

ISSUE 08

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ubuntu

I AM BECAUSE YOU ARE • DISTRICT 9214 • UGANDA / TANZANIA

PEACE & CONFLICT RESOLUTION



Rotary
District 9214



Rotaract
District 9214



**SERVE TO
CHANGE LIVES**

97TH DISTRICT CONFERENCE **ARUSHA** 12 - 14TH MAY 2022



ARUSHA INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE CENTRE

This year's DCA will be held at one of the most prestigious conference venues in Tanzania.



INSIDE UBUNTU



04 **Editors' Note**

Peace and Conflict Prevention/Resolution month

05 **Rotary International President Message**

Shekhar Mehta

06 **District Governor Message**

DG Young Kimaro

08 **Achieving Peace of Mind**

By Rotarian Ciren Gracias (Rotary Club of Njiro Arusha)

09 **Principles of Conflict Resolution:**

Study the Art of War to resolve conflicts

By Rotarian Julia Seifert

10 **Peace & Freedom from Conflict; Another Basic Human Need**

By Rotarian Ahurira Praise

11 **Rotary Club of Nkumba Holds 2021-2022 Vocational Service Award Ceremony**

By PHF Henry L Kitaka

12 **African Teenagers for Youth Exchange in Foreign Lands**

By Rotarian George Bush Ochieng

14 **Call for Action: Construction of a classroom block at Buyiga Seed Secondary School**

By Rotarian Paul Kagga

15 **Rotary Club of Rubaga Girl Child Empowerment Initiative**

By PP Nanfuka Jesca

17 **Kyengera Rotary Club Covid-19 Vaccination Project**

By Rtn Joyce Nakato & Rtn Peace Myongo

19 **Professor Patrick Engeu Ogwang: Vocational Service Awardee By The Rotary Club of Muyenga**

By Rotarian Dr. Sylvia R Atoko

21 **Aspiring for a Peaceful & Secure Africa!**

By Rtn Joseph Bikanda



EDITOR'S NOTE



Rotarian Diana Elinam
UBUNTU - Editor in Chief



Rotarian Florence Malinga
UBUNTU - Co-Chair
Uganda

Peace and Conflict Prevention/ Resolution month

Rotary has six areas of focus: Disease prevention and treatment, Water and sanitation, Maternal and child health, Basic education and literacy, Economic and community development and ***Peace and conflict prevention/resolution***, which is our theme this month.

All five areas when worked upon successfully bring about an environment of security and peace to the community. One would take notice that often dispute, and conflicts are brought about when a community lacks a decent resulting to factors such as poverty, diseases, unhygienic conditions etc.

Other than improving the 5 areas out of the six to ensure there is peace in our communities, Rotary through its TRF, funds various project and offer full scholarships for people to learn more on various ways to settle disputes and resolve conflicts.

Rotary holds open conversation on their official site and allows all Rotarians to join the conversation by sharing the different strategies their clubs utilize in solving conflict. There are so many misplaced people worldwide due to disputes and most often it's unarmed civilians; mothers and children suffer the consequences; As Rotarians we should continue with our intention of making this world a better place by ensuring that we come up with more projects that revolve around ***Peace and conflict prevention/resolution***.

Diana Elinam

Editor in Chief



Shekhar Mehta

President 2021-2022

February 2022

At the start of the Rotary year, I challenged every club to plan and host at least one practical and action-oriented Rotary Day of Service. The event should address a challenge your community is facing that fits into one or more of Rotary's areas of focus and should bring together volunteers from within and outside of Rotary.

Rotary Days of Service can motivate Rotary, Rotaract, and Interact clubs to plan innovative and impactful projects. They can showcase your work as people of action and introduce prospective members to your club. I've been inspired by your response so far, and I want to share with you just one project that has captured my imagination.

India is home to an estimated 74 million people with diabetes, a disease that is a leading cause of death. Furthermore, about 50 percent of those people remain undiagnosed.

Rotary, together with the Research Society for the Study of Diabetes in India, saw the urgent need to diagnose, track, and treat people who have diabetes. Working together and with other organizations, we hosted a nationwide blood glucose testing camp on 29 September, which is World Heart Day. The camp was spread across more than 10,000 sites in India, with more than 2,000 Rotary and Rotaract clubs participating in the effort. More than 1 million blood-sugar tests were conducted in a day, an accomplishment recognized by the Asia Book of Records.

But more important than breaking a record is the fact that tens of thousands of people learned that they may be living with diabetes. They can now be treated for the condition, and they also have been made aware that they should take extra measures to shield themselves from COVID-19 and scores of other diseases that are caused or worsened by diabetes.

This month, on 23 February, the anniversary of Rotary, let us celebrate with more service days, showcasing Rotary's work in our areas of focus. I look forward to hearing about your Rotary Days of Service. Please share your projects on Rotary Showcase, or browse that webpage to find inspiration and project partners. In particular, I encourage you to execute projects that focus on empowering girls, as they have been disproportionately affected by the pandemic. The Empowering Girls initiative is resonating very well with members of Rotary as well as with non-Rotarians. The governments and NGOs in various countries are appreciating this meaningful effort. Let us keep focusing on it.

