District 5180 Celebrates 
RI Foundation in Fashion

On October 25, Rotarians in District 5180 joined together to celebrate Clubs’ achievements and on-going work of the Rotary Foundation.

The annual dinner held at the Citrus Heights Community Center featured the Chair of the Board of Trustees of the Rotary International Foundation, Paul Netzel, as the keynote speaker. The number one priority of the Foundation being polio eradication, Paul reviewed how close we are towards eradication in the three remaining countries of Afghanistan, Pakistan and Nigeria. But, he also reminded us how this is an on-going and long-term program to constantly monitor and test for environmental polio in over 80 countries worldwide.

The festivities also included recognition for the many clubs that led the District in annual giving, whether large, medium or small, whether by total giving, per capita giving, or just starting. Special congratulations to the Fair Oaks Club for top annual giving of $24,761; the Folsom Club for top Polio Plus giving of $26,591 and per capital giving to Polio Plus of $332.39; and to the East Sacramento Club for largest percentage of goals achieved at 131.96%. It

Paul Harris founded Rotary to make friends and connect with his community. As I have visited the Clubs in our District and met with members, I know Paul would be proud that his original core objectives are as strong as ever in our part of the world.

Rancho Cordova Sunrise usually meets on Tuesday mornings at the Cordova Casino, but my visit, dubbed a “fireside chat” by President Mike Daly, was on a Sunday afternoon at the home of Ross and Nancy Cofer. The informal, relaxed setting made for great fellowship, meaningful discussions about the future of the Club, and a cozy induction of new members, Shamal Williams and Sara Rosen. The laughter, pot-luck food, and exchange of ideas that the members are friends who work well together in their community.

The Laguna Sunrise Club also meets in the morning – Wednesdays to be exact – but shifted to dinner at an Italian restaurant on October 4. President Terri Moule warmly greeted members as they arrived just as she might at her own home. She had a bit of a challenge getting
Meet Angel Pillet, Chair, 5180 Blood Drive Challenge

Since taking over last year as Senior Director for Blood Source’s Blood Centers of the Pacific and United Blood Services for California and Northern Nevada, Angel Pillet made Folsom her home. Naturally, she joined the Folsom Lake Rotary Club, and soon found herself chairing the District 5180 Blood Drive Challenge.

Her blood banking career began in 2004 in Texas where she was a Donor Recruitment manager. She brings a wealth of knowledge and history of leading effective teams to her current position where she is responsible for the oversight of production coordination, donor recruitment and marketing communications.

Experiences with several family members who needed blood transfusions inspires Angel’s work. The most memorable was when Angel’s 5-year-old brother was diagnosed with leukemia. “Our family was devastated and scared. We did not know much about cancer, even less about donat every member, including me, to sit down to eat because we were having too much fun visiting. The fellowship didn’t stop there. The owners of the restaurant and some of the guests engaged in lively talk and song with us which makes me wonder . . . when will they become members of the Club?

“Wunderbar” is what I have to say about the Folsom Club. Its October 5 meeting was an Oktoberfest, had members sporting lederhosen, and ended with dancing to a German band. If members weren’t having fun, it was because they weren’t there. President Paul Bonaventure and the club work hard in their community too. Just recently they installed a 13-person Cross Fit rig at Willow Hill Reservoir Community Park which they purchased at a cost of $12,500.

On October 10, I visited the Rancho Cordova Club. Chartered in 1959, the club has retained one of its original members -- Merlin Mauk who has given 58 years of service to Rotary. Congratulations to President Brett Schreiner for satisfying RI President Ian Riseley’s goal of increasing the number of women in Rotary. Both of the club’s new members this year are women!

It has been said that you should visit the Roseville Rotary Club if you want to see the best Rotary has to offer. I did on October 12. Their board has more members than most of the small clubs in our
Foundation Dinner (con’t.)

also saw District Governor Sandi Sava, dressed in the colors of Polio Plus (red, yellow and white), auction off an autographed copy of The Rotary Foundation’s book, “Doing Good in the World.” The proceeds went to End Polio Now Campaign. Heringer Estates Family Vineyards, Wilson Vineyards and Elevation Ten — owned and operated by West Sacramento Rotarians — provided fabulous wines, and a portion of the proceeds (nearly $1,500) were also donated to Polio.

Thank you to all those Rotarians who organized, donated to and attended the dinner.

District Foundation

5180 Teams Up on Human Trafficking

As Rotarians know, District 5180 has embarked on the Human Trafficking Project, a major effort by the District to combat a scourge centered in our region. The project is one of the largest of its kind in the world, and includes both an education and a facility component.

The project has made great advances recently in partnering with two non-profit groups. One is 3Strides Global, which has a curriculum to make students and teachers more aware of trafficking. The other is The Ugly Truth, which is a public education campaign centered in urban areas in California.

This is a very exciting challenge for the district, but one which can bring great benefits. To learn more about the project, how you can join in, and who to talk to about it, here is a one page fact sheet.

Rotary at the Kings — Dec. 10
Sacramento Kings vs. Toronto Raptors
Get your tickets here!
Who’s Who (con’t.)

ing blood. Throughout three years of chemother-
apy, he received many transfusions. It was amazing to see how this life-saving gift from a complete stranger could bring color back to a little boy’s face, energize him and rekindle his great sense of humor helping us all to laugh again. This experience is really why I ended up in blood banking and it is my hope to share my passion for this lifesaving mission with others.”

Folsom seemed the perfect place to put down roots and raise her 5-year-old twins, the youngest of five children. “I love learning about and exploring the Folsom community that offers up such friendliness and fun for newcomers.”

