There is still plenty of time to sign up for the 2019 Zones 25B-29 Zone Institute, to be held Sept. 24-29 in Kansas City (Overland Park, Kansas).

This year’s event will be especially exciting as it will bring together our two new Zones, 25B (Texas) and 29 (former Zone 28 plus South Dakota, western Nebraska and Kansas/Oklahoma). It will be held in Rotary District 5710 in the beautiful Overland Park Sheraton Hotel.

We are featuring a number of outstanding speakers, including RI President-Elect Holger Knaack, Rotary Trustee Jennifer Jones and RI Director Stephanie Urchick.

Training involving our District Governor Nominees and DGEs will begin Tuesday evening and continue through Friday noon.

Thursday and Friday morning there will be training sessions involving Leadership Development (Future Leaders), District Foundation, Membership and Public Image Chairs and District Trainers, as well as special sessions for District Governors and PDGs. Of course, all spouses/partners are encouraged to attend as well.

All Club Luncheon and Kansas City Blues and Bar-B-Que

At noon Friday, there will be an All Club Luncheon, featuring Past RI Director Larry Lunsford; all clubs in the Kansas City area are invited to attend along with all the other participants. Thursday night will feature the Governor Class Reunion, with a sports theme – “A New Ballgame – Connecting Rotary Leaders Past, Present and Future.”

The theme for Friday night’s dinner will be “Kansas City Blues and Bar-B-Que.” Past RI General Secretary Ed Futa from Honolulu will be the keynote speaker.

Saturday our speaker will be RIPE Holger Knaack and we will honor our District Governors-Elect.

Friday and Saturday morning we will feature many outstanding speakers sharing their Rotary experiences involving international projects, membership development initiatives and “People of Action” campaigns.

Saturday afternoon folks will be able to visit the nationally famous WW I Museum, tour a local brewery and engage in other local fun activities.

Sunday our speaker will be Carl Chinnery from District 6040 (Missouri) sharing his family’s personal fight against polio.

Larry Dimmitt, a retired attorney and a member of the Rotary Club of Topeka, KS, is RI Director for Zones 25 and 29. Director Larry is a Paul Harris Fellow, a Benefactor, a member of the Bequest Society, a member of the Paul Harris Society, a Major Donor and actively supports the Topeka Rotary Foundation. He and his wife, Lois, have been inducted into the Arch Klumph Society. He has been awarded the Rotary Foundation Citation for Meritorious Service and the Distinguished Service Award. Larry can be contacted at larrydimmitt@gmail.com.

Visit: https://www.zones28-29.org/
Hello Rotarians!

Welcome to the new Zones 25B and 29 newsletter

By Larry Dimmitt

Hello Rotarians from Zones 25 and 29! This is the first Zone Newsletter for our newly aligned Zones and I am personally very excited about this new publication.

First of all, I wish to recognize and thank Past District Governor Bill Tubbs for agreeing to be our Editor/Publisher. He was District Governor in District 6000 (southern Iowa) in 2004-05, and has vast experience in the publishing business. Bill has been editor-publisher of *The North Scott Press* in Eldridge, Iowa, since 1971, and was the National Newspaper Association’s 2015 James O. Amos Award winner for "distinguished service and leadership to the community press and his local community.” The award is recognized as the highest and most dignified tribute in community journalism.

Bill was the North America Area Representative on the RI Public Image Resource Committee from 2007-10, and since 2004 has served as editor of the highly successful District 6000 News. He was an ARRFC and delegate to the Council On Legislation. He and his wife, Linda, are Level 5 Bequest Society Members and Level 4 Major Donors, with a special focus on Rotary’s Peace Centers. Bill is the recipient of Rotary’s Service Above Self Award, the International Service Award for a Polio-Free World, and The Rotary Foundation’s Citation for Meritorious Service.

This first edition is being sent to you in advance of our Zone Institute, which will be held Sept. 24-29, 2019, in Kansas City (Overland Park, Kansas). Generally, we plan to publish the newsletter four times a year, and we look forward to receiving many articles and pictures from you regarding activities in Zones 25 and 29.