I am also happy that the Each One, Bring One ethos is bringing fruitful results. Let us ensure that all club members introduce at least one person to Rotary, and that we then all work to engage new members and keep them in our clubs.

In whatever we do, remember that we must push ourselves to grow more, do more as we Serve to Change Lives.



BRING PEACE & CONFLICT PREVENTION RESOLUTION TO OUR DAILY LIVES

DG Young Kimaro

According to the United Nations High Commission for Refugees (UNHCR), there were 82.4 million displaced persons worldwide at the end of 2020. As much as one third of these displaced persons are in Africa. Uganda stands out in refugee hospitality. It hosts about 1.5 million displaced persons, mostly from Southern Sudan and Burundi. That is the highest number of displaced persons hosted in Africa, and it ranks third worldwide, only after Turkey (3.7 million) and Colombia (1.7 million).

For many decades following its independence in 1961, Tanzania kept open door policy for fellow Africans seeking refuge while they struggled for independence and resisted Apartheid and tyrannies. The likes of Nelson Mandela (South Africa), Samora Machel (Mozambique), and Robert Mugabe (Zimbabwe) and many more took refuge in Tanzania. Yoweri Museveni led the Front for National Salvation against Idi Amin in the 1970s from Moshi town in Kilimanjaro, where he supposedly was a lecturer at Moshi Co-operative College. One former student of his recalls that oft times lecturer Museveni would suddenly disappear then resurface after some time and continue with his lectures as if nothing had happened. It was a mystery then why there was not a word from the College administration.

In recent years Tanzania has become more restrictive to refugees. The refugees, mostly heralding from Burundi and Democratic Republic of Congo (DRC), have dwindled to 0.2 million, as it insisted upon their “voluntary” repatriation.

One is often taken by surprise in conflicts, as in the case of the Korean War in 1950 when I was a toddler. On 25th June 1950, Seoulites awoke to find the city taken overnight by invaders from the North. I wonder where my family, and all those who fled Seoul city soon, thereafter, would be today, if it were not for those who took us in, fed and sheltered us.

Life is a give and take, is it not? What will happen if a disaster strikes Tanzania now and hundreds of thousands have to flee for their lives across the borders? How will they be received, given its newly adopted “in hospitality”? Hopefully soon Tanzania will revert to its heydays of hospitality and open its doors to all persons seeking refuge.

Conflicts arise from numerous sources: People flee from political strife, from strident human rights violations, economic tugs of war between herders and farmers, eruption of animosities between communities for reasons long forgotten, rampant crimes that plague overcrowded low-income areas, domestic violence, human trafficking and so on.



RI identifies six types of peace and conflict prevention/resolution projects for Global Grants:

1. Youth – leadership training and building skills for conflict resolution.
2. Scholarships to study the makings of peace and conflict prevention/resolution
3. Peace training/conference/workshop (to build capacity)
4. Refugee integration (language, sports, mentoring, and job skills training)
5. Domestic violence and human trafficking (counselling, reintegrating the victims into home communities, build advocacy programs for prevention).
6. Other peacebuilding projects (community-based policing, building cooperatives across divides to lay the foundation for reconciliation and reintegration, civic education through media communication, traditional inclusive approach to justice and reconciliation).

We tend to associate peace and conflict prevention/resolution area of focus with grand disasters. Where there is absence of war or natural calamity, it no longer catches our attention.

Yet, in our daily lives we encounter conflicts and frictions to varying degrees. Our children are confronted by bullies, arguments and may even exchange blows at school, in neighborhood and even at home. Women and girls are frequently abused and taken advantage of. Unfortunately, we take all these as “part of life.”

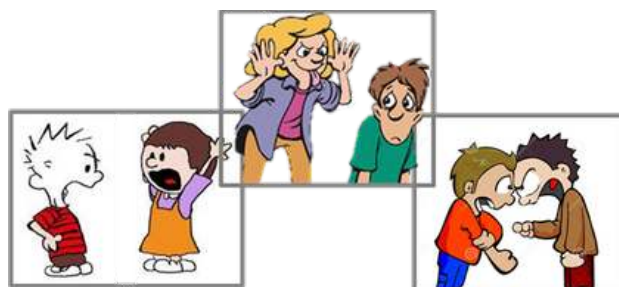
We have in our District Rotarians who have work experience in mitigating domestic violence, human trafficking, female genital mutilation etc., and in handling sociopsychological challenges that children encounter at school and elsewhere.

Should we not mobilize those skills and nurture in ourselves and in our children the ability to prevent and resolve conflicts we encounter to achieve peace?

The Great Lake region of East Africa at one time, experienced most conflict and strife in Africa. Makerere University, being situated in that area, developed over 15 years a peace program of its own. RI noted it, then established its very first Rotary Peace Centre in Africa at Makerere.

In February 2021, the Centre started to train peace development leaders to address the underlying challenges to peace in the region. Its training also encompasses African traditional approach to resolving conflict - forgiveness and inclusion.

