



District 5340 Newsletter



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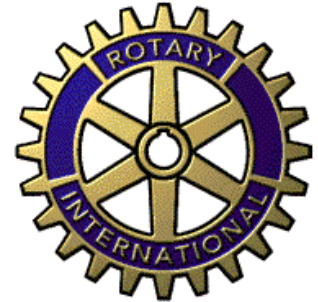
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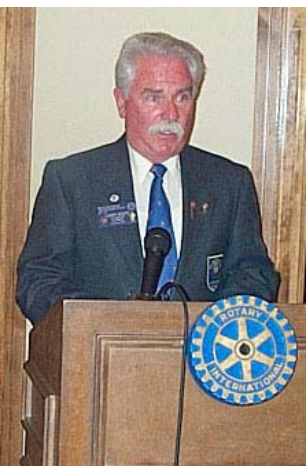
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The Wheels Of Rotary – February 2003

FEBRUARY- "World Understanding and Peace Month"

Welcome Message From Your District 5340 Governor 2002-03 Larry Scott



My dear fellow Rotarians, welcome to the February edition of our District Newsletter "The Wheels of Rotary". As with all previous and future editions we hope to provide you with timely and interesting information of what is happening in District 5340 and throughout the world of Rotary. Just as you take a few minutes to read "The Wheels of Rotary" I encourage you to

take time to read articles published in "The Rotarian" magazine, "Rotary World", the "Rotary Newsbasket" and other Rotary information that is provided to Rotarians and the individual clubs throughout the year.

As we celebrate "World Understanding and Peace Month" let us open our minds and hearts to the endless possibilities of how we can present programs that promote international understanding and goodwill, as well as launching World Community Service projects in other parts of the world. To that extent we have volunteers in India, others going to Pakistan, Africa, and Peru, Eritrea and Malawi. Some are now on site, and others will be in their

designated areas before the end of this Rotary year.

98 Years ago, a simple man, but one with a great vision, Paul Harris, started this wonderful organization because of his vision of peace and a truly neighborly world. The result of his vision, the planting of a sapling back in 1905 with the first Rotary Club of Chicago, has grown into a mighty tree in whose shade it is delightful to dwell around the world. As our founder wrote in his book "My Road to Rotary", "God grant that my vision of the faults of men and of nations be dimmed and my vision of their virtues be brightened." I believe our founder would be proud of what he would see today. Our strength lies in the fact that our members look beyond themselves and their borders to serve all humanity. Rotarians in District 5340 can be especially proud of the wonderful work we have done and continue to do for people in our communities and throughout the world. You have much to be proud of for being a Rotarian in this our 98th year of service to the people of the world. During this particular month of February I encourage every Rotarian to wear their Rotary Pin every day, not just when you attend your club meeting. Show the world, you are a Rotarian. Let them see a living example of "Service Above Self" – You – the person in their community who truly cares for them.



I started this calendar year by revisiting each of the clubs in District 5340, as I wanted an opportunity to thank each club for their support and effort during this Rotary Year. Also, it provides me with an opportunity to encourage every Rotarian to sign up early for our District Conference in Laughlin, Nevada from 2 – 4 May 2003. Your committee has pulled out the stops to make this a fun-filled, interesting and affordable event for you and your family. Through the brilliant effort of our Web Master, Philippe Lamoise, we can offer you a convenient one-stop, easy to use, registration system. You may use your credit card for payment knowing that we have a secure e-commerce account established. This method ensures your use of your credit card is exactly as if you were dealing with your personal bank in any type of transaction. For those who are hesitant to use their credit card on-line, you can download the registration form and send it in to the District Office along with payment, or just fill out the form on-line and send the payment in directly to the District Office. As a first for our district, we will be joined by District 5320 to host a Joint-District Conference. Now you can “Double Your Fun & Share Rotary” during the conference. Register early to be eligible for a special drawing that pays up to \$500 to the winner! As a special treat our Keynote Speaker will be the Director of the Peace Corps, The Honorable Gaddi Vasquez. Then to delight the audience, we have as our own special entertainment, famous Hollywood entertainer, Rich Little, the world adored actor and comedian. Rich will be the big show at the Laughlin dinner on Saturday evening. The price is right – only \$270 for Rotarians including registration, all events and meals. Spouses will be able to join us for only an additional \$220, which also includes all events and meals. Bring the kids – if you want them to attend various functions we have a special price of only \$120. If you just want them to swim, play video games, go bowling, explore old mining towns and eat a Big Mac, then skip the \$120 and bring them along.