We hope you enjoy this new publication and welcome any comments you may have about how we can make it, as the Army says, “The best that it can be.”
Zones 25B and 29 Institute
September 24-29, 2019
Overland Park Sheraton Hotel, Overland Park, KS

Featuring: Quality Leadership Development for District Leaders, PDGs, DGs, DGEs, DGNs, DRFCs, DRPICs, DRCs, and Emerging Leaders
Enjoy fun luncheons and dinners with outstanding local entertainment!

Outstanding Speakers:

Who is invited?
As a result of zone "realignment," this year's Institute will include Rotarians from Texas, South Dakota, Nebraska, Kansas as well as folks from North Dakota, Minnesota, Wisconsin, Northern Illinois, Iowa and even Canada!

Institute Chair Ronney Reynolds from Texas and Vice-Chair Holly Callen from Minnesota invite all Rotarians and their families to attend.

Hotel information: Book your group rate for 2019 Rotary Zones 25B-29 Institute
Register: Zones 25B-29 Institute
The Convention is NOT sold out . . . YET!
But rooms are filling fast!!!
Don’t miss your opportunity to
secure the lowest rates. . . BOOK NOW!

How to Register for the Honolulu Convention in 4 Simple Steps

3. Go to https://rotaryhonolulu2020.org to register and pay for Events being put on by the Host Organizing Committee (HOC)
4. Watch for information about your Zone or District social event to make sure that you don’t register for two events at the same time.

Share Your Idea in a Breakout Session
Do you have an idea or project that you want to share with your Rotary family? Help us build an inclusive breakout program that celebrates Rotary’s diversity, projects, and achievements. Submit your proposal online by Sunday, 29 September 2019.

Questions? Contact conventionbreakouts@rotary.org.

TRAVEL TIPS
Honolulu is on the Island of Oahu
Size—597 square miles
Coastline—112 miles
Population—953,207
Temperature—72/86 °F
Ocean Temp.—71-81 °F
Tom Gump’s Top Ten Reasons to Attend the 2020 Honolulu Rotary International Convention.

Tom Gump, Zone 29 Promotion Chair, would like you to join him and 25,000 of our Rotary family members (in person), from 170 countries, for our organization’s 111th annual international convention, in beautiful Honolulu, Hawaii, from June 6-10, 2020.

Why, you ask? Let Tom give you his Top Ten Reasons why you should go to Hawaii and attend the 2020 Aloha Rotary International Convention.

1. To go to a luau and immerse yourself in Hawaiian culture with hula dancers with flaming batons, great seafood and lovely/friendly people – you don’t see that everywhere!

2. To catch up with your Rotary friends. (Rotary does connect the world) from around the world and make new ones! Make plans to meet up with your friends in the House of Friendship. Meet project partners from other areas of the world. Bring some of your club flags and/or lapel pins with to exchange/share!

3. To see the different colored beaches. Does anything else really need to be said?

4. To attend informative general and breakout sessions. The speakers will inspire you, motivate you, give you new perspectives, teach you new skills and give you new ideas to bring back to your clubs and districts. I heard you no longer have to wear suits at the convention! “No ties except Mai Tais!”

5. To visit Pearl Harbor with a guide and learn about Hawaii’s role in the war – ideal for World War II history buffs and anyone who wants to see some of Hawaii’s most visited sights and national monuments.

6. To recharge your Rotary batteries. You will go back to your clubs and districts even more prepared to Connect the World!

7. To go snorkeling with the dolphins and sea turtles.

8. To see, meet and hear from our current RI President and other Rotary dignitaries and hear what happened at the most recent Council on Legislation.

9. To take a catamaran cruise or an open-door helicopter ride!

10. To attend fabulous events being planned by the wonderful Honolulu Host Organizing Committee and the Rotary Zones and will be sure to give you memories that will last a lifetime.

WWW.ZONES25B-29.ORG

Content team creating new zones website

By Linda Peterson

A team of content and tech editors from both zones have been very busy this summer creating and editing content on our website for our newly paired zones.