My challenge to the Rotary Peace Centre at Makerere University and fellow Rotarians of D9214 is to mobilize their expertise and put on District 9214’s radar screen projects prototypes and encourage their application to help prevent and resolve conflicts in our homes and immediate communities to foster peace and harmony in people’s daily lives.





ACHIEVING PEACE OF MIND

By Rotarian Ciren Gracias

Rotary Club of Njiro Arusha

This being the Rotary Peace and Conflict Resolution month, let me dwell upon a topic that most of us would like to achieve and that is Peace of Mind. "Peace of Mind is a mental state of calmness or tranquility, a freedom from worry and anxiety" (Dictionary.com).

All of us experience stress in our day to day lives. Some of us more than others. There can be financial problems which is one of the major ones, problems in marriage, the workplace, in business, regarding children, illness and so much more. This leads to worry, anxiety, and sometimes mental illnesses like depression. Many of us yearn for Peace of Mind for most part of our days, if not completely.

There are times you might have experienced it. You might have experienced a situation that has made you very happy, you get immersed in that for a while. In those you have peace of mind. Due to the advent of smartphones, many of us have lost the habit of reading. But those who find themselves deeply engrossed in a novel, forget all your troubles at that time. My favorite for forgetting the cares of the world is going to watch a movie. The whole experience is great, until the movie is over. I am sure many of us reading this piece will agree that when you leave your place of abode and go for a holiday, you leave behind all the daily stress and worry of your workplace or business, that of course if you do not check your emails and phone messages or receive work calls while on holiday. Sometimes modern technology and social media disturbs our peace when work follows you. In the past, this was never the case.

So, what do you do to achieve Peace of Mind? There are several suggestions.

- Sometimes we worry about things that we have no control over. We keep thinking of them. Think about situations that you might be facing for which you have no control. There is no use of worrying as this will not help change anything. So, try not to worry.
- Try and take the positives out of any situation in your life. No one can deny that there are positive and negative situations that occur and are present. You cannot ignore the negative ones, but when you look at the positives and keep reminding yourself of them, they greatly help.
- Count your blessings. List everything that is a plus point in your life. A loving spouse, children, the fact that you are employed, your education, a roof over your head, good friends. Life is tough. But dwelling on the positives, you will find that your life is not bad after all.
- Do not judge yourself against people who are higher up the ladder in terms of wealth, material possessions, education. Just as you should not look down on people who have less.
- Join a group. Many of us know the experience of being in a Rotary Club. Fellow Rotarians support each other. Avoid negative people who always moan and groan and who talk and think negative.
- Get a hobby. It can help you to keep busy rather than lying idle and having negative thoughts fill your mind. Music is great when you enjoy it. It helps soothe your mind.
- Exercise and go for 30-minute walks daily. Physical activity helps the mental.
- Have a culture for saving. The more you save, the better the financial buffer you have in case of an emergency and for your retirement years. There are persons who live for the moment and squander all they earn for the pleasures of life. Having no savings can lead to a lot of stress.
- Look after yourself and your health. By going for a regular medical checkup, say even once a year, you can know what your problems are and treat them while they are still in the early stage. Nip them in the bud.
- Meditate. You do not have to do it the professional way, but sometimes just set some time for yourself and think about your life, the present situation, and the future. What can you do to make things better? This reflection can help you. A lot of adverse situations may have happened in the past as a lot of you may agree, but there is no use dwelling in the past.
- Set yourself goals in life. Having focus means you can keep your mind aimed towards your goals and feel the satisfaction on achieving them. Obstacles will arise, but your steadfast determination will cause you not to waver.
- Help someone in need or in trouble. Be a friend, listen to their problems. It could be an elderly person, a person who is sick or just a friend who needs to pour out things from his or her chest. This way you would make yourself useful and gain great satisfaction out of your good deed.

I could go on and on. But these are some points that could help you achieve Peace of Mind. When Rotary established the Peace and Conflict Resolution month, one of the aims was by achieving Peace in our communities, we lead to Peace throughout the World. Achieving a hundred per cent Peace of mind may not be practically possible but do try and maximize it, the best way you can. Have a Peaceful month ahead.



PRINCIPLES OF CONFLICT RESOLUTION

Rotarian Julia Seifert

So how can one become the Sun-Tzu of daily conflicts and confrontations?

Conflict Resolution is a multi-level field, as the definition of conflict ranges from internal, interpersonal, family, group, national to international conflicts.

Interestingly, principles around conflicts and their resolution do however remain largely the same.

As a student of conflict one of the most paramount books is Sun-Tzu's Art of War. The Art of War was written between 475 and 221 B.C.E and remains timelessly relevant to date. The premise of The Art of War is that war should be avoided with diplomacy. If it cannot be avoided, it should be fought strategically and psychologically to minimize damage and the wasting of resources. Sun-Tzu's strategy in dealing with foes was a combination of peaceful resolutions and aggressive warfare. This mirrors the Taoist principals of yin and yang (or opposing but complementary forces). Sun-Tzu's Art of War has remained relevant till date and many interstate conflicts and military academies still refer to the principles outlined by the Chinese military strategist. However, the principles outlined in his book may as well extended into better understanding and addressing our personal feuds and inner conflicts we fight quickly before we seek solitude or and reconciliation.

