A message from the Governor

June marks Fellowship month for Rotary. There is no better time than now to recognize the powerful impact our fellowship has in humanity. Our connections and interactions drive our services, drive our execution of well laid out plans, and drive our heartfelt caring of each other. These are the characteristics that Paul Harris would be most proud.

Imagine what it must have been like to sit at the table with Paul Harris and others responsible for not only the chartering of Rotary but the building of the foundation that would make the organization stand the test of time. This is what each and everyone one of you do each time you sit at the table of Rotary in your clubs. Yes, you are responding to local challenges and the assistance to those in most need; however, you also are building a foundation for all that follow. What is the legacy you would like to leave behind? What is the foundation you are building that others will talk about in 10, 15, 20, 100 years?

Soon, we will have the ability to meet in person once again. It is my hope that we will take the time at that first meeting to just pause for one minute and think about what our fellowship will look like as we venture into a whole new era of service, technology, and the ongoing efforts against the COVID-19 pandemic.

In this edition we have posted service efforts that took place in May. Keep in mind that this does not represent all the efforts of our clubs and members, it is only a sampling based on what the clubs submitted to the district for the newsletter. Take note to look at the projects, find new ways to partner with other clubs and grow the fellowship between clubs. This is the fellowship Paul Harris imagined. Let’s honor the legacy of Rotary by continuing to build on the amazing and impactful stories of our Foundation.

Finally, keep an eye out for a Special Edition of the Highlighter later this month as we highlight key recognitions and officially hand off the baton to the class of 2020-2021.

As always, I thank you for your incredible passion, service, and humanity. Most of all, thank you for connecting the world to make it a better place.

Hugs,

Maria Lu

Text 2 Give

We are all aware that these are uniquely challenging times. Rotarians must stand together and lead with Service Above Self. It is in the spirit of hope and promise that I come to you for help. I am a member of The Rotary Rose Parade Float Committee. Our District is one of the 6 Founding Districts which have supported the Committee and the Float for over forty years. While it may not be ideal to be asking at this time, I feel it is my obligation to offer you the opportunity to help where it is truly needed now.

So, how can you help? We are offering an opportunity to place a personalized message on the next Float! This personalized message will be on a postcard that will actually ride on the float, and then be sent to you or a person of your choosing immediately following The Rose Parade. Your message can celebrate a birthday, a wedding, have a special meaning, or even “I love you but get out of my kitchen”. Both lectures are filled with great information to help all of us and our communities as we begin to phase out of the Safe At Home Orders and begin to navigate in a changed world. Invite your friends and family to join in.

Healthy Living Lectures

By Yulanda Davis-Quarrie

Our Healthy Living initiatives continue through June. Join us on June 10 at 6:30 pm for Deedee Mascarenas, UNFT lecture on “Finding Balance and Calm in Today’s World”.

A second lecture is scheduled on June 17 at 7:00 pm by our very own Sheila Gutierrez, UNFT as she discusses “I Love You but Get Out Of My Kitchen”. Both lectures are filled with great information to help all of us and our communities as we begin to phase out of the Safe At Home Orders and begin to navigate in a changed world. Invite your friends and family to join in.

Virtual International Convention Schedule At A Glance

We hope you will register and take time out of your busy schedules to participate in the first virtual International Convention. The schedule at a glance is below. For more information, please visit the convention website regularly at https://www.riconvention.org/en.

Saturday 20 June

8:00 - 9:15 Chicago Time (UTC-5) ● Together We Connect ● Virtual Convention General Session 1
9:15 - 14:00 ● Together We Learn ● Virtual Convention
14:00 - 19:15 ● Together We Grow ● Virtual Convention
19:30 - 21:00 ● Together We Serve ● Virtual Convention
21:00 - 22:15 ● Together We Celebrate ● Virtual Convention

Sunday 21 June

8:00 - 9:15 Chicago Time (UTC-5) ● Together We Learn ● Virtual Convention
9:15 - 14:00 ● Together We Grow ● Virtual Convention
14:00 - 19:15 ● Together We Serve ● Virtual Convention
19:30 - 21:00 ● Together We Celebrate ● Virtual Convention

A Fond Farewell

Saturday, June 6, 2020

The Rotary Club of Altadena is sad to announce the death of Mr. Julius Johnson. He was a member of the club since 1996. He served as Club President in 2012-2013 and was a Paul Harris Fellow. As a lawyer for more than 35 years, Julius loved mentoring youths. He was active with the Gamma Zeta Boule Foundation in Pasadena.

