was considered by the Rotary Founders at their third meeting in Chicago? (e) All of the above.

The famous Rotarian is Supreme Court Justice Harry Blackmun of the Rotary Club of Rochester, Minnesota. In an interesting footnote, Justice Blackmun recused himself from participating in the landmark case of Board of Directors of Rotary International vs. Rotary Club of Duarte (1987), which barred RI from ousting local clubs from Rotary because they admitted women as members. Justice Sandra Day O’Connor also recused herself, presumably because her husband was a Rotarian.