The URL should be changed soon or by now to www.zones25B-29.org.

News and downloads about the fast approaching Institute are available on the home page.

Your Zone Coordinators of Membership, Public Image and Foundation are also adding resources and content, and their contact information is listed in the “About Us” tab.

The former Zone 28-29 directory will remain in the One Rotary Summit tab, in addition to all the ORS content. Just click on the tab at the top. All Districts’ leadership and many District chairs are found by logging in as a Clubrunner member.

If you have a story or event suitable for the main page, please contact us!

If you want specific information posted on the tabs or in the downloads, please contact us!

We ask you for patience as some tabs are still being populated with information.

Visit www.Zones25B-29.org to find more information about zone activities.

Website editors are: Vernon Turner, Linda Peterson and Bobbe Barnes.

Linda Peterson of Rapid City-Rushmore Rotary in Rapid City, SD, is the Regional Rotary Public Image Coordinator. She can be contacted at (605) 341-5006 or linda4rotary@me.com
By Don Mebus

Suzi asked me to write a brief article on Andy Smallwood’s role as aide to Holger Knaack RI President for 2020-21. I am delighted to do this because being an aide to an RI President was one of the most pleasurable jobs that I have had the opportunity to do in Rotary myself.

I should point out that our zone (under several different zone numbers) has been fortunate to have had several aides to RI Presidents over the years. Past RI Director Jack Forrest was Aide to two presidents, Bob Barth and Bhichai Rattakul. Past RI Director Mike Pinson was aide to D. K. Lee and I was aide to Ian Riseley.

So, Andy is fulfilling an important part of this tradition as Aide to RI President Holger Knaack.

To begin with, what the heck is the job description for an aide? On the surface, it is not complicated and I have copied and pasted the job description taken from the RI Code of Policies below:

“27.030.6. President’s Aide The president is authorized to appoint an aide to provide personal assistance in any way, in connection with the president’s duties. (June 1998 Mtg., Bd. Dec. 348)”

There you have it. Basically, anything that the president wants the aide to do. As I understand from other aides and including myself, the tasks vary from president to president, but there are some traditional responsibilities and also some mandated responsibilities.

Roles of aides vary

Traditionally, the aide introduces the president at the International Assembly and at the International Convention. At the International Assembly, the aide presides over all of the Presidential lunches and at the convention over the President-elect and often the President’s lunches. Also, the aide assists the president in the selection of appointments during the years preceding the president’s service.

When the president is unable to attend meetings due to other commitment and travels, the aide often will sit in on the meetings on behalf of the president—who is a member at large of all committees. The aide does not have a vote, but may express opinions on behalf of the president.

The aide may also serve as a liaison between the president and RI staff and also on rare occasions with the RI Board when the president needs assistance in communications. Generally, the aide is a sounding board for the president as his (or she in the future) ideas and plans and the planning takes place.

The aide is often used as consultant/confidante on such things as the Presidential Theme, logo designs and apparel such as jackets, scarves, neck ties, pins, and other items such as socks (at least for one president!).

The Aide is required to inventory the presidential condominium before and after the president occupies it. It is interesting that the condominium usually has more stuff when the president leaves due to gifts from others and items purchased for the condominium during the two years of occupancy as president-elect and president. The aide is expected to know the president’s schedule and works in harmony with the RI Staff Presidential Assistant.

Normally, the aide does not participate in the business of the RI Board. In fact, it has been customary in the past that the aide is not even present during the time the board is meeting.

Aide for the spouse

A very important part of the aide duty is the spouse aide. Since spouses are a full half of the team and in this case, Anita Smallwood is aide to Suzanne Knaack. Also, in this case, Suzanne and Anita are already friends—so this is really more of an informal relationship.

The spouse aide accompanies the president’s spouse when they are all together and does everything from holding Suzanne’s purse while she is on stage to assisting plans for roundtable discussions at the International Assembly. As Andy is to Holger, Anita is to Suzanne as consultant and confident.

The aide is funded through the appropriate presidential budget for necessary and reasonable expenses and it includes required travel, room and board.