During his year as President, he helped the club get a Global Grant to teach Entrepreneurship in the country of Nigeria, Africa. He also went on the trip that year to help teach young adults on how to start a business. Julius was the father of two sons and a daughter.

PEPPA and The Rotary Foundation

By LuAnne Arredondo

The day started like any other Saturday - the sun was high in the CA sky and there was a soft breeze coming in. Except, on this particular Saturday, (May 8, 2020) our District 5300 Foundation Chair, Susan (Johnson and Retired Police Chief and Governors Aide), Donald Fermald and I were meeting at Don’s house to break open PEPPA the pig. With many thanks to all the clubs in the District and the countless Rotarians that donated, we were able to not only reach our goal of 1 vaccination per member but exceeded that goal. By the time the counting was done, PEPPA held $2,438.00 in loose bills, change and even a check! I cannot thank you enough for the kindness you showed in helping me honor my Aunt Sue and ensure that we continued our fight to end polio. If COVID-19 has shown us anything, it has shown us just how quickly a virus can spread. As long as there is even 1 case of the polio virus left in this world, it has the potential to re-ignite a new pandemic of polio. I hope you will continue to give - even loose change adds up.

- Pakistan. 47 cases in 2020. 147 cases in 2019
- Afghanistan. 12 cases in 2020. 29 cases in 2019.
- Nigeria. No cases in 2020. No cases since 2016. The entire African region is on track to be declared polio-free this year.

Donate at rotary.org before the end of June if you are able to add more loose change. We are closer than you might imagine.

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By Yulanda Davis-Quarrie

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DS300 Club Service Soars in May

Rotary Club of Mesquite Sunrise adopted their 12 Graduating INTERACT Seniors and showered them with gifts, put signs in their yard and cheered them on as a way to let them know they are appreciated and proud of their future success. The entire town has rallied to take care of all the Seniors.

Rotary Club of Summerlin donated $2,000 each to Meals on Wheels...
General Session 2
- 14:00 - 15:15 London/Lagos Time
- 21:00 - 22:15 Tapei Time

Monday 22 June – Friday 26 June – Featured Breakouts (more details coming soon)
Daily, one breakout will be offered at each of the following times:
- 08:00 – 09:00 Chicago Time (UTC-5)
- 12:00 – 13:00 Chicago Time (UTC-5)
- 18:00 – 19:00 Chicago Time (UTC-5)

*Please be sure to check the date and time that is equivalent to the Chicago date and time in your area.

Quick Questions answered by Brad Howard (Past RI Director):
1. Will there be any registration for the sessions or breakouts? I understand that it is free, but not clear on registration.

Attendees will be required to register, but it will be free. This will be required for the official Convention activities, which include the sessions on June 20 and 21 and the 12 breakouts that follow. Following the convention, there will be approximately 50 additional breakouts that are being handled like the Unofficial Affiliated Events that are traditionally a part of our conventions (e.g., Zone breakfasts, district events, special meetings, etc.) These breakouts will be run, organized, produced and marketed by the organizer of the breakout. So, if the XYZ RAG wants to hold a breakout, they will be listed in the convention program. However, the XYZ RAG will have to publicize the event, decide how it will be operated (e.g., Zoom, Skype, other), create and present the program, etc. Rotary only involvement is to list them in the program and give them minimum requirements to ensure that they are on brand, an approved topic, and accountable if something goes sideways. For these breakouts, each one will decide if you have to register, or just show up. That will be communicated in their marketing materials.

2. Will the session be recorded for later viewing? The general sessions are at 6 a.m. on the west coast, and this question has come up already.

Yes, the challenge for living on the West Coast in an international organization. We are trying to make the convention available to North and South America, Europe and much of South Asia. Therefore, we have to get up at the crack of dawn. EVERYTHING that is a part of our official convention program will be recorded and stored in one location on the RI website. We have been emphatic that it must be easy to find the Honolulu convention materials and they should all be in one place. Further, some of them will go through post-production so that they will be in shorter segments that can be used in clubs. I am trying to get them to produce a few 3 minute segments, and 20 minute segments so that clubs of every size can find time in their meetings. Stay tuned.