Strategy is key in any conflict resolution process and good strategy is based on solid analysis of the situation, the players, the potential gains and losses. Only by getting a holistic picture one will be in the position to address complex problems and issues and increase the chances of an amicable or least distracting solution for either side.

1. Take a breather and take a minute to think before you react to what has happened and what may have caused this situation. What are the potential outcomes, benefits or costs associated with the situation created or emerging?
2. Engage actively, by listening and asking questions that shade light on the subject matter at hand without judging.
3. Remain objective, do not reflect everything on yourself. Practice Self-Restraint vs. getting emotionally pulled into the problem. Ask yourself what would you have done if in the other one's shoes – emphasize.
4. Stay fair, do not blame, but own your contribution to the problem and accept responsibility.
5. Lay your cards open and build trust through direct communication.
6. From your sober analysis, assess what is the largest common denominator which minimizes losses on both sides. Use this ground to propose a way forward. So instead of overly focusing on the problem ensure the future and a common understanding remains at the heart of your success story.
7. A win-win is always the better outcome than a lose-win or lose-lose especially because a lose-win is usually short lived and may quickly turn into a lose-lose in the long run. Focus on the bigger picture and do not be afraid to encounter smaller losses as you secure the bigger win.

And remember to actively seek conversation and do not avoid the direct confrontation. Just as Sun-Tzu discourages generals from engaging in siege warfare, because it extends the conflict and wastes resources, it is unhealthy for your inner peace and relationships you took years to build and strengthen to avoid a small "battle" if it can spare you the "war".

In Rotary peace and conflict prevention/resolution is one of the six focus areas, as Rotarians we are business people, managers, leaders and community pillars. For us to live and breathe our Rotary ideals we should practice what we preach in our own personal and professional lives to ensure we are strong role models for our communities and younger generations.



Sun-Tzu | Author of the Art of War
(PHOTOGRAPH BY CHARISTOONE-IMAGES / ALAMY STOCK PHOTO)



PEACE AND FREEDOM FROM CONFLICT; ANOTHER HUMAN BASIC NEED.

Rotarian Ahurira Praise

Rotary Club of Muyenga

HUMAN HAND PEACE SYMBOL (there are many peace symbols but I adopt the human hand peace symbol because the ultimate power to make or break peace is in our hands)



Rotary International aims at bringing together business and professional leaders in order to provide humanitarian service and to advance goodwill and peace around the world. Rotary has worked very closely with the UN to promote peace and we its members believe that we have a shared responsibility to take action to promote peace, fight disease, provide clean water, sanitation and hygiene, save mothers and children, support education, grow local economies and protect the environment.

Peace is every human being's basic need and satisfaction of this need makes it possible to satisfy all the other human basic needs.

Human basic needs in life have since time immemorial been ordinarily listed as food, water, clothing and shelter.

Maslow (1943) gives a four tier hierarchy of needs and these include from bottom upwards psychological (food and clothing), safety (job security), love and belonging needs (friendships), esteem and self-actualizations (leaving according to one's full potential and becoming who one really is).

I personally note that none of these needs is a standalone. In fact, they are interdependent and lack of one need affects the enjoyment of another.

Peace literally means freedom from conflict and entails tranquility, harmony, joy, friendship, hope, calm, beauty among others.

John Galtung defines peace as absence of physical and structural violence. Albert Einstein on the other hand defines peace not to mean the absence of war but the presence of justice, of law, of order- in short, of government.

In other-wards, peace does not mean to be free from noise, trouble or hard work but to be calm despite all life challenges.

Lack of Peace is Conflict. It means that there is a struggle and failure to balance interests in life and can be at a personal, community/societal level. An imbalance in interests whether personal or communal leads to disagreement between ideas and feelings resulting in argument, stress and anger.

In a nutshell, where there is disagreement there is no harmony (conflict Vs Peace) and vice versa.

It is worth noting that peace is every human being's desire and normally, nobody enjoys conflict but despite our desires and wishes as humanity, we often times live in conflict and lack peace. It is also very natural and human to have conflict and disagree. By virtue of humanity there is disharmony at both personal and community level thus.

When peace fails or when conflict arises, what follows?

Conflict resolution therefore and ability to attain Peace is a collective responsibility. Everyone has the power to make peace OR cause conflict for self and for others. We have collective responsibility to ensure harmony in our lives, homes, and communities bearing in mind that our actions whether private or public affect the lives of others. Simply put, what we do or fail to do has a great impact on the lives of those around us...and that is the power of humanity to make and or break peace.

There is no single person that can commit to attaining everybody's peace alone. Everybody has a role to play in the peace game and it won't be a game worth the name until everybody plays. It is Rotary's vision to see a world where people unite and take action to create lasting change-across the globe, in our communities, and in our selves.

Once we as Rotary members, upholding the **Four Way Test** and other rotary values and principles, lead in the promotion of Peace in our individual communities in which we live, we shall serve humanity better and cause humanity to love and seek to attain peace.



