A Message From the Governor

Happy New Year. It is hard to believe that we are half way through the 2019-2020 year.

This month we focus on Vocational Service. Look for ways to use your trade or profession in a way that aids the Rotarian sitting next to you and those in need. Our youth getting ready to graduate are hungry for vocational training. Our communities are in need of entrepreneurship programs, and our local small businesses are all looking for ways to grow and create sustainability. This is the perfect mix for Rotarians. We have the tools, the skills, and the resources to make all that possible. What will you and your club do this month? Email me and let me know. Better yet, take pictures and email them to the newsletter so we can post them in the next issue.

If you are like me, I am anxiously awaiting the unveiling of the 2020-2021 Rotary theme. It is exciting news as it allows us to continue thinking about continuity and how we will close this year in preparation for the year ahead. Your DGE Greg is about to embark on his final training as he prepares to take the helm in July and your President Elects are busy getting ready for their PETS training next month. As a collective group of members, let us find ways to help them in their planning and keep the momentum going. You have accomplished so much in only 6 months I am excited to see what comes next.

Be sure to register early for the District Conference. We will be opening registration on Friday Jan 10. We are a few days late because we are busy adjusting the meals to account for the District Assembly combination training and celebration.

As always, have a spectacular month - thank you for all that you do and your unending energy and enthusiasm - it has been the wind beneath my wings.

CONGRATULATIONS ROTARY ROSE PARADE FLOAT COMMITTEE

District 5300 would like to congratulate the Rotary Rose Parade Float Committee and their team on a very successful year promoting Rotary worldwide and for winning the Tournament Volunteer Award! Thank you to Brenda Jones (Pasadena After Hours), Michael Zoeller (Altadena/District 5300 Appointment), and Susan Hume (La Verne/Raffle winner) for walking in the Parade. You made the district proud.

The Rotary Float and walkers were featured on NBC, ABC, and KTLA. Visit rotaryfloat.org for more pictures and stories.
LAST CHANCE TO REGISTER FOR THE WORLD PEACE CONFERENCE

Rotary District 5300 is one of 6 sponsoring districts for the ROTARY WORLD PEACE CONFERENCE on January 17 & 18, 2020, held at the Ontario Convention Center.

Over 150 experts from across the country and around the world have been secured to share their solutions. Six general sessions include a Nobel Laureate nominee, the CEO of Institute for Economics and Peace, the Chief of Staff of the Peace Corps, a former Ambassador and CEO of the Carter Center, the celebrity spokesperson for World Vision, the celebrity spokesperson for UN Refugee Agency, the father of modern mediation, the CEO of CARE USA, the CEO of Project Concern International, a 2017 Nobel Peace Prize recipient and co-president of International Physicians for the Prevention of Nuclear War, the President of Rotary International and more.

104 breakout sessions feature experts on human trafficking, child abuse, spousal abuse, cyber-bullying, trauma therapy, sexual harassment, unconscious bias, violence prevention in our cities, homes, and schools and much more.

The exhibitor hall will include 60 non-profits sharing their information.

Visit the website www.peaceconference2020.org. Look over the activities and speakers. Consider attending the Friday night dinner to honor Community Heroes, which will be emceed by Fritz Coleman, of Channel 4. Join us for the Saturday dinner, which will be followed by a Peace Concert.

This conference is open to the public. Please share information with your members, partners, business associates, and friends. You will return from the conference with solutions to apply in your community. Save a child from being taken into the sex trade. Save a child from being bullied and hurting herself or himself.

Registration for the conference for the two days includes lunch. There is a special rate for college students at $150 for the two days. There are special one day rates, as well. You will not find another conference of this magnitude with this many solution providers under one roof.

Go to www.peaceconference2020.org and click on the Register Now button.

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AUSTRALIA NEEDS OUR HELP

Our friends in Australia are asking for our help. If you have seen the news, you have heard about the devastating fires in Australia (1300 homes lost and many communities destroyed - so far). For
Rise Against Hunger
Packing 10,000 meals

To attend, register at www.peaceconference2020.org. All must be registered in advance.

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4 Way Test District Contest

As we begin to prepare for the holiday celebrations, please remember to register for the 4-way test speech contest on our District website (district5300.org) before January 31, 2020. This year, social media postings are permitted to promote our support for our youth. As a precaution to avoid unfair advantage in area and district level competitions, non-Rotarian judges are highly encouraged. Rest assured that non-Rotarian judges shall be utilized for the district level competition. Wishing everyone a very jolly holiday season!

Chair Contact: Ginny Hsiao
Email: ginhsiao@gmail.com

Fly With Us!

AROUND THE WORLD:
Flight to End Polio

Peter Teahan | John Ockenfels
Members of International Fellowship of Flying Rotarians
Eastbound March 24 - May 13, 2020

To donate, please visit: www.flighttoendpolio.com

100% of your contribution will be donated to the Rotary Foundation Polio Plus Program.

The pilots, Peter Teahan and John Ockenfels are covering the entire cost of the flight as well as taking time away from their careers and lives to help end polio.

Please consider a contribution to help end polio forever.

DONATION LEVELS FOR OUR FLIGHT ARE:

WINGMAN SPONSOR: $5,000 or greater
COMMANDER SPONSOR: $750 - $999
CAPTAIN SPONSOR: $300 - $749
CO-PILOT SPONSOR: $25 - $299

All wingmen, commanders, and captains will be listed on our website!

Please LIKE and SHARE our Facebook page, Flight to End Polio

RAWCS stands for Rotary Australia World Community Service.
ANOTHER ROTAPLAST NON-MEDICAL VOLUNTEER SELECTED

Five non-medical Rotary volunteers will participate in Rotary District’s 5300-sponsored Rotaplast mission to Agra, India, providing cleft lip and palate surgeries. Names and volunteer roles were announced in the last issue of The Highlighter. Since then Victoria Roche had to withdraw due to professional responsibilities. Her slot has been since filled with Annie Liu.

In addition, Mary Ann Avnet (formerly Las Vegas Rotary Club) who had moved to New Jersey, has been invited to join our team by Rotaplast.

Donations are still needed. We have committed $50,000 toward this mission. We have yet to fulfill that pledge. If at all possible, clubs and individuals are requested to consider making their contributions by the end of January. [This mission departs on February 8, 2020.] Checks should be made out to Rotary District 5300 Foundation and sent to the Rotary District 5300 Office, 10624 S. Eastern Ave., Ste A-16, Henderson, NV 89052.

Roger Schulte: rogerschulte@gmail.com or 909-532-0673
Robin Smith: robin@smithteamlasvegas.com or 702-460-5080

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RI CONVENTION DISTRICT CELEBRATION
2020 ROTARY INTERNATIONAL CONVENTION

DISTRICT RECEPTION

DISTRICTS 5180, 5280, 5300, 5320, 5330, 5340

JUNE 7, 2020 | 5:30-9:30PM
ROYAL HAWAIIAN THEATER, HONOLULU

Join your Rotary ohana (family) for a luau buffet and show at Rock-A-Hula!
Entertainment: Waikiki's biggest show features a "Hawaiian Journey" from 1920s to present through powerful performances of music and dance by artists, hula, fire knife dancers and more!

$100 per person
Sign up at www.rotary5280.org
Deadline: May 1, 2020