We have formed our team of volunteers to journey to Malawi in March and assist in the delivery of the Wheelchairs in that country. I

wish to extend a special thanks to all the Rotarians in the district for their extraordinary response and effort on behalf of this project.



Our original Wheelchairs For Malawi objective was to raise \$50,000 and deliver 500 wheelchairs to those in need in that country. Through your support and efforts we will be able to deliver over 2,000 wheelchairs to those

in need in Malawi, since you so generously contributed, and were joined by others outside of Rotary, we received just over \$176,000. What a remarkable achievement you accomplished. Thank you so very much. Yours was truly a gift from the heart, and your contributions will touch the hearts of many for many, many years to come.

I also want to thank Bob Watson and his team of coordinators for their effort on behalf of the Polio Eradication effort. Through the generous support of several clubs, we have already been able to provide \$342,500 to date. I know that every Rotarian in this district wants to see the eradication of polio from the face of the earth. We have created a special Polio Eradication Pin that is available to every Rotarian or person who donates in excess of \$125 to this campaign. Rotarians are requested to consider giving a minimum of \$135 to this campaign. Such a contribution will ensure that we will be able to provide an additional \$500,000 to the already collected \$342,500. At that point, I feel confident we can reach the million dollar mark. You have an opportunity to be a part of history – to make history happen – by supporting the Polio Eradication Program with your generous donation. What better way to celebrate World Understanding and Peace Month during February than by providing the necessary support to eradicate Polio from the world. Please join me. Your commitment forms need to be completed or donation provided before the month of May of this year. A donation of \$135 can be paid to the Rotary Foundation over a three-year period at the rate of \$45 per year. Just a little under 34 cents a

day.

District Governor Elect, Mike Stelman, has completed his Governor Elect Training Seminar, and our District Governor Nominee, Sandi Rimer, has completed her Governor Nominee Advance Training Seminar. Both during the month of January. Governor Mike, along with District Trainer Dale Bailey have created the training



programs for the President-Elects, and for all the District Leadership and Club Leadership Rotarians when they attend the upcoming District Assembly. Mike has put together an outstanding team of Rotarians to assist each of us in the district. You can look forward to continued support to assist each Rotarian and Club to be able to provide even more programs in support of their communities, and to make their experience as a Rotarian an exciting, educational and worthwhile time of their life. Mike and Sandi will continue to visit various clubs throughout the district as they fine-tune the plans and objectives for their year of service as your District Governor.

The best way to motivate new members and retain the members you have is to involve them in a service project. You will need more than one, but make sure they find one that touches their heart. Included in this newsletter are some excerpts from an article that shows how the hands-on experience of being a Rotarian – putting Service Above Self – affects those who truly become Rotarians. Those individuals are in every club in District 5340. Please let your club know what touches your heart – what project you believe needs our attention – so that we will have an opportunity to touch the hearts of other Rotarians in our club and around the world.

Thank you for your support, and I look forward to seeing you and your family at Laughlin, Nevada from May 2nd through the 4th. Thank you for joining me during this very meaningful month, which marks the 98th year of

Rotary, as we undertake World Understanding and Peace Month. Remember to “Sow The Seeds of Love”, as you continue our work as Rotarians.

*Yours in Rotary Service,
Larry*

A Message from RI President Bhichai Rattakul



Dear fellow Rotarians,

In 1921, the Rotary Convention at Edinburg, Scotland, instituted international service as part of the Object of Rotary. In response, founder Paul Harris declared, “Yesterday our Rotary was a child. Today, in strength and vigor, it steps out into the world.”

As we celebrate World Understanding Month in February, let us remember those prophetic words. Rotary’s strength lies in the fact that its members look beyond themselves and their borders to serve humanity. International service offers so many opportunities to make a difference, whether it’s supporting a Youth Exchange student, sponsoring a Rotary World Peace Scholar, contributing to the polio eradication fundraising campaign, or implementing a World Community Service project. Many Rotarians have told me that they did not truly understand the meaning of Rotary until they participated in an international project. The experience added a whole new dimension to fellowship, understanding, and service.

One of RI’s most popular programs is World Community Service (WCS), which has been described as the “quiet revolution of hope.” Each year, Rotary clubs provide an estimated US\$26 million in funds and supplies. The WCS program matches countries in need of assistance with those willing to provide resources and funds. The online WCS Projects Exchange

database lists projects to help facilitate the process.

World Understanding Month is an opportunity for Rotarians to establish relationships and projects with clubs in other countries. In these turbulent times, it is more important than ever to Sow the Seeds of Love and promote international understanding.