Rotary Club of Nkumba Holds 2021-2022 Vocational Service Award Ceremony

PHF Henry L Kitaka

Rotary Club of Nkumba: Vocational Service Chair 2021/2022

The Rotary Club of Nkumba held its Vocational Service Award 2021-2022 ceremony at their regular meeting venue – Sanctum Hotel Kitale Entebbe Uganda on January 21, 2022. The function was held as one of Rotary annual program event to identify, recognize and award dignified vocational service individuals whose services have impacted and benefited society.

The award ceremony was Rotary Club of Nkumba's demonstration of its recognition of the "Object of Rotary" to Foster Ethical Standards, to Recognize Worthiness of all Occupations and to Dignify all Occupational Services as an Opportunity to serve society.

The award winner Mr. Kajubi Betaza Matths nomination was based on a review that established his exemplary ethical conduct, behavior, dedication and devotion to the Education Vocation for over fifty years (still running) as a Mathematics, Sciences and Religious Studies teacher in many reputable Junior / Primary Schools in Uganda including St. Savio Junior School where at his advanced age of over 75years he is still serving as a Catechist.

A simple and humble person, Mr. Kajubi talks about his long vocational service with humility and gratitude to have been of service to society with a wish to serve more. Many distinguished persons in Uganda have at one time gone through his hands at the schools where he was a teacher.

The function was graced with the presence our Assistant Governor George Ochieng and the District Governor Elect Peace Taremwa who handed over the award to the winner.

Long Live Rotary!



CMP Agness, Vocational Awardee Mr Kajubi Betaza and AG George Bush Ochieng



DGE Peace Taremwa officiating at the Vocational Awards Ceremony.



Assistant Governor George Bush Ochieng addressing members



African teenagers for Youth Exchange in Foreign Lands

By Rtn George Bush Ochieng

Member of Power of One

Is it cool to be away from your parents, your usual school and your country for one year?

Yes, you get international friends and social networks, learn a new culture (sometimes a new food and language too!), learn how others solve their community problems and appreciate different people and their various lifestyles. Yes, you get the opportunity to share your culture and life story with foreigners. This privilege of Ambassadors can be taken by you, if you become a youth exchange participant.

Is it cool to be without one's parents and siblings in this wicked world?

Can teenagers manage home sickness and avoid falling in trouble? Yes, if Rotary International is behind organizing the trip from your comfort zone (home family, school and country).

Rotary International (RI) has opened up 2022 long term youth exchange program (LTYEP), where youths from one part of the world travel to other parts of the world for one year. This had been suspended since the advent of COVID19 pandemic. Now, teenagers (15-18 years of age) will be able to continue with their education for one year in another country, while being hosted there by at least 3 families.

Such families will have passed a rigorous vetting and background check. The host Rotary Club and Rotary District will not only fund the exchange program, but also ensure that the youths are protected from physical harm and abuse (including sexual abuse) throughout their program duration.

What is required to be an exchange student?

One must be interested in foreign travel and willing to be away from their loved ones in their country. They must be in the age bracket of 15-18 years of age. These teenagers can be children of Rotarians as of non-Rotarians.

The participant must be able to act as an ambassador to another part of the world representing their country, district, community, club and family, and pick lessons from there back home. The teenager must presently be at school and posting very good academic grades. They must be dynamic, independent and with good interpersonal skills. They must be ready to share with the host families and clubs the various aspects of their lives and the culture of the community they come from. They must therefore have good oratory and presentation skills.

They must be willing to continue with their education for one year in a foreign land and promise to work hard in class. They must promise that they shall abide by the Rotary International rules and regulations, including returning to their home country after the program.

Their parents must be willing to authorize them to travel away for one year and be able to fund some aspects of the journey, depending on the type of scholarship obtained (see more on this below). Parents promise not to visit except at end of the program.

Typically, a youth exchange program is where one family sends its child to another family in exchange of hosting another youth from another country. However, families in districts 9214 and 9213 can send their children to other countries, without having to first host any student.

This is because Districts 9214/9213 are RI Outbound Only certified districts. The Power of One (a committee authorized by RI), seeks out Rotary districts to host the “exchange students”. The hosts have various types of scholarships they offer to these youth exchange students.

First is the standard scholarship, where the hosts (family, club and district) pay for the tuition, board, feeding and inland travel, while the sending family provides or arranges air ticket, travel documents and visa, pocket money and insurance for the student.

This is the most common scholarship. A full scholarship is where the hosts provide most of the fundable portions of the requirements (tuition, boarding, feeding, inland and air ticket), leaving the family to only arrange for the travel documents. PoO mostly seeks out for such scholarships and coordinates the visa processing. Enhanced scholarships are anything in between. PoO encourages students from needy families to be flexible in accepting any host country, especially those offering full scholarships.

Getrude Natene Bwaya is one of the Youth Exchange participants from the old District 9211 who spent a year in the US, where she completed her high school studies. Her experience is a story for another day, best told in her words. All I know is that she enjoyed the travel and learnt a lot from the host families, the studies abroad, and the new friends and personal networks she made. I can’t wait longer to recommend other eligible applicants to go for this program, my own children inclusive. Application deadline is now 28 Feb 2022.