Rotaplast Mission to Nepal Update

By Roger J. Schulte on Saturday, June 6, 2020

Because of the worldwide pandemic all upcoming surgical missions for this year and all of 2021 have been cancelled due to safety concerns for mission volunteers and patients as well as restrictions related to travel, elective surgeries, and quarantines.

Once it is safe to travel and perform surgeries in developing countries, Rotaplast will develop a new schedule of missions. This will obviously not occur for some time. Sadly our mission scheduled to Chitwan, Nepal between March 21 and April 4, 2021 will not take place.

Rotary Club of Pahrump Valley
High School’s Interact Club donated $3,000 to the fund for a graduation DVD to be provided to every graduating senior, free of charge.

Rotary Club of Glendora
continued their efforts in May by helping with physical safety and assisting with the basic needs of people that have been financially affected. To stop the spread of the virus they have been distributing masks, sanitizer, and some protective equipment. In addition they donated cash and food to Shepherd’s Pantry; and, donating money to purchase hygiene products, gift cards for groceries/target/gas etc. to the Charter Oak School District Community Liaison and to the Glendora Welfare Association.

Rotary Club of San Gabriel Valley New Gen continues to donate ear guards to area hospitals and group homes for people with disabilities. 700 ear guards have been approved for distribution.

Rotary Club of Las Vegas Southwest continued donations to the Nevada Partnership for Homeless Youth, Nevada Homeless Alliance to help in their placement of COVID-19 vulnerable homeless in motel rooms, Project 150 to help in their food distribution for Clark County School District homeless students and, donating money to purchase hygiene products, gift cards for groceries/target/gas etc. to the Charter Oak School District Community Liaison and to the Glendora Welfare Association.

Rotary Club of Claremont gave a $20,000 grant to Inland Valley Hope Partners to help meet their needs. The grant was made possible by a $10,000 donation from a local family which the club then matched from current and reserve funds. They recognized Bernadette Kerne for engaging the Hartenstein family in club efforts.

Rotary Club of East Los Angeles donated $350 for food, provided 230 face coverings, several cases of disposable gloves and diapers to La Casa del Anciano, a Senior Home in Ensenada. In addition, the club donated $250 to the Skate Shop for the purchase of food to donate to those in need. Members have also been donating much needed blood thru the Red Cross. They just completed a volunteer effort in the Garage Board Friday Food Bank serving local families.

Rotary Club of LaVerne posted Rotary signs at major intersections of the City showing Rotary Cares and how to reach out to us.

Rotary Club of Mesquite delivers meals on wheels and donated face masks to the local senior center and stayed to serve lunch through a drive through lunch service for the Seniors. In addition, the club donated masks to the Littlefield Unified School district so they would have enough masks to start their summer program.

Rotary Club of Claremont Sunrise donated 500 protective masks, 240 bottles of hand sanitizer, provided food for seniors and families, conducted member wellness calls, and reduced member dues.

Rotary Club of Green Valley is hosting a 12-month virtual field of honor recognizing those that have served in our armed forces. The recognition extends this year to also include paramedics, nurses, doctors, truck drivers, grocery store workers, delivery drivers, teachers, hospitals, our neighbors and the many other heroes who have stepped forward to help with COVID-19 because every flag tells a story. Virtual Flags purchased now will become live flags in the 2021 Field of Honor. In addition, the club is donating Food baskets to local families in need.

Peace Scholar Applicant Carli Barnum

By William Payne

Carli Barnum has just been approved to apply for a Peace Fellowship scholarship by her sponsoring Club, Green Valley/Jude Todd, and by the District Peace Foundation Committee. Upon submission of her completed online application, Carli will be informed if her application was successful in November, for study a year later. Her first choice of Rotary Peace Universities is Uppsala, Sweden. Each year, 40 chooses 85 applicants to attend its 6 universities. Carli, if successful, will join three other District 5300 candidates who have been awarded this two-year Peace Fellowship, worth some $75,000. Carli is currently living and working in the Dominican Republic.
We will not be accepting non-medical applications for this mission. Once Rotaplast staff develops a new schedule of missions, our District Rotaplast Committee will enter into an agreement with Rotaplast related to co-sponsoring one of them. At that time we will inform district clubs and Rotarians of the particulars. If you have budgeted funds for this mission, you can either send them into the district office and we will allocate them toward the next mission or you may defer them to the 2021-22 Rotary year.

We encourage clubs to schedule programs during this upcoming year by our non-medical volunteers who served on our last mission to Agra, India.

Saving Smiles...Changing Lives

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