Finally, for the purposes of this article, the aide may fill in for the RI President when the president has multiple commitments and the vice president or other appropriate board members are not available.

While this covers most of Andy’s required and traditional responsibilities, it may not reflect President-Elect Holger’s specific requirements because each president has his (or her) own specific needs.

Suffice it to say, that all RI presidents are incredibly busy and the aide’s function is to be available when needed, take some work load off of the president and have a little fun—all of which Andy and Anita will have no problem.

Don Mebus is a Past RI Director from Texas. He can be contacted at Don.Mebus.Rotary@gmail.com.
District 6440 organizes service projects

By DG Suzanne Gibson/District 6440

Rotary District 6440 serving Chicago’s north, northwest and west suburbs is planning some worthy service projects for the current Rotary year and social activities to bond our membership. Current plans include:

Oakton Community College “Caring Closet.” We were alarmed to learn that about 25 percent of students at local community colleges are housing insecure or food insecure or both. While community colleges prepare students for lifelong careers or entry to four-year colleges, many students must struggle with personal issues most of us never even dreamed of.

In response, our 68 clubs will supply the Oakton Community College “Caring Closet” with many food items, personal items and school supplies. As a bonus, District Community Service Advisor Glenn Garlick will match any club donation of $250 in cash or materials this Rotary year.

Salvation Army Bell Ringing. Rotary District 6440 will help the Salvation Army raise needed funds this holiday season by supplying Rotarian Bell Ringers at the massive Woodfield Mall in Schaumburg. Many clubs will fill two-member shifts, staffing kettles at 10 doors all day Dec. 6th. Some 100 or so Rotarians will wear red aprons citing both Rotary and Salvation Army.

This opportunity aligns with Rotary President Mark Maloney’s strategic goals to “expand our engagement in the community” and “include family in our service projects.”

Rotary Road Trip to Miller Park. What can be more fun than a great rivalry baseball game between the Chicago Cubs and Milwaukee Brewers? For another year, Rotary Districts 6440 and 6270 are sponsoring a tailgate party and loge bleacher game seating, Saturday, Sept. 7, at Miller Park in Milwaukee.

The tailgate party includes a full spread of food and refreshment with live entertainment by Mellencougar.

And as a service project, tickets will sponsor attendance by veterans from Illinois and Wisconsin veteran medical care centers and support the One World Medical Foundation which treats PTSD, TBI and moral injury research for our military servants. District Governor Nominee Kevin Stevens has run this event for many years.

Rotary Corn Maze Day at Richardson Adventure Farm. There’s something for families and friends at Richardson Adventure Farm in Spring Grove, Ill. On Rotary Day, Sept. 15, you can experience the world’s largest corn maze with options for team competition, self-paced check point hunts, unscripted wandering, root for your favorite Rotary pig at the pig races, visit the petting zoo or just relax with friends and family. $15 per person on this fun District day.

Walk to End Alzheimer’s. District 6440 is supporting the “Walk to End Alzheimer’s” via Jeff Kaplan of the Alzheimer’s Association and Deerfield Rotary Club. The new Alzheimer’s Dementia Rotarian Action Group is also behind the seven local Alzheimer’s Walks here. It’s the world’s largest event to raise awareness and funds for Alzheimer’s care, support and research. Participation will make a direct impact in the lives of the nearly six million Americans living with Alzheimer’s and their more than 16 million caregivers.

The local walks are: Glenview, Sept. 14; Naperville, Sept. 15; Elk Grove Village, Sept. 28; Orland Park, Sept. 28; Libertyville, Oct. 5; Crystal Lake, Oct. 6; and Chicago, Oct. 26.

Please visit www.alz.org/rotarianactiongroup to start a team.

OUTREACH ON HUMAN TRAFFICKING

Peace Major Gifts Initiative gets a boost

By Martin Limbird/District 5440

On 1 July 2017, trustees of The Rotary Foundation approved a ground-breaking initiative to raise support for Rotary’s peace-related activities. It is called the Peace Major Gifts Initiative (MGI) action plan.