Getrude Natene Bwaya with host families visited various sites during her youth exchange program.



Call for action: Construction of a Classroom block at Buyiga Seed Secondary School.

Rtn. Paul Kagga

Club secretary
ROTARY CLUB OF RUBAGA
LAKEVIEW, DISTRICT 9214.

"Leadership is the capacity to translate vision into reality." – Warren. G. Bennis. "Education is a great engine of personal development. It is through education that a daughter of a peasant can become a doctor, that a child of a farm worker can become a president of a nation." – Nelson Mandela. One of the things that you and I can be grateful for is the opportunity to attain not just an education but an education up until at least S.6. But, here is a rare story of an island not so far from Uganda's capital, located in Kammengo sub county, Mpigi district.

With a population of over 20,000 people, Buyiga has only a single two-room block, government aided school that runs from s.1 to s.4. With a low enrollment and high dropout rates especially for the girl child, Buyiga seed secondary school has only 50 students. The 25 teachers that are paid by government are without staff quarters, leaving them with the only option of commuting to school amidst the transport challenges. Some of these teachers have to travel from as far as other districts including Mukono, Masaka etc.

All these factors contribute to difficult learning for both the students and teachers. All hope is not lost however. On the island is very unique and highly committed headmistress by names, Mrs. Babirye Lydia. She is newly hired and more than ready to join hands with partners such as the Rotary Club of Rubaga Lake View, in changing the status quo one step at a time.

In 2020 UCE, she had a total of six candidates and no matter the challenges. Among them was Sadik who excelled with a first ever first grade of 27 aggregates, with the rest having second and third grades.

On 11th September 2021, the club facilitated an Education stakeholders' meeting that brought together the head teachers of both the primary and secondary school, the board members, teachers, parents, police, pupils that completed primary seven and students of Buyiga Seed in efforts to sharing ideas and best practices to come up with viable solutions especially to low enrollment and school dropouts.

This comes after the needs assessment carried out by the club on 4th August 2021 to back up the Club's resolution to construct a three classroom block at Buyiga Seed secondary school to help avail more classroom space as we also work hand in hand with the stakeholders to boost enrollment and also tackle other challenges as time goes by.

Dear Rotarians, Rotaractors, leaders of the nation, mothers and fathers, the need is right before our eyes. How about if we give this a massive attention to put up this classroom block by June 2022?

We would surely have served to change lives if we chose to bring the gift of education to these children. The bell has been sounded. Nothing is too small, Every amount counts. We need a tune of up to USD 20,000 to have this fulfilled. The institution still needs assistance as far as solar energy is concerned and other equipment like co-computers. We need to work together.

**For partnerships, please use
rubagalakeview23@gmail.com /
+256705480931 (WhatsApp)**



ROTARY CLUB OF RUBAGA GIRL CHILD EMPOWERMENT INITIATIVE

By PP Nanfuka Jesca

Officer in charge of
Empowering the Girls Program
RC Rubaga

After the Government of Uganda allowing schools to open for first term after a very long period, the Rotary Club of Rubaga realized that many children had faced different challenges during their stay at home especially the girl child. So, in line with District Governor Young Kimaro's passion for empowering the girl child, the Club decided to carry out a program that would empower these young girls to ensure that they will have the capacity and opportunities to lead a dignified life and future, serving as role models for the rest of the girls in their community.

The activity was carried out on Friday, 14th January 2022 at Cardinal Nsubuga Memorial Primary School Ndeeba, a Catholic founded school under the Archdiocese of Kampala and 56 girls were engaged. During our engagement with the girls, we gave them a chance to let us know their expectations, we took them through awareness campaigns; (say no to sex, girl child abuses, how to listen and reflect, etc), we taught them Life skills among which included self-awareness, creative thinking, decision making, effective communication, interpersonal relationship, coping with stress, among others.

We concluded our sharing by talking about Menstrual Hygiene awareness and distribution of Sanitary pads to them. Under this activity, the girls learnt how to manage themselves when they are in menstruation time, how to dispose of the used pads and what to do in case one has difficulties when this time comes.

It was a great day. The school administration appreciated the Rotary Club of Rubaga so much for the initiative that was undertaken to assist their girls to develop a positive attitude towards school, their studies in general and towards the challenges they meet in life.

In conclusion, we would like to take this opportunity to thank the Administration of Cardinal Nsubuga Memorial Primary School Ndeeba for allowing us to carry out the activity in their school and more appreciation goes to all Rotarians of the Rotary Club of Rubaga for supporting the activity, special thanks to the Lady Rotarians of the Club for all you did and lastly, Mrs. Prossy Nampala Kayiira, the Counselor on the Team.



**Counselor Prossy Nampala Kayiira
teaching Menstrual Hygiene Management.**



**The girls celebrating after receiving the
sanitary pads.**



PP Leilah Sserwadda Mutebi teaching the girls Life Skills.



Rtn Mary Ssebaddawo teaching the girls about Awareness.



