

# THAILAND Rotary

โรตารีประเทศไทย [www.rotarythailand.org](http://www.rotarythailand.org)

English issue



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HONOLULU  
HAWAII 2020

Rotary 

# THE ONE

International Humanitarian Award

ONE: What is it? Who is eligible?  
Do you have a nominee? How do  
you make that nomination?

THE ONE is an annual International Humanitarian Award sponsored by Rotary International District 3450 and the winner is a person who truly embodies the Rotary motto, "Service Above Self". There will be a \$100,000 prize for the winner, \$50,000 each for two runners-up and \$5,000 for the Rotary club that endorses the final winner.

Candidates must be individuals aged 21 or above. There is no limitation as to sex, race or nationality. Each must have at least two years of humanitarian service. Rotarians, family members and employees of Rotary are not eligible to apply.

All individuals being submitted for the award must have demonstrated a true commitment towards providing humanitarian service to their communities.

They must put the needs of those they serve above their own.

If you have a person you would like to submit for consideration, please discuss the person with your club and ask for them to endorse your nominee. If you need assistance in securing an endorsement, just ask for help. Once you have decided upon a person and obtained an endorsement, contact me and I will guide you through the nomination process.

All applications must be submitted by November 30th. The judging and selection will take place during January – May with the award gala and presentation to follow soon after.

## ROTARIAN CODE OF CONDUCT

**As a Rotarian, I will :**

- 1) Act with integrity and high ethical standards in my personal and professional life
- 2) Deal fairly with others and treat them and their occupations with respect
- 3) Use my professional skills through Rotary to mentor young people, help those with special needs, and improve people's quality of life in my community and in the world
- 4) Avoid behavior that reflects adversely on Rotary or other Rotarians
- 5) Help maintain a harassment-free environment in Rotary meetings, events, and activities, report any suspected harassment, and help ensure non-retaliation to those individuals that report harassment

**Rotary**  
District 3450



**THE ONE**  
HONG KONG

英無名  
香港

## Message from RI President

Mark Daniel Maloney, September 2019



Dear fellow Rotarians and members of the family of Rotary,

Here in the United States, another summer is winding down. And for the Maloney family, every summer ends with a return to my hometown of Ridgway, Illinois, for the annual Popcorn Day festival, where I am honored to serve as the “Popcorn King,” the master of ceremonies for the day’s events.

Regardless of the season, every family has its own traditions. I would like to suggest a new one for yours: Find an opportunity to introduce your family to Rotary. One of my family’s traditions is to take our daughters and grandsons to the Rotary International Convention. The 2020 convention in Honolulu will be a wonderful way to introduce your children and grandchildren to the internationality of Rotary. We are planning many family oriented events for everyone to enjoy.

Any time is a fabulous time to bring family members on a Rotary service project or to a fundraising event. But perhaps you have not seen many family friendly events at your club. That is precisely why one of my top priorities this year is to make most Rotary events welcoming to family members.

We must foster a culture where Rotary does not compete with family, but complements it. We should never expect our members to choose between the two. That means being realistic in our expectations, considerate in our scheduling, and welcoming of children at Rotary events on every level.

Often, the young professionals that Rotary needs to attract in order to remain a dynamic 21st century service

organization are the very people who have the greatest family responsibilities. We must not keep these prospective young members away from their families by holding events on evenings and weekends at which their children are not welcome.

For too long, we have closed the doors of many Rotary events to children and sometimes even spouses. What wasted opportunities these are! Every chance we have to pass on the gift of Rotary to young people is one we must take if we are going to grow Rotary and ensure that the next generation is fully engaged in our mission.

So let us open our doors and do it in a fun way, with opportunities that make our children and grandchildren want to learn more about Interact, Rotaract, and Rotary membership. Start small if you must — perhaps by holding some of your meetings at more family-friendly times — but think about how you can continue these kinds of events for years to come.

Bringing children to Rotary events is not just fun; it also exposes them to the world! Make this a memorable year for your family — and an unforgettable year for the ever expanding family of Rotary as Rotary Connects the World.

Mark Daniel Maloney  
PRESIDENT, ROTARY INTERNATIONAL

## Message from RI President

Mark Daniel Maloney, October 2019



*Mark and Gay Maloney along with RI director of PolioPlus Carol Pandak during Rotary's record-breaking Sydney Harbour Bridge climb. The climb raised money for polio eradication and broke two world records (at the time): the most flags flown on a bridge (278 flags) and the largest number of climbers on the Sydney Harbour Bridge at one time (340 people).*

Dear fellow Rotarians and members of the family of Rotary,

Rotary's long-term, sustained battle against polio has defined our organization for decades. We have a right to be proud of all that we have accomplished through the years.