My dream is that Rotary becomes a major force for peace. Rotary Youth Exchange students, Ambassadorial Scholars, Rotary Volunteers, and Group Study Exchange teams all contribute to global understanding. Our newest initiative, the Rotary Centers for International Studies in peace and conflict resolution, offers two-year graduate programs for scholars to study international relations, mediation, and conflict resolution. I also encourage Rotarians at the grassroots level to serve as ambassadors for peace, as they meet with their counterparts in other countries.

More than 80 years after the Edinburgh convention, international service continues to serve as the foundation for some of Rotary's most popular and enduring programs. I will never forget the words of Dr. Noboru Iwamura of Japan, who was the first recipient of the Rotary Award for World Understanding and Peace in 1981: "Go to the people; live among the people; learn from the people; plan with the people; work with the people. Start with what they know; build on what they have."

Rotarians around the world are doing just that. They are working through Rotary and its Foundation to improve the human condition and provide hope to the hopeless. International initiatives such as PolioPlus will change the course of history. Through our humanitarian work, Rotarians will leave a lasting legacy. We will continue to Sow the Seeds of Love in our quest for health, peace, and stability. We will continue to step out into the world and make a difference.

Bhichai Rattakul



President,
Rotary International

THE ROTARY STORY – A DEFINING MOMENT IN LIFE

Each of us has a special moment in our life that gives us a direction that will stay with us for the remainder of our life. Terry Mueller, now Governor of Rotary District 6440 had one such moment in her life, and we are delighted to bring you some of her comments and the experience.

Terry first joined Rotary in 1990, mainly to meet some people and have a social life in her new neighborhood of Crystal Lake, Illinois, where she and her family had just moved from Kingsville, Texas. As a good Rotarian she helped organize local projects such as a coat drive for underprivileged children and an adopt-a-family program to help the elderly and disabled with routine chores. Then in the summer of 1991, Terry suffered the loss of her son Scott, when he had a fatal asthma attack while in Switzerland on a Rotary Youth Exchange. He was only 17 years of age. For Terry the following year was a slashing, painful blur. "When you lose a child, the grief shifts your entire perspective. There are many ways to channel grief, most of them negative. I wanted something positive to come from my loss, so I threw myself into Rotary, trying to channel my grief by helping somebody else."

To that extent she volunteered to participate on a medical mission to Huanaco in Peru. Operation Condor, which sends teams of volunteers to provide vital medical care to low-income families in and around the city of Huanaco. This project was started by Rotarians in Illinois, and has been supported by Rotary clubs around the world where they provide such services as cleft-palate and cleft-lip surgeries; primary obstetric, gynecological and orthopedic care. Since this area does not have a full-time staff, each mission provides its own volunteers and supplies, which are donated by hospitals, pharmaceutical

companies and private sponsors.

Nothing prepared Terry emotionally for what she saw in Huanaco. “You can read stories in The Rotarian and newspapers about what’s going on in the world. But until you experience a place like Huanaco and see how others have to live, it doesn’t hit home. We are spoiled in America. We have blinders on.”

In Huanaco, people line up by the hundreds, three deep for blocks around. One woman rode three days on horseback with her daughter, who had cerebral palsy, just for a pair of old, wooden crutches. The raw reality of life for many in the region had a deep and lasting effect on Terry. She says that those two weeks in Peru gave her a new perspective on life and what it means to serve others. “My husband and I think about losing our child,” she says. “But if you go to a place like this, you realize, yes, we’ve lost a lot, but how fortunate we still are. I don’t ever want to lose what I gained there; a new sense of my value to others. Joining Rotary gave me that gift. It’s the best thing I’ve ever done. The payback is priceless in terms of how you feel about yourself and about others.”

Rotary gave Terry an opportunity, a chance to truly affect someone’s life. What could possibly feel better than that?

LEADERSHIP AND DEVELOPMENT ACADEMY

Under the guidance of our District Trainer, Dale Bailey, the Class of 2003 commenced their year-long studies at the new Leadership and Development Academy. The Class of 2003 has 53 Rotarians enrolled. Some have less than one year of service in Rotary, others have over 30 years of service. Some have never held any type of office in Rotary at the Club or District level, while others have served Rotary for many years in a variety of positions up to an including that of being the District Governor. The current class includes among it’s students the District Governor, District Governor Elect, District

Governor Nominee and two Past District Governors, along with some Club Presidents and other individuals who have served in various offices in their clubs. The course of instruction can be accomplished during some free time each week, some on-line research and an opportunity to meet with the members of the class throughout the year to discuss the courses.