KYENGERA ROTARY CLUB COVID 19 VACCINATION PROJECT-12TH-13TH DECEMBER 2021.

Rtn Joyce Nakato

RC Kyengera



**Rtn Peace
Myongo**

RC Kyengera

The Government of Uganda's strategy is mass vaccination of the population (22million representing 49.8%) as a means of optimal control of the pandemic and full opening up of the economy.

But with so many Ugandans still reluctant to get vaccinated and so many of them avoiding the on-going exercise in the hospitals and the clinics around them due to misplaced fear of the side effects and misinformation, Uganda is scaling up corona virus vaccination by bringing the vaccination exercise at locations that are convenient for and provided in comfortable and non-judgmental space that observe confidentiality and welcoming to all.

Rotarians being people of action, led by our DGE Peace Taremwa, rose up to the task and organized a three days' outreach vaccination campaign against Covid19.

The outreach was intended to overcome barriers to access due to long distance to different vaccination points and lack of information among communities.

The Rotary club of Kyengera with support from Ministry of Health conducted a COVID vaccination community outreach on the 12th and 13th December 2021. It was so gratifying to see huge numbers of people, young, old, able bodied and disabled, flocking the vaccination center moreover at a short notice. In just two days, we managed to vaccinate 1170 people. And the numbers were just increasing day by day. Truth be said "this was just a drop in the ocean!"

The need for the Covid 19 vaccination is immense. We need to put our resources together and do another round and this time maybe for a week or so. We believe with the experience of the maiden massive vaccination; we are in a better position to overcome the huddles we encountered previously.

Special thanks go to our DGE Peace and POP Dona for the tireless coordination. Lastly but not least, the exercise would not have been a success without Rotarians of RC Kyengera, Local Council Committee Members, church leaders and for the strategic mobilisation. Vivara Rotary.



Vaccination exercise in progress.





PROFESSOR PATRICK ENGEU OGWANG: VOCATIONAL SERVICE AWARDEE BY THE ROTARY CLUB OF MUYENGA

By Rotarian Dr. Sylvia R. Atoko
RC Muyenga

The objective of Rotary is a philosophical statement of Rotary's purpose and responsibilities of Rotarians. The concept of Vocational Service emphasizes that Rotarians encourage and foster high ethical standards in business and professions. In addition, Rotary recognizes and values all useful occupations. Each Rotarian's occupation is dignified as an opportunity to serve the society.

January is normally a Vocational Service Month for Rotary. Rotary recognizes the importance of Skills and Occupations to solve the problems of the society and meeting the needs of the community.

The Vocational Service Award of the Rotary Club is normally given to someone in the community who has exemplified outstanding professional achievement while maintaining very high ethical standards.

The event to recognize this year's Vocational Service Award Nominee by the Rotary Club of Muyenga was held on Wednesday 19th January 2022 at the Hotel International in Muyenga. This year's Vocational Service Award focused on the main challenge facing the society and identified someone who had made an outstanding contribution towards solving the challenge of Covid 19, by touching many lives.

Prof. Patrick Engeu Ogwang an Associate Professor and Head of Department of Pharmacy at the Mbarara University of Science & Technology and his team, were recognized for their outstanding contribution to the society by innovating the COVIDEX Therapy for Covid 19 which has saved many lives in Uganda.

In his acceptance speech, Prof. Ogwang thanked the Rotary Club of Muyenga for having recognized him and his team, for their valid contribution towards saving lives in Uganda.



Professor Patrick Ogwang with his wife at the Vocation Awards Ceremony.

He also thanked the President of the Republic of Uganda, President Yoweri Kaguta Museveni, for having recognized and supported him and his team in the COVIDEX Therapy innovation for Covid 19. He however expressed concern about the insufficient resources available for research activities at Universities and requested Rotarians to support Research at Universities. He also cautioned Rotarians about the fake Covidex drug that is currently in the market and expressed concern over the same, saying that counterfeit products are not just restricted to Uganda but a global problem.

In addition, he informed Rotarians that bigger quantities of the Covid 19 drug will soon be made available in the market.

The President of the Rotary Club of Muyenga, Prof. Augustus Nuwagaba thanked Prof. Ogwang and his team for accepting the Vocational Service Award by the Rotary Club of Muyenga. PDG Kenneth Mugisha also thanked Prof. Ogwang and his team for his innovative skills that resulted into the COVIDEX Therapy innovation that has saved many lives. He encouraged Prof. Ogwang to join Rotary so that he can continue serving the community as a Rotarian.

On behalf of the Rotary Club of Muyenga, I take this opportunity to thank Prof. Ogwang and his team for gracing the Vocational Service Award event by the Rotary Club of Muyenga. I also thank the entire Rotary Family of Muyenga for their explicit and implicit support in making this year's event a success. Indeed I am proud to be a Rotarian. Lastly, I am calling upon every Rotarian to demonstrate the spirit of philanthropy and engage in a vocational activity by extending a helping hand to a needy soul before the end of January which is the Vocational Service Month of Rotary.

Parting shot "Do not let your left hand know what your right hand is doing".