Our progress is real and noteworthy. In 1988, polio was endemic in 125 countries, with more than 350,000 new cases a year worldwide. Since then, Rotary and our Global Polio Eradication Initiative partners have reduced the incidence of polio by more than 99.9 percent, vaccinated more than 2.5 billion children against the virus, and prevented 18 million cases of paralysis.

Over the years, Rotary has helped country after country move into the polio-free column. This includes India, which some considered impossible not long ago. Of the three types of poliovirus, type 2 has been eradicated and type 3 could soon be certified as eradicated. Nigeria has not reported a case of wild poliovirus in nearly three years. If this trend holds, we will be down to just one type of wild poliovirus in only one section of the world, Afghanistan and Pakistan.

There are major challenges in that region. But it is crucial that we remain optimistic. Look at all that we have accomplished so far. This is no time to get discouraged or to think that the task is impossible. We will end polio forever, but only if we remain steadfast and vigilant. World Polio Day is a time for Rotarians from all over the globe to come together, recognize the progress we have made in our fight against polio, and plan the action we must take to end polio forever. The key word is action, because we still have important work to do.

This year, we want to see as many Rotary clubs as possible holding World Polio Day events around the world. Need some ideas? How about organizing a viewing party for friends and club members to watch Rotary's Online Global Update? You could also dedicate a club meeting to World Polio Day or create a fundraising event. Remember, every dollar raised is matched 2-to-1 by the Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation.

Once you have created an event, register it at [endpolio.org/register-your-event](http://endpolio.org/register-your-event). Then promote it using the World Polio Day toolkit, available at [endpolio.org/world-polio-day](http://endpolio.org/world-polio-day).

Mark your calendar to tune in to Rotary's World Polio Day Online Global Update on 24 October. This year we will stream our program on Facebook in multiple time zones around the world. Visit the Rotary International Facebook page to RSVP to your region's program. And do not forget to follow the event on social media and share it with your network.

When we reach our goal, polio will become only the second human disease eradicated on the planet, and Rotary will receive international acclaim. But what matters most is the children who will never again have to face this terrible, disabling virus. Rotary must continue to connect the world in the effort toward polio eradication. It is up to us. Let us finish the job.

Mark Daniel Maloney  
PRESIDENT, ROTARY INTERNATIONAL

**Gary C.K. Huang, September 2019**



Ni hao, Rotarians!

I hope you are making plans for the upcoming Rotary International Convention. Rotarians who live near the Pacific Ocean are especially excited! Next year's event is in beautiful Hawaii, and I know everyone is eager to make the journey to that island paradise.

So “give me five” by signing up right now for the Honolulu convention if you haven't already — and make a plan for how you are going to help The Rotary Foundation reach new heights in 2019-20. We are transforming lives everywhere, and it's all because of you.

We remind you often about the importance of giving to the Annual Fund. These donations are making the world a better place, not just by helping to end polio now and forever. Your donations make every type of Rotary grant around the world possible.

But many of you don't know something just as important: Contributing to the Rotary Endowment ensures our future. I hope you will consider creating your own legacy by making a gift to the endowment. The idea behind it is simple and very powerful. Rotary's Endowment supports Foundation programs today and into the future.

We have a goal of \$2.025 billion by 2025. We will reach that goal with your support. And once we do, amazing things will be possible. Just by drawing from the annual

investment earnings, the Foundation will have about \$100 million every year — year after year — for all kinds of life-changing and lifesaving projects. This will be an amazing accomplishment and will truly secure our Foundation long into the future.

This month, I want to give out two very special high-fives. The first goes to the Rotary Club of Taipei Roundtable. Members collected and donated \$10,000 to End Polio Now during the installation ceremony for club president Jeff Lin. Then, during a changeover ceremony a few days later, District 3750 in Korea inducted six new Arch Klumph Society members, bringing its total to eight. Congratulations on the outstanding job by new District Governor Yun Young-Jung!

The generosity of Rotarians continues to give my life great joy and purpose, and I hope it does for you as well.

Gary C.K. Huang  
FOUNDATION TRUSTEE CHAIR

Gary C.K. Huang, October 2019



Ni hao, Rotarians!

Friends, World Polio Day is this month and we are facing a major challenge. The news out of Afghanistan and Pakistan tells us that we have more work to do. It tells us that polio will not die out quickly or easily.

