I have to say that this Governor's note was one of the hardest ones to write. In some ways my heart is breaking because we could not celebrate your work with a District Conference, celebrate our Centennial with a Birthday Party to remember, celebrate and applaud your gifts to The Rotary Foundation with our Foundation Gala dinner; nor, celebrate the lives of those members we have lost - our family of Rotary is better for having known them and for having had them at the table of Rotary. However, that being said, make no mistake that your work and efforts have not gone unnoticed. And, when we are able, we will have a proper celebration of life, service, and continued goodwill. For now, let us take hold of our future and the tasks that lie ahead - starting with May.

May, as you know, is Youth Service Month. At this most challenging time, how befitting is it that we turn our focus to Youth Service? One merely need reflect on the legacy of the work we have done - from leadership training with TLC and RYLA to Vocation and Education with youth business plan, speech, and music competitions, to the Global Grant Scholars and Peace Fellows we have supported, to those we have mentored in Midderact, Interact, and Rotaract. This coupled with the work you do in your local clubs; and, it becomes clear to see the value we place on developing the next generation of leaders. While we are busy addressing the challenges of COVID-19, let us look for innovative ways to continue our efforts with the youth. Send me a note that we can share with the district about the innovative ways you are helping youth this month. I want to personally thank Boulder City Sunrise for sending the lovely card and coloring/crayons to Princess Joy. She is the next generation of Rotary and your engagement with her will impact her for the rest of her life. I encourage all of you to send a note to a young person - let them know you care, that you are here for them and are willing to mentor, groom, and guide their journey to adulthood. There is no better time to create a connection to Rotary than right now.

As I look around me, I am proud to see Rotary take the lead at the International level and the local level as they unite to take action against COVID-19. To see Rotary, Kiwanis, Lions, Federation, and Optimist clubs come together to leverage our strength and activate our networks to provide food, masks, PPE's to first responders, clothes, and create platforms for continuing assistance is magnificent and key to our longevity and the sustainability of our projects. If you have not yet reached out to the clubs in your area, host a virtual meeting or social and bring the service groups together. Plan a joint project, take pictures, involve the youth. This is your chance to make history.

I am honored to have had an opportunity to induct several new members, join club meetings, and sing out loud (albeit completely off key) at a local event held virtually. Let us work to mentor our new members and provide them with many opportunities to experience their first Rotary moment. Do you remember yours? If you do, share it with me - I would love to hear all about it. These are the stories that need to be passed around and down through the generations.

Let us continue to work hard to maintain our connections with each other to ensure that we
mitigate the effects of isolation and fear while we expand our ability to provide resources to those in need.

Finally, I hope you will always remember how much you are appreciated and how very blessed we are to have each and every one of you at the table of Rotary. Your collective genius, passion, and ability to serve is a continuation of the Legacy created by those that came before you. I, and the District Leadership team continue to stand ready to serve you (and with you) when called upon. Thank you for your service and your continued support of The Rotary Foundation.

Sending all of you hugs and wishes for your continued good health.

Mama Lu

District 5300 Responds to COVID 19

Rotary Club of West Covina donated gift cards to local restaurants to the YWCA for families in need in the local community. Member Tony Song and wife Kelley delivered meals for the local Meals on Wheels, to families in need. Rotarian, Club Treasurer and owner of Merced Medical Pharmacy, Toni Villanueva is making sure her patients get critical medications and supplies utilizing the United States Postal Service, curbside service and home delivery to homes and assisted care living facilities.

Rotary Club of Pico Rivera are making masks and distributing them to families and hospitals in need across Pico Rivera and Whittier.

Rotary Club of Green Valley cleaned over 1400 used books to place in youth Stay Home and Read backpacks that included age related books, activity plans, treats, hand sanitizer, etc. for low income families.

Rotary Club of Altadena delivers food to Outward Bound Adventures who provide food to families in need. This effort will continue through May. The club also participated in the April 11 salute to First Responders. A day where residents came out of their homes and clapped or rang bells for 3 minutes at 9:00 am to show their support of first responders.

Rotary Club of Las Vegas WON donated 5000 meals to End Hunger in Vegas. Member and PDG Chehab ElAwar with wife and Rotarian, Bricia - provides hospital supplies to several hospitals. Supplies included masks, instruments, clothing, gloves, and wipes.

Rotary Club of Claremont participates in a Meal Train to provide food to local first responders.

Rotary Club of Las Vegas West packaged splash gowns for local hospital personnel. Polar Shades in Henderson converted their manufacturing equipment in order to produce Splash Gowns, Face Masks, and Face Shields for medical personnel to protect them while treating patients.

Rotary Club of Montebello partners on the B-U-Y-A-H (Back Up Your Area Hospital) project - A community project, providing comfort provisions to Nurses, Doctors & Staff at Beverly Hospital and Montebello’s First Responders while they battle COVID-19. The club partners with YMCA, Soroptimist, Lions, and Chamber of Commerce.