Witnessing the Rotarian commitment to community service over the years, Angel notes that Rotary is a natural place to bring your passions and to partner with others to help those in need. “It all fits with what I want to do personally and professionally,” she shares. Serving the homeless, helping schools, students and teachers and inspiring others to donate blood are just a few of the opportunities inspiring Angel to participate in Rotary and give back.

“Rotarians believe in making life better and the same goes for us in blood banking. I look forward to being part of the Rotarian community in Folsom and District 5180. As holiday celebrations begin, families give thanks for being together and for good health. The nation has been beset by disasters of all sorts in recent months and the need for lifesaving blood has never been clearer. I ask Rotarians to visit their local Blood-Source centers and donate during the holiday

World Polio Day – Recap

If you missed the World Polio Day Celebrations on Oct. 24, RI has made the celebrations available online. This includes the new video End Polio Now: Countdown to History.
Who’s Who (con’t)

months to help others in need. It’s a gift beyond measure and a gift that truly matters.”

The District 5180 Blood Drive Challenge is a competition among clubs to see who can collectively and individually give the most blood. Don’t forget to give your Rotary club name when you register to donate as part of the District 5180 Blood Drive Challenge!

Donating blood can be a fun club event. The best part, of course, is afterwards when you enjoy coffee, juice and all the cookies you want. What are you waiting for? Give a pint today!

Large donors will be recognized at the District Conference, May 11-13, at the District Conference at Incline Village.

Angel looks forward to connecting with Rotary members and contributing her passion and skills to the community. Reach her at apillet@bloodsystems.org

Sustainability

Rotary “Digs” Tree Planting

RI President Ian Riseley has challenged Rotary Clubs worldwide to grab a shovel and plant a tree. This showcases his emphasis on keeping our planet green.

To help Rotarians keep track of what is being done and to provide handy ideas on tree planting projects, the Environmental Sustainability Rotarian Action Group has a handy website to keep track of the projects throughout the world.

If you want to know what is happening locally, contact Ken Wilson (West Sacramento), District 5180’s resident Tree Planting Guru.

District Assembly—April 7

Suggestions for topics? The 2018 District Assembly Chair Samantha Hoshida asks Rotarians to fill out a quick survey to help her plan classes and topics to cover.

Sustainability

Rotary Sponsors

World Water Day Contest

What is a natural disaster that threatens 1.8 billion people? Hurricanes? Floods? Fire? No. It is contaminated drinking water.

That’s right. Unfortunately, 1.8 billion people worldwide are exposed each year to water filled with feces, which exposes them to polio, cholera, dysentery, and typhoid.

To address this threat, the United Nations has targeted 2030 as the date to ensure everyone has safe water. A lot of work has to be done. To focus attention on this goal, the UN annually recognizes March 22nd as World Water Day. It is an appropriate date, since it is the middle of monsoon season in most countries and, thus, the time water gets contaminated.

To join in this effort, Rotary International formed the Water & Sanitation Rotarian Action Group (WASRAG). WASRAG encourages clubs to organize events to bring attention to the 2030 goal of clean drinking water for everyone. RI will award $500 to clubs whose projects have the most impact or innovation.

What are ideas for projects? To start, contact a local water district to see what is appropriate for your area. These are ideas:

- Clean up along the American, Sacramento, Feather, or Yuba Rivers or their tributaries.
- Plant landscaping along a stream.
- Sponsor an essay contest at a school.
- Work with local farmers.

You still need motivation? Well, the South Ukiah Club has challenged clubs worldwide with their Cleaning the Rivers of the World.

Entries for the WSRAG contest are due May 1. See full contest details at the WASRAG’s World Water Day Contest website.
Youth — Interact, Rotaract Focus on Service, by Judy Foote

On Saturday, Nov. 11, 125 Interact members, Sac State Rotaract members, and District 5180 Rotarians enjoyed a day of meeting, learning, gaining new ideas and celebrating the opportunities for SERVICE.

After an action-filled opening led by Rotaract members, Orangevale Rotary’s Super Hero, and some speedy introductions, participants focused on sessions. Those included opportunities for service, ways to prepare for college as well as options for Rotary sponsored activities, including RYE, Rotary Speech Contest, RYLA, ShelterBox USA, Planting Trees, and End Polio Now.

After lunch, we were honored to have Ms. Ashlie Bryant, 3Strands Global President and Co-Founder, serve as the Keynote Speaker. Not only did she talk about human trafficking and 3Strands Global, but also how they can use volunteers to put together kits for victims, work in the office, run in the annual Break Free Race in Folsom and raise money. She also shared the great progress in the education for California students in grades 5, 7, 9, and 11 due to the Human Trafficking Prevention Education and Training Act, signed by Governor Brown.

The program spotlighted two Interact Clubs: The River City High School Interact Club’s (RCs of West Sacramento and West Sacramento Centennial) video they entered in the Rotary Interact Video Competition; and the Casa Roble Interact Club’s (RC Orangevale) project to make backpacks and supplies for kids in San Quintin, Mexico. In addition, Presidential Citations were presented to Casa Roble Interact, John F. Kennedy Interact, Oakridge Interact and Oroville Interact. Next? They will all plant trees!

International — Water Project Opportunities in Ethiopia

The Rotary Club of Sacramento is planning a trip to Ethiopia in March 2018 to celebrate the conclusion of a water project for three villages (5,200 people) known as AJO. This project has involved members of Sacramento and other clubs in the region, including a project trip last month.

If you or your club is interested in taking part in the March trip, there is a no obligation informational meeting on Dec. 7th at 5:30 pm at 1451 River Park Dr., Sacramento. Besides assisting with the water project, the trip may include opportunity to be hosted by the Rotary club of Taroudannt, Morocco, and visit The Rift Valley, The OMO Valley, and churches founded by St. Mark. For more information, contact Clayton Lee at claytonlee7@gmail.com