Most of all, it tells us that we are needed now more than ever. Success will require us to remain steady and show that there is no time limit to our commitment. We are in this to the end, and we will conquer this terrible disease. We will give life back to children and families, and restore hope to communities.

We are fortunate to have great friends in the Global Polio Eradication Initiative — including the Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation, which continues to match every donation 2-to-1. We have already eradicated wild poliovirus type 2, and type 3 could soon be wiped out. India is polio-free. All of Africa may soon be polio-free.

The most important factor in ending polio forever is you. The people of Afghanistan and Pakistan have faced so much hardship in recent years. Polio is just one more challenge. To them, it could all feel overwhelming. But not to Rotarians. We do not feel overwhelmed. We feel challenged, and, as people of action, we rise to challenges.

In the words of Confucius: “If one is virtuous, one will not be left to stand alone. It is certain that associates of like mind will come and join with one.” In Rotary, we understand these words very well. When we say “Service Above Self,” we take a stand for this virtue. We know that our like-minded brothers and sisters around the world will join us. We have been drawn together by our need to do good in the world.

We can rid the world of a disease forever. And you will be the ones to do it, through your continued commitment and generosity.

Be a part of history! Help us overcome the final hardship, the final challenge. Make your donation at [endpolio.org/donate](http://endpolio.org/donate).

Gary C.K. Huang  
FOUNDATION TRUSTEE CHAIR

# Editorial

PP.Vanit Yotharvit, D. 3360

Fellow Rotarians,

The Meteorological Department has warned that storm level 3 (tropical) “pol” covering the Nakhon Phanom province has weakened to a storm level 2 (depression) and moves into the city of Sakon nakonn. This coursed anxiety for travelers and people living in the area.

Instead, at Nong Non Tai, Sakon Nakhon province was crowded with Rotarians from very districts in Thailand and abroad. There were smiley faces on a day of overcast sky and a little cool wind.

The power of love and the faith brought thousands of people together. They have dedicated time and money to benefit people in need. It is another day for Rotarians of the happiness of being a giver and recipient.

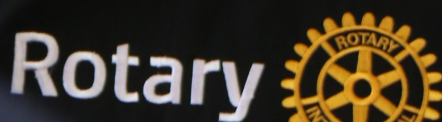
The happiness of giving good things to the villagers in Nong Non Tai, whether they be daily necessary appliances but the most important is water.

According to the Royal initiative Project, water from Nong NonTai Monkey Cheek can be stored for use, consumption and also for sustain agriculture through the year regardless of the season.

Where there is water, there is life. Today, we see lively people at Nong Non Tai and the surrounding areas of the project is full of life. We hope a community around will have a better life from this water.

And at the end, the accepting for thankfulness and smiles from the givers is also the happiness of being recipients. It was the given water from the power of true love and faith.

Yours in Rotary  
PP.Vanit Yotharvut



*Links: the images of the opening of the Sala Karun and the Lake of Love project*

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## Rotary Information

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Rotary Club of Kanchanaburi



# The Rotary Foundation Cadre of Technical Advisers

Our Rotary Foundation has a group of volunteers who have the duty to give suggestions to Rotarians in the planning and conduct of Rotary Foundation projects around the world in order to assure their success. We call this group cadre for short. Many clubs in Thailand might have already welcomed volunteers from this group when they have visited to examine service projects that received funds from the Rotary Foundation. Today, I would like to introduce you to the volunteers of this group in order for you to know more about them.

You probably want to ask who is able to perform these duties. The answer is Rotarians in good standing who have experience with The Rotary Foundation and Rotary International as well as work experience in the sector in which they are interested in volunteering. You can submit an application to The Rotary Foundation of Rotary International, It will then be considered for your knowledge of, and experience in, Rotary and the relevance of your work or professional experience to Rotary's Six Areas of Focus.

The duties of cadre can be summarized as follows:

**Technical reviews.** You assess the technical feasibility of the project based on an examination of the project application. You must then write a report presenting your views to the Rotary Foundation. This does not require travel to the project or any contact with the people who are conducting the project.

**Site visits.** In this case, there will be an assignment to a volunteer cadre to travel to examine the technical feasibility of the project at the project site. The Rotary Foundation assignment to travel to assess the technical feasibility may occur before the beginning, during the implementation, or after the completion of the project. For these assignments, the person conducting the technical review will travel to the project site, meet and talk with everyone who is involved in the project, and gather information for the final report to the Rotary Foundation.