Members of the class, upon successful completion, will graduate in November 2003, and will be awarded their diploma at the annual Paul Harris event which takes place in November. These will be the future leaders for our district, for your club, and hopefully some day for Rotary International. The course of instruction is very comprehensive, and will provide training to members of every club that will enable the club to have the benefit of individuals who are well versed in Rotary and who have shown a dedication and commitment to take that extra step to serve their club.

Enrollment is complete for the Class of 2003. The District Trainer will announce, at a later date, when applications will be accepted for the Class of 2004. Make sure your members are aware of this wonderful opportunity. Informed members – stay members.

CENTENNIAL – ROTARY’S LEGACY OF GOODWILL

From the very beginning, Rotary has stood for peace and understanding. From the very start all the elements for peacemaking were in place: our emphasis on acquaintance, fellowship and service. As Rotarians applied those elements to everything they did, the natural outgrowth was a dedication to understanding and goodwill. Rotary has always sought to push through social and cultural barriers by emphasizing cooperation among its members. The resulting ties between members have been the basis for an untold number of educational and humanitarian projects that strive for peace or address underlying causes of conflict, such as poverty and hunger.

A close look at the milestones in the Rotary

peace movement reveals how our legacy of goodwill was created.

1911: First Rotary clubs outside of North America established in Ireland

1914: Houston convention adopts resolution calling for international peace conference

1917: Arch Klumph proposes endowment “for doing good in the world”

1922: LA convention approves addition of peace to Object of Rotary

1923: President of US, Warren Harding (a Rotarian) states that every Rotary club in every community would guarantee the tranquility and the forward march of the world.

1932: Chaco War between Bolivia and Paraguay. Rotarians stage large effort to help prisoners.

1939: The Rotarian publishes first of 160 peace articles.

1940: Havana convention adopts resolution stating that Rotary cannot function where “respect for human rights” does not exist.

1942: Rotary peace-planning conference in London, serves as precursor to UNESCO.

1945: Rotarians help draft UN charter in San Francisco.

1965: Rotary Foundation launches Matching Grants & Group Study Exchange programs.

1981: Rotary Award for World Understanding & Peace is established.

1985: Rotary announces Polio Plus Campaign.

1989: Rotary clubs chartered in Budapest, Hungary & Warsaw, Poland for first time in nearly 50 years.

1990: Rotary Club of Moscow is chartered.

1999: Rotary Centers for International Studies in peace and conflict resolution established.

2002: First class of 70 Rotary World Peace Scholars begin study at Rotary Centers

2002: First class of 53 Rotarians begin study at District 5340 Leadership and Development Academy

Rotary Centers for International Studies as a part of Rotary’s plan for peace have received instant praise. Many consider the Rotary Centers to be “one of the most meaningful and innovative initiatives of the Rotary Foundation in the new millennium.” Preparing new leadership for global peace and problem-solving is one of the most critical needs of the 21st century.

As Rotary nears the dawn of its own new century, it is achieving goals and tackling issues that Paul Harris could never have imagined. Yet the basis for all of the accomplishments of Rotary International, The Rotary Foundation, and districts, clubs, and individual Rotarians worldwide can be found in the ideals that brought four men together for fellowship nearly 100 years ago.

2002-2003 PRESIDENTIAL CITATION

Club Presidents are reminded that they will need to submit the Rotary Form for specific club recognition to the District Governor for signature. Please review the January 2003, District Newsletter for more complete details. DON’T DELAY – DO IT TODAY!

DID YOU KNOW?

More than 900 million people cannot read or write in any language. That means that approximately one-quarter of the world’s population is functionally illiterate. Promoting literacy is essential to addressing health, hunger and poverty. The benefits

of literacy translate into better paying jobs, better educated parents, and an ability to actually discuss peace and understanding with other persons. Literacy provides a path to self-improvement and enlightenment. When you have an opportunity to take a hour to read to a child in one of our local schools, provide books for children in developing countries, or volunteer to be a Rotary volunteer and work at one of the many children's schools for street children in developing countries to teach them to read – DO IT!

Larry Scott from La Mesa

YOU SHOULD HAVE SEEN WHAT I JUST SAW!

Early in the morning, across the softly flowing Colorado River, from the Arizona side, I gazed over the roof tops through the crisp, clear air of Laughlin on the brightly colored, glamorous casinos. I saw what appeared to be white columns of angel powder puffs cascading upward into the bright blue sky. The true spirit of this country-community of Laughlin, Nevada began to come to life. The “puffs” were the “exhausts” from a Slurry Coal burning power plant belonging, mainly, to Southern California Edison.