Prof. Patrick Engeu Ogwang , his wife, Prof. Augustus Nuwagaba CMP RC Muyenga and members of the Vocational Award Committee.



Prof. Patrick Ogwang receiving the Award from President Augustus Nuwagaba, PP Remmy Kasule and Rtn Paul Mugamba.





ASPIRING FOR A PEACEFUL & SECURE AFRICA!

Rotarian Joseph Bikanda

RC Muyenga

The inherent traditional resilience in the structuring of African communities is derived from their identity and practice of addressing the vulnerabilities of their communities from bottom-up so that values and way of life can be maintained in the face of external threats or influences. These characteristics preserve not only the way of life, enabling safety and dignity, but also contribute immensely to the stability of the larger community, including the State. In addition to this, illicit proliferation of arms remains a huge contributing factor to instabilities and threat to peace in Africa.

Today, many African countries are still nurturing their democracies for good governance in an environment of underdevelopment, poverty, inequality, deprivation with limited opportunities. This effect had led many countries into the various crisis and persistent conflicts. It is not fashionable to say that out of 55 Member States of the African Union (AU), at least 15 countries are marred by instabilities and conflicts.

Yet, the AU has a strong mechanism and policies aiming to ensure that Africa achieves Aspiration 4 of Agenda 2063 which stands for “A peaceful and secure Africa.” And through this, a dialogue centered approach to conflict prevention and resolution; and promotion of a culture of peace and tolerance among youth. In the quest for a stronger conflict resolution approach, one should consider the methodical transformation of early warning recommendations into early response.

It requires therefore strong interpersonal relations between political stakeholders at national and regional levels and active participation of civil society organizations. Knowing that there is no size fits all formula to conflict resolution because of the uniqueness of each conflict, and the complex geopolitical dynamics in the region; solutions to conflict resolution should draw on creativity as a vehicle for survival rather than violence. Engaging young people offers the strongest leverage for gaining insight into what principles can guide the best choices.

It is the Ubuntu Spirit. It applies to finding solutions, solving problems, handling conflicts and catastrophic disasters through transformative leadership perspectives; stimulating collaborative opportunities, and exploring new and open ways for trusting partnerships across racial, cultural and religious backgrounds. Each culture will have its own vehicle to retrieve the soul of humanity lost to disconnection. In Africa, it is the call of a drum to bring community together.

Peace and Conflict Resolution is one of the six areas of focus of Rotary International, therefore, a strong partnership between the African Union and Rotary is needed to have a holistic approach centered on community and humanity, to potentially rise above adverse conditions to reconnect and build a long-lasting peace on the African continent.

Rotary should look again into more transformational strategies to support a shift in youth decision-making from destructive affiliations to constructive re-engagement in the well-being of communities. And these could be:

- Capture local experiences with positively transcending adversity such as economic and political constraints imposed by oppressors, or community initiatives where traditional practices brought people together to restore community instead of accelerating separation and isolation.
- Incorporate Education and development for youth: A program for emergent young leaders that would provide decision-making and leadership awareness, ensuring the social transformation brings higher levels of self and collective awareness.
- Development of a platform where experiences gathered could be shared to facilitate exchange and cross the globe, providing moral or emotional support for on-the-ground change agents like the Rotaractors and the Rotarians.
- Transformational strategies unique to the culture conditions and nature of the conflict.
- Early warning systems in communities and a strong early response strategy
- Building Partners



97TH DISTRICT CONFERENCE ARUSHA 12 - 14TH MAY 2022

ARRIVAL DAY - 11TH MAY

DG's Cocktail at the
Cultural Heritage Centre
Theme: African Heritage

Dress code: African Cultural

WHAT WILL YOU WEAR?

Register now at rotaryd9214.org



Don't miss the DG's Cocktail at the Cultural Heritage Centre on the 11th May to mark the beginning of our DCA. The theme is African Heritage, so come dressed in your best African cultural attire. What will you wear? We are looking forward to seeing you there!

97TH DISTRICT CONFERENCE ARUSHA 12 - 14TH MAY 2022

DAY 1 - 12TH MAY

Evening Function at the
Mount Meru Hotel
Theme: The Lion King
Dress code: Animal Prints

ARE YOU READY TO GO WILD?

Register now at rotaryd9214.org



rotaryd9214.org

Rotary District 9214

97TH DISTRICT CONFERENCE ARUSHA 12 - 14TH MAY 2022

DAY 2 - 13TH MAY

DG'S AFRICAN ROYAL NIGHT
Banquet at the AICC
Dress code: African Royal Ascot

HOW EXQUISITE WILL YOUR HEADPIECE BE?

Register now at rotaryd9214.org



rotaryd9214.org

Rotary District 9214

For our day one evening function on the 12th May we are going wild!!! Are you ready! Our theme is the Lion King, so we are expecting your best animal print! Let's Get Wild for Arusha!!! Register now and don't miss on the chance to network, have fun and learn with fellow Rotarians!

On the 13th we have the DG's African Royal Night Banquet at AICC! We are looking forward to seeing you in your African Royal Ascot attire! A night of great food, elegance, fun and much more! For sure it will be an evening to remember! We hope to see you there!