**Audits.** This case is very important because the funds of The Rotary Foundation come from every one of us, which means that we must give them in a way that is correct, is transparent, and reflects good governance. The auditor will see whether or not the use of money for the project is consistent with the project plan and is correct and appropriate. After that, the auditor will make a report to the Rotary Foundation.

In Thailand, we have many cadres who have registered already. In addition to the duties discussed above, their other important task is sharing knowledge with members about doing Rotary Foundation projects in the correct and appropriate way. According to the information currently available, The Rotary Foundation still needs volunteers who are able to perform these duties in Southeast Asia. If you are interested, you can submit your application through the channel of My Rotary. If you would like additional information, you can contact [cadre@rotary.org](mailto:cadre@rotary.org) or read more at <https://my.rotary.org/en/cadre-technical-advisers>.

Finally, whether one day you merely receive a cadre from abroad to evaluate your project, or you do this interesting work yourself, the best of luck to you.

## Article

PP. Busabong Jamroendararasame, Ph. Dr.,  
Rotary Club of Phayao



# Rotary connects the world. at The first stride of walk

All together as one seems to be a popular term for this Rotary year of connecting the world, a connect of Rotarians networks. It is understandable that the ability to do a great work of a club with a small number of members may be limited by insufficient resources. While there are many more clubs with many members have less activities because of different opinion to work as a team for big job.

That's why to be united as one to create a power is always needed by various organizations.

Ankhalung is born in Java (Indonesia) and spread around the world. It is obvious example of inclusion. Ankhalung is a percussion instrument made of bamboo tubes hung into two bars, 2 pieces of tubes on each bar. It is played by shaking to make a sound. It is performed by bounce it on a knee. Ramming bamboo tubes resulting in highs and lows as of musical note. To play as a song, whether by a small band or large band, it needs unity.

When new people step into the Rotary Club, whether or not he decides to be a member of the club depends on many factors, such as what he thinks about the club's atmosphere. Is it friendliness, warm welcome, alienation and etc.? If members or one who invite a guest has created the atmosphere of friendliness and approachability for newcomer feels that he can become one in the club, the club would probably get member. And of course, there must be someone who step forward as a mentor and to create this atmosphere of further invitation.

There are many times the club has to do activity with the community. If both the club and the community can join as one, it will be able to energize to accomplish that activity. Members of both parties will continue to connect deeper and deeper. Consolidation is definitely good. Member will realize of how powerful they are if they could become as one. Whatever you do in any direction to go, the togetherness will make you become stronger. And if you steadily stand then you are able to support more, to be good image in public and to be example that many people want to follow.

In the year of Connects the World, even though members of many clubs will gather or will far apart and quit back together or separated to build a new club, we still need to connect the world. And most proper to do it is to begin with relationship within a club. The first stride of walk is always great, and it is all yours as Rotarian.

## Aloha Rotary

It's 8 in the morning on the island of Oahu, and Waikiki Beach is already bustling. People are clustered in the sunny patches between the shadows of the beachfront hotels: families with toddlers dashing in and out of the water; couples drinking coffee; surfers with their kaleidoscopic boards heading out to catch some early waves. Swimmers are bobbing lazily in the foam flecked ocean or doing laps in the tranquil seas behind the breakwater known as the Waikiki Wall. The stands renting snorkels, canoes, boards, and other ocean gear have begun to open; a catamaran glides back from a morning sail. Yet despite all this activity, the only thing I can hear is the crash of the surf as it breaks upon the shore.