In addition to support for the Rotary Peace Centers, the Peace MGI seeks endowed and directed gifts and commitments for global grants in the Peace and Conflict Prevention/Resolution Area of Focus.

It will also raise support for new peace-related programs and partnerships that have been approved by the Trustees.

Outright and bequest contributions will be sought for visionary projects that further Rotary’s mission as it relates to peace, such as the Rotary Peace Symposia held in various locations around the world.

Finally, the expansion of the Rotary Peace Centers to new areas such as Africa and related activities create an opportunity to engage and re-engage some of Rotary’s most generous donors.

Zone 21b/27 Rotary Director Larry Dimmitt gave this initiative a major boost in connection with the 2018 Zone Institute in Boise, Idaho. Since then, three Rotary clubs in Kansas (Manhattan Konza, Topeka South and Leawood) have become Peace Builder clubs. These clubs have devised community outreach programs on fighting human trafficking and bullying in schools.

“These Kansas clubs are demonstrating what Positive Peace means at the local level” said PDG Martin Limbird, a member of the Peace MGI committee and the Rotary Club of Fort Collins, Colorado. “I welcome invitations to meet with interested Rotarians individually or for club and district events”.

For further information, contact Limbird at rotarymartin@comcast.net or by phone to (765) 744 9137.
By PDG Bill Tubbs
Editor, Zones 25B-29 News

Capitol grounds and courthouse squares across the U.S. notoriously feature monuments to wars. The Iowa State Capitol grounds, for example, has statues commemorating our state’s participation in the Civil War and others.

Seldom, though, do we see monuments to other kinds of achievement that lift the human spirit.

Last Saturday Linda and I witnessed the dedication of a statue celebrating success in a different kind of war – a war against a disease, polio. The location was Unity Point Blank Children’s Hospital in Des Moines, and the celebrants were members of Rotary who have dedicated their time, talent and treasure to eradicating a disease which once paralyzed a nation and world, both physically and psychologically.

The year was 1943. While U.S. troops were in combat in North Africa and the Pacific, polio was menacing populations everywhere. In the U.S., resources for anything other than the war were rationed and scarce, but the hospital’s founder, Mr. A.H. Blank, in a private meeting with President Franklin Roosevelt – himself a polio survivor – sought and received permission to build a children’s hospital in Des Moines. It was the only hospital built in 1943.

Mr. Blank paid for construction of the hospital and paid for polio patients’ care from his own pocket. The polio ward of that hospital was filled with 75-100 kids at its opening, and was expanded the next year.

An epidemic and a cure

The polio epidemic peaked in Iowa in 1952 with 3,564 cases and 163 deaths. Nationwide, it was 58,000 cases and 3,000 deaths. It was a scary time for parents, which I recall from my childhood.

Because the polio virus is highly contagious and typically spread through contaminated water, swimming pools were closed. Unlucky children who contracted polio were warehoused in iron lungs. One in 10 died. Survivors had reduced mobility, and later in life suffered a weakening of muscles called post-polio syndrome.

Then Dr. Jonas Salk produced an injectable vaccine from a killed virus in 1953. It was announced as effective and safe in 1955, and our parents breathed...
a sigh of relief. In 1961, Salk’s vaccine was replaced by Dr. Albert Sabin’s live-virus vaccine which is given orally, with sugar cubes, and by 1979 polio was gone from the U.S.

But polio was not gone. A thousand kids were contracting it somewhere in the world every year – 350,000 a year – when a trial campaign in the Philippines in 1985 went well and the leadership of Rotary decided to take action. No child anywhere should live a life of paralysis when prevention is possible, they said.

Logistical challenges

But how do you deliver the vaccine, which must be refrigerated, to the remote corners of the earth when there is no electricity?

Technical and logistical support came from the World Health Organization and the U.S. Centers for Disease Control. Rotary provided the “boots on the ground” with clubs in 35,000 communities in more than 200 countries. Fund raising was provided by members of Rotary ($1.8 billion – that’s billion with a “b”), Unicef, governments of the world, and more recently the Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation.