COMFORT AND STYLE: “The road to ‘Glitter Gulch’ is enlarging.” “The Laughlin/Las Vegas road will be slow going until I-15 work is done.” Don’t worry, your **Rotary Committee** is providing buses. Ride, relax and see constantly changing, panoramas of the desert with its growth of sand, cactus, smoke trees, ocotillo and sage brush. It’s a delight to see the surrounding purple, blue and sandstone mountains. Atmospheric and weather changes will comfort you after our high humidity. Shuttles take you all over--even, the golf course.

SNEAKY POLICE: As I drove through a small town near Laughlin, the traffic flow slowed-- the police were near. Sure enough, there he sat in his patrol car by the side of the road. I approached and was surprised he didn’t get out--my handicapped flag was in plain sight. At night, he was a little obscured. I and tapped on his window. He didn’t move. Was he dead! Finally, I realized I was speaking to a dummy, no not that kind of person, a Police Doll.

THE FLAMINGO HOTEL: Laughlin’s, multi-colored, brilliant lights beckoned me to fully bathe in the beams along Casino Drive. No rooms at the Flamingo--don’t worry, your

T-SHIRTS NEEDED



Many clubs throughout the district have annual events for which they obtain T-Shirts with their club names and the name of the event. In many instances there are usually a few of these shirts remaining after the completion of the event, and in many

cases they are dated and not suitable for use the following year.

If your club is one such club that may have some extra T-Shirts stuffed into a box, and would like to help some deserving people in Malawi have a decent piece of clothing, while at the same time having your club’s name known around the world – then:

Contact one of the volunteers who will be going to Malawi for the Wheelchair delivery, and they will pass out T-Shirts to the young people, and probably some older people, who desperately need a decent shirt to wear:

[Dick Stevens from Encinitas](#)
[Philippe Lamoise from Torrey Pines](#)
[Chuck Ruane from La Mesa](#)
[Kirk Collins from Del Mar/Solana Beach](#)
[Jim O’Meara from Carlsbad](#)
[Russ Hanthorn from Carlsbad](#)
[Chuck Duvivier from Encinitas/La Costa](#)
[Bill McDade from San Diego](#)

Rotary Committee reserved dirt cheap rooms for you, providing you book before March 31. It is even cheaper than staying at home. Annually, 4.5 – 5 million tourists enjoy the golden amenities, whoops, I mean **Passionate Pink**? You can all languish in bed, have food and drinks served or relax from a massage. Need a change of pace? Start slowly with a sparkling pool dip, then an invigorating tennis game. Getting hungry? Hotels are for gourmet meals. The Flamingo's new Paradise Garden Buffet, finest buffet dining on the river, has a "glass-wrapped-around wall" that gives an exquisite 180 degree, panoramic view of landscaping outside as well as details of surrounding mountains. Health enthusiasts will enjoy the new baked potato bar and live-action cooking stations. Food themes are Mexican, seafood, Asian and American cuisine. Finally--time to grace the "get rich tables"—all this without leaving the hotel.

IS THERE MORE TO LAUGHLIN THAN JUST THE CASINOS? What will my family and friends do during my "Rotarying"? As I entered the **Flamingo's** busy gambling area, I mused, "How can we draw people like me and children who neither drink nor gamble." I can tell you such tempting things you and might even want to [come days earlier](#) and [stay days later](#).

THE MASSIVE COLORADO RIVER: From my window across the river in Arizona, was a terrific panoramic view of all the colorful action along the Casino strip with the blue Colorado River at its feet. Its history, battles and secrets would fill a set of encyclopedias. People think of both sides of the river as being in Laughlin Nevada--far from true--the east side of the river is Bullhead City, **ARIZONA**. As I returned over the river, my eye caught sight of a resource, at least for family, children and campers. A wide, deep, golden beach at Davis Camp invites us to get our toes wet (Mohave, Arizona County Parks and Recreation Department). It has everything for the Happy Camper--camper parking, and boat launching. Hotels have pools and some hotels have a beach behind. The free and easy open beach is more inviting to children. It will be

warm enough in May for family and friends to dive in. Your friends, children (grandchildren, etc.) will be able touch a genuine pontoon plane and watch them take off and land on the river.

PLEASE FEEL LAUGHLIN: This will help you get a "feel" for Laughlin, its food, its odors its views, and its attractions. Come to Laughlin. We will leave a light in the window for you.

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