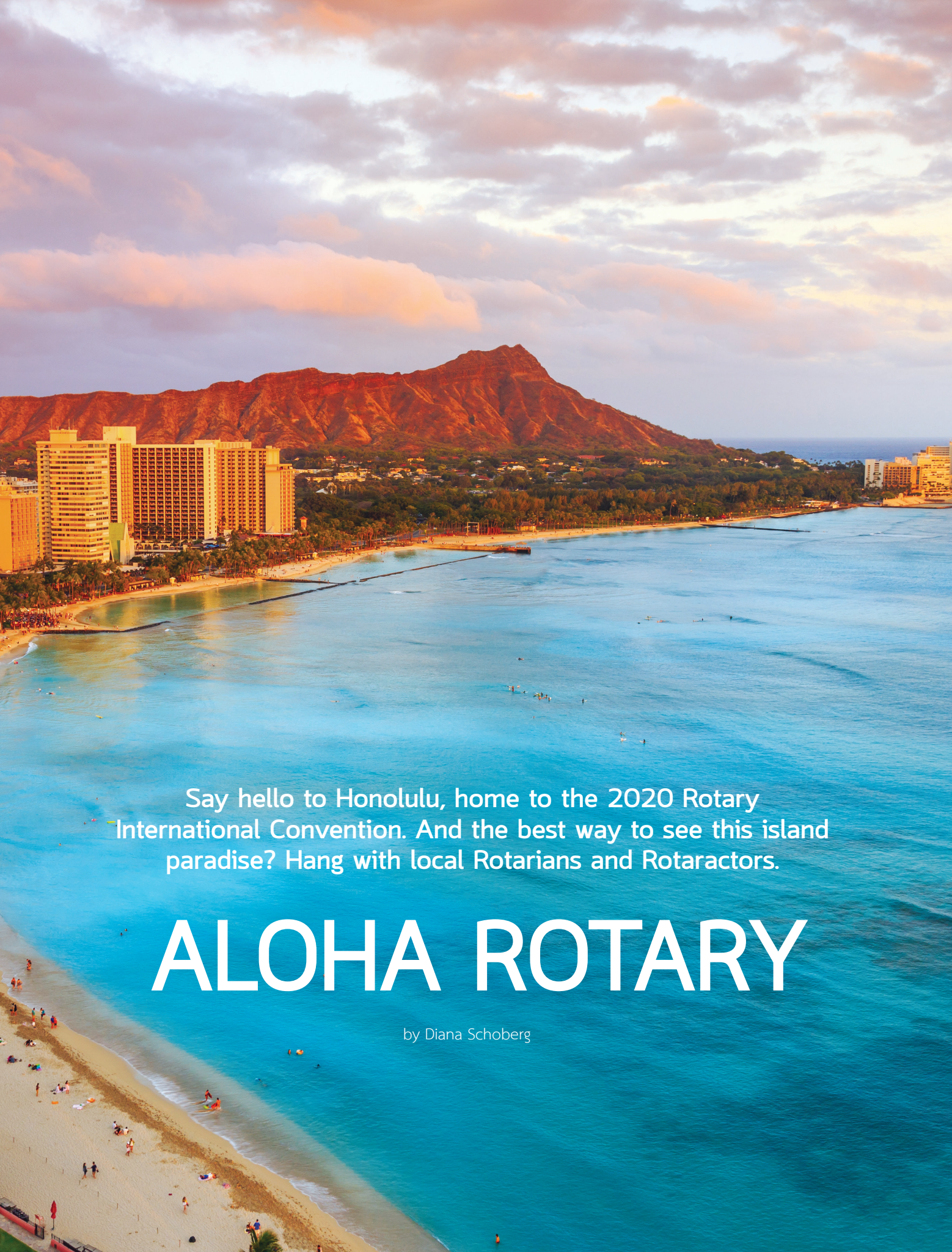
I'm with my family taking an exploratory stroll before we meet with some new Rotary friends for lunch in Honolulu's Chinatown. Our six year old daughter, Bea, rolls up her sparkly pink capris and lifts her legs high as she runs through the waves. She turns around every 50 feet to grin at me and my husband, Craig, before she starts running again, daring us to chase her across the warm sand before the waves obliterate her footprints.

This isn't our family's first trip to Honolulu. Bea has been asking to move here since we visited three years ago, when she fell in love with the temperate ocean, the golden beaches, and the perfect weather. When she found out we were making a return trip to the island of Oahu, she threw her arms around my left leg and squeezed, peppering my hip with kisses. "You're the best, best, best, best mom ever!" she shouted. Who was I to disagree?

This trip would be a little different. This time, in anticipation of the 2020 Rotary International Convention from 6 to 10 June, we were on a scouting mission, and our guides were local Rotarians who provided us with an insiders' perspective of this island paradise. I asked them to show us their Honolulu — their environment, their history, and their culture. We love the beach, but there are other sides of Hawaii that I don't want you and your family to miss.