Significantly, members have traveled to the ends of the earth to administer the polio vaccine to 2.5 billion children in 122 countries. I was one small part of a National Immunization Days team in India in 2012 when the vaccine was given to 172 million children under 5!

Think of it. 172 million!

The logistics were staggering, but successful. India has not had a case of polio since.

Polio eradication is one of the most incredible stories in medical history.

Dr. Steve Stephenson
COO, Blank Children’s Hospital

In all, more than 16 million people have been saved from paralysis. The virus is in retreat. That’s the good news. The bad news is that polio hasn’t been licked – yet. Last year, 33 children in Pakistan and Afghanistan were afflicted, and 56 so far in 2019 in those same two countries. Most of the cases are in a border area between the countries where efforts to deliver the vaccines have been met with resistance.

This is a problem, but like others before it when ceasefires were declared to allow the immunization teams to enter a war zone to vaccinate the children, Rotary and its partners are determined to find a way. The governments in this case are backing immunization. It is a matter of time until the next case is the last case. Then we have to wait three years for no new cases before eradication is certified.

Then the world will celebrate!

Anti-vacs is deadly

Resistance to vaccines is deadly, says Dr. Steve Stephenson, COO of Blank Children’s Hospital. “Unvaccinated children are like dry wood, combustible material,” he says, warning that until the wild polio virus is eradicated everywhere, it can return anywhere. Unvaccinated children will not be safe until it is gone.

The doctor said the campaign to eradicate polio is, “one of the most incredible stories in medical history.” Which is why we speak. Younger generations, including members of Rotary, have not experienced it.

Ed Futa, then the general secretary of Rotary International, in 2008, said at a committee meeting I was attending, “If we don’t tell our story big and bold within five years of the eradication of polio, we will have failed from a public relations standpoint.”

Toward that end, Rotarians in District 6000 (65 clubs in the southern half of Iowa), with leadership provided by Rotarian Peggy Geiger, commissioned Dr. David Biehl, a retired veterinarian and sculptor from Elkhorn, Neb., to produce a statue of a volunteer giving the oral polio vaccine – the “drops of life” – to a child, with other children looking on. It is a masterpiece inspired by the sculptor’s own grandchildren to represent children of different races.

The inspiring bronze statue in a beautifully landscaped area at Blank Children’s Hospital will remind all who go there that once there was a crippling disease called polio – but in the end it was no match for men and women whose vision did not exceed their grasp.

They will see, too, that monuments to humanitarian achievement are as important as those to military conquest.

This article first appeared in the Elbridge (IA) North Scott Press. The author, PDG Bill Tubbs who is editor of the Rotary Zone newsletter, can be contacted at btubbs@northscottpress.com.
Trilogy Continuum: World Polio Day and Rotary Showcase Week

By Debbie High (Rotary Coordinator), Eric Liu (RPIC) and Art Zeitler (RRFC), Zone 25B Regional Leadership Team

As you approach the new Rotary year, your Zone 25B Regional Leadership team has two (2) exciting opportunities for your club’s Trilogy Continuum (Foundation, Membership, and Public Image) and one (1) for your District. Like the new FB page: Rotary International Zone 25b And 29.

   • Supports some Rotary Citation “Take Action” items for Rotary, Rotaract and Interact

   • See Rotary Showcase Week flyer at www.zones25b-29.org > Membership > Trilogy Continuum for What, When, How, Resources, and Promoting Events
   • Supports some Rotary Citation “Take Action” items for Rotary, Rotaract and Interact

   • See Vibrant Club Workshop flyer at www.zones25b-29.org > Membership > Trilogy Continuum

The Trilogy Continuum Team’s efforts working together are more substantial than working separately. It all starts with PUBLIC IMAGE. This has a direct impact on MEMBERSHIP:
   • Attracting new members;
   • Engaging new and current members; and
   • Retaining your current members.

This directly impacts your FOUNDATION giving and projects. The work of your FOUNDATION builds your PUBLIC IMAGE on the world stage and in your own communities.

The synergy of working together, will provide better results and greater success than ever before.