Rotary Club of LaVerne donates PPEs to a local child development center in need.

Rotary Club and Foundation of South Pasadena implemented a community tip jar for local restaurants. The initial 1st round of grants gave $9,000 to local small businesses and restaurants in need. Contact the club to help them reach their goal of $20,000.

Rotary Club of Glendora donates hundreds of masks and sanitizer to locals in need.

Rotary Club of East Los Angeles donated money to a Senior Home in Ensenada for the purchase of food.
Rotary Club of Pasadena awarded $62,000 in Community Grants to local non-profits serving the health needs of those in need in the community. Awardees included: Boys & Girls Club, Cancer Support Community, Convalescent Aid Society, Chapcare, Elizabeth House, Families Forward, Flintridge Center, Hear Center, Hillsides, Pasadena Meals on Wheels, Pasadena Senior Center, Ronald McDonald House, Villa Esperanza Services, Young & Healthy

Rotary Club of Las Vegas Southwest supports Nevada Homeless Alliance to help bring gloves, toilet paper, face masks, water, hand sanitizers, and home kits to the homeless to help prevent the spread of the virus.

Rotary Club of Pasadena After Hours networked with several clubs to obtain donations of used & new towels for mobile showers for the homeless.

Rotary Club of Greater San Gabriel Valley in partnership with the Rotary Club of Pasadena and Member Laura Huang donate 500 masks to West Covina Medical and 300 masks to Mesquite Area families with the help of the Rotary Clubs of Mesquite.

Global Scholars Update

By William Payne
District 5300 is proud of our Global Scholars.

Gaelen Stanford-Moore, University of Cambridge, Cambridge, United Kingdom 2016-17
All is well in SF. I am still working, though they have cancelled all of our non-emergency surgeries. As part of the fellowship of Rotarian Doctors there have been bi-weekly phone calls with doctors from around the world to discuss the COVID pandemic. In San Francisco my shifts have been cut down to avoid unnecessary exposure, which has also given me more time to work on research projects. I am currently working to continue efforts in studying head and neck cancer as well as access to safe surgery around the world. We currently have enough masks at my hospital though nervous for the days when they run out. Luckily tech gurus in the silicon valley have been using 3D printers to try to ramp up our supply. I was supposed to be in Italy for my 30th birthday at the end of this month, with 15 friends I met while studying at Cambridge! Sad for the trip to be cancelled, but still grateful for these friends I met during my amazing year at Cambridge. Hope your scholars around the globe are staying safe!

Anna Enger, a graduate of San Marino High School was announced as the newest recipient of a Global Grant Scholarship for graduate study in International Public Management at the Paris Institute of Political Studies beginning in September. Her interests align with Rotary’s Economic and Community Development Area of Focus. Her scholarship is worth $31,000. At Sciences PO, she expects to learn how to utilize technology and collaborative models for local governance, so the members of neglected communities are deployed and involved in their own economic development projects and policy programs.

Preparing for Change

By Garbis Der-Yeghian
The article below was written by John Dalla Costa; and, explores his thoughts on how one might prepare for change. The article is titled The Next After The Now - Preparing for Change.

The hardest thing we face today is changing our own minds. When I taught business ethics to CEOs and board members, I learned that the smartest people often have the hardest time challenging their own mindsets. True masters of learning, they have much more proficiency in adding ever more to what they already know than to allow new lessons or questions to actually disrupt thinking or perspective. No matter how traumatic, our greatest vulnerability in crisis is rarely the actual emergency. Much more is at stake and much more is at risk when we default to old mindsets in radically new situations. Crisis foments many powerful, yet also contradictory forces, including for reform. However, as the philosopher of science Thomas Kuhn posited, paradigms rarely shift during emergencies because we turn our expertise primarily to recovery - re-covering past normalcy, including the seeming stability derived from previously held certitudes. By focusing on recreating what has become broken, we usually fail to create what is needed. In lockdown or isolation, how are we to heed the lessons of this particular rupture so as to not revert to the attitudes of a fast dissolving normal? What can we do creatively, to begin to see anew, with honest minds and open
LA County Office of Consumer and Business Affairs has partnered with the Department of Workforce, Development, Aging, and Community Services, and other County and State agencies to bring you the LA County Disaster Help Center. The center has resources for businesses as well as employees to help during the COVID-19 emergency.

Counselors are available Monday through Friday between 8:30 a.m. and 5:30 p.m. and Saturdays between 10:00 a.m. and 3:00 p.m. to help business owners navigate emergency loan applications and help individuals that were recently laid off due to this emergency.

Contact the Disaster Help Center:

- Call (833) 238-4450
- Visit LACountyHelpCenter.org
- Email DisasterHelpCenter@lacounty.gov

Virtual RI Convention - Save The Date