Deborah G. High is Rotary Coordinator and secretary of Rotary Leadership Institute for the Lone Star Division. She was District D5930 District Governor in 2016-2017. She is a member of the Rotary Club of Southside Corpus Christi, Texas. She can be contacted at (301) 524-7091 or debbiehigh.rotary@gmail.com.
Call it “camaraderie at the core (corps)”. Veterans who have served their country are drawn to organizations that focus on camaraderie, service projects and peace efforts. Rotary clubs match this focus – and now there is the very first Rotary Club of Minnesota Veterans.

Charter members are veterans already connected to other veterans’ organizations. “They wanted to join and leverage their networks,” said Tom Gump, District 5950 Governor-Elect and Veterans’ Club initiator. “The club appealed to a doctor from the VA, a radio host from a veterans’ radio program, members from TrustVets, a board member of the Eagle Group of Minnesota Veterans, Inc., the executive director of a nonprofit group dedicated to eliminating veterans’ homelessness, a board member of the Minnesota Assistance Council for Veterans, and military nurses.”

Not only is this the first veterans’ Rotary club in the world, it’s unique in a state that doesn’t have any active duty bases. Minnesota does, however, have Army and Air Force National Guard and Reserve units from all branches, representing approximately 18,500 service members total.

Organizers believe the club will be successful because it fills two voids that veterans miss the most once their service commitments end: a sense of camaraderie and of service. These values parallel those of Rotary International whose motto is “Service Above Self.”

A brotherhood-sisterhood relationships among veterans makes them family; the same is true of The Rotary Club of Minnesota Veterans. "Family" here includes spouses, children and parents ... and also those who served alongside the veterans such as interpreters Shah and Sayed who already joined the club. For those transitioning from active service, we walk alongside them, helping wherever we can. Club members respect one another regardless of characteristics that might otherwise divide us (i.e., faith, gender, race, origin, preferences).

Upcoming service projects include:
• Actively caring for one another and our extended families;
• Serving in our communities, especially youth, civic organizations, schools and the elderly;
• Honoring other veterans and their families, especially during times of grief;
• Serving those in areas/regions where we have served (possible projects in Afghanistan, Iraq, Syria, or Somalia).

Other Rotary clubs are helping our Veterans Club. District 5950’s largest club, The Rotary Club of Edina, just approved a $3,667 scholarships grant for veterans who cannot afford the club dues.

The club meets on the second and fourth Thursday of each month at St. Peter’s Lutheran in Edina, 5421 France Avenue South, Edina, Minnesota 55410. The meetings run from 7-8 p.m. Come as a guest! Contact Tom Gump at tagump@gmail.com with questions. Rotary is non-religious and non-political organization. For more information about Rotary International visit www.Rotary.org
Interactors raise pigs, grow understanding, in Zambia

By DG Edwin Boss/District 6250

Lodi Wisconsin Interact Club of District 6250 in Wisconsin established a piggery in the remote village of Munyambala Zambia in an effort to provide sustainable food security.

During August 2019, the club completed the first sustainable piggery in the village of Munyambala Zambia in coordination with Peace Corp and Rotary International District 9210.

Lodi Interact financed the building of the first pig pen, as well as the purchase of the first six pigs for the sum of $1,000 USD. District 9210 Governor Douglas will maintain news and correspondence of the current piggery and any future piggeries in Munyambala, and the Lodi Interact Club has direct video, audio, and photo contact with the Peace Corp worker in the same area. The Interact club has been requested by District Governor Douglas to mentor a new start Interact Club in Lusaka, Zambia, in an effort to establish their club, become sister clubs, and coordinate projects in the future.

The village of Munyambala lives by subsistence farming with their main crop being corn. This is a starving community due to drought, and suffers from subsequent health maladies. There is plenty of water from borehole wells but the lack of irrigation and dry weather with a scorching sun is a cause for crop failure.

Lodi Interact Club coordinated with a Peace Corp worker living in the village of Munyambala, to directly fund this project. The Peace Corp worker trained in pig husbandry educated others in the village. The initial pigs bought will reproduce and provide a sustainable source to further piggeries in this geographical location.

Pigs have a fast reproduction cycle and subsequent disbursement of offspring to new piggeries will reduce herd diseases and provide sustainability. Profits from the pigs sold outside the community will pay for school fees, school clothes, and food. Within the community, the pigs provide a source of protein and food security. The pigs will eat what humans will not, such as the corn husks, cobs, bushes, stalks, and spoiled vegetables.

The establishment of the first piggery in Munyambala has not only touched the lives of Munyambala, but has touched the souls and minds of the youth in the Lodi Interact Club beyond prediction. Cultural understanding, community economic development, gratitude, understanding of economic inequality, passion for serving others, building self-esteem, leadership skills, and international friendship to name a few are the thoughts that come to mind when thinking of how this project has impacted Lodi Interact Club members.

Interactors raised funds for the first six pigs.

Interact club fundraiser for Zambia piggery.
Global Scholar was an amazing ambassador

By DGE Lowell Stoolman/District 5970

Katie Wilford, District 5970 Global Scholar for 2018-2019, sponsored by Rotary Club of Pocahontas, Iowa, has recently returned from her year of study in Melbourne, Australia, where she received her masters of education degree with a specialization in mathematics. She graduated with straight “H1” which is the equivalent of straight “A”s in the U.S.

While in Australia, Katie exemplified the Rotary ideals, by attending 29 Rotary meetings at 17 different clubs in Districts 9790 and 9800. She made 12 presentations to different Rotary clubs including one for a multidistrict conference.

Katie spent nearly 127 hours of her precious time volunteering on Rotary and Rotaract projects and other worthy projects, such as tutoring for Epping Secondary College, and working in a soup kitchen run by Catholic Sisters. She also co-hosted a “Rotary in Action” radio program, attended RYLA, volunteered as a leader for RYPEN in District 9800, and did an interview for Channel 9 news, promoting RI Convention for 2023.

What a wonderful and amazing ambassador for Rotary! Before leaving Pocahontas on her year long trip to Australia, Katie was the school liaison for the Pocahontas Area High School Interact Club. She regularly attended Rotary to keep the Rotarians informed of Interact activities.

Since returning to Iowa she has accepted a position at HLV Community School in Victor, Iowa, teaching mathematics. Katie says she is looking forward to telling her story to Rotary clubs around Iowa.

Lowell Stoolman can be contacted at lstoolman@gmail.com.

The Object of Rotary

The Object of Rotary is to encourage and foster the ideal of service as a basis of worthy enterprise and, in particular, to encourage and foster:

FIRST: The development of acquaintance as an opportunity for service;

SECOND: High ethical standards in business and professions; the recognition of the worthiness of all useful occupations; and the dignifying of each Rotarian’s occupation as an opportunity to serve society;

THIRD: The application of the ideal of service in each Rotarian’s personal, business, and community life;

FOURTH: The advancement of international understanding, goodwill, and peace through a world fellowship of business and professional persons united in the

The Four-Way Test
(of the things we Think, Say or Do)

1. Is it the TRUTH?
2. Is it FAIR to all concerned?
3. Will it build GOODWILL and BETTER FRIENDSHIPS?
4. Will it be BENEFICIAL to all concerned?

Rotary Foundation

Areas of Focus:

✓ Maternal and Child Health
✓ Water and Sanitation
✓ Disease Prevention and Treatment
✓ Basic Education and Literacy
✓ Economic-Community Development
✓ Peace and Conflict Resolution

Hello Rotarians,

ZONE TONES

Join The Zone Tones with other Rotarians and guests who love to sing, as they add their voices together. The Zone Tones have been asked to sing the Canadian and German (English Words) National Anthems during the Friday Afternoon Ceremony and also to sing at the Sunday Morning Inspirational Service. If you’d like to participate, please respond to this email to let me know that you would like to sing! I will send your music and vocal samples so you have plenty of time to rehearse your part. We won’t have but a couple of rehearsals during ZONE.

RDG Rhonda Herrington
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903-724-8515