*On Oahu's South Shore, Diamond Head overlooks Waikiki Beach and the Pacific Ocean.*

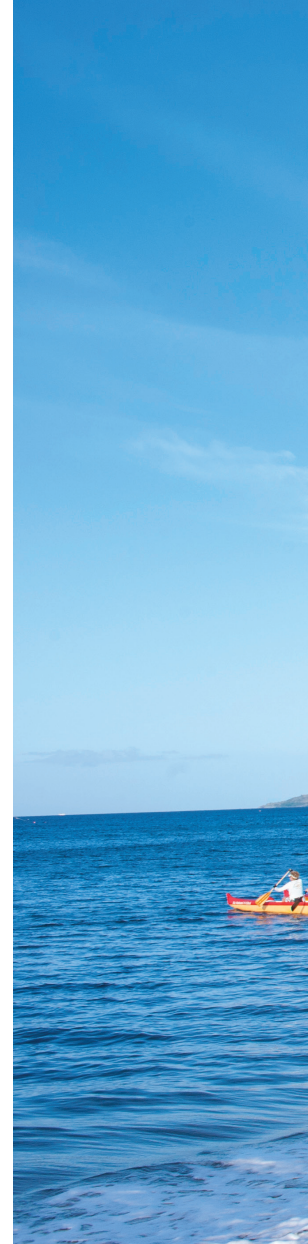


Say hello to Honolulu, home to the 2020 Rotary International Convention. And the best way to see this island paradise? Hang with local Rotarians and Rotaractors.

# ALOHA ROTARY

by Diana Schoberg

*Clockwise :*  
 - a hula dancer tells  
 a sinuous tale.  
 - dabbling paddlers  
 prepare to launch their  
 oceangoing outriggers.



**A**t St. Louis School in Honolulu, Bradford Ikemanu Lum sits at the front of a class of fifth-grade boys, pounding a gourd drum called an ipu heke. The boys chant in Hawaiian and dance, practicing for a May Day performance. They're singing a song about pohuehue vines, an indigenous morning glory found on sand dunes, that Hawaiian surfers slapped at the water's edge to implore the gods for bigger waves. At the end of the song, Lum pounds a sharp staccato as, one by one, the boys in the front row squat down with their arms spread out wide. They look as if they are riding the waves themselves.

Contrary to the stereotype, hula dancing isn't about a seductive sway of the hips; the motions go with the words of the songs. To thank them for their performance, Kanoe Cazimero chants and dances the second song of a trilogy

about Pele, the Hawaiian goddess of fire and volcanoes. She moves her arms fluidly up and down to evoke the mountains and the sea. Like Lum, Cazimero is a Native Hawaiian and cultural expert; having trained and performed hula since the age of five, she will be organizing the entertainment for the Honolulu convention, which will include a performance by her brother, the singer and musician Robert Cazimero, hailed, along with his late brother Roland, as "a cornerstone of the Hawaiian music scene."

That the class is learning about Hawaiian culture at all is a drastic change from when Lum and Cazimero were kids. Speaking Hawaiian in schools was banned in 1896, three years after the overthrow of the Kingdom of Hawaii paved the way to annexation of the islands by the United States. As native people were encouraged to assimilate and



adopt American ways, Hawaiian culture came to be viewed as back-ward and exotic. “I hated Hawaiian music; I hated hula; I hated everything Hawaiian,” says Lum. “It was because of the stigma. I didn’t want to show my Hawaiian-ness because I didn’t want to be shunned by my friends.”

It wasn’t until he was in college, where the only ethnic studies class available was devoted to Hawaii, that Lum began to embrace his native identity. Hawaiian culture experienced a renaissance in the 1970s through the efforts of people like Lum and Cazimero, sparking a renewed interest in the indigenous language, music, and art. In 1978, the state’s constitution was amended to mandate a Hawaiian education program, as well as recognize Hawaiian as an official language of the state.

When hula class is over, Lum and Cazimero take me to the Queen Emma Summer Palace, where a cool breeze

provided royalty a respite from the heat and dust of the city. On this small island, it seems as though everybody knows everybody, and we discover that one of our tour guides is the son of the president-elect of the Rotary Club of Honolulu Pau Hana, where Lum and Cazimero are members. On display is a stunning yellow and red feather cape that belonged to Kamehameha the Great, who united the Hawaiian Islands into one kingdom early in the 19th century. Hawaii had no large mammals, nor precious metals or stones, so feathers were used to display wealth and power. “Bird catchers were really important to the king and queen,” Lum explains. “Hawaiians never killed birds. They would put honey syrup on the trees, the birds would fly in it, and they would pluck the bird feathers.”

Hawaiian culture has some key values, and, Lum points out, they dovetail with Rotary’s concept of Service



*Green sea turtles, called honu in Hawaiian, are a symbol of good luck — and of the 2020 Rotary Convention.*

Above Self. The concept of ‘ohana, or family, is very important, whether that’s your blood family, your work family, or your neighborhood family. So is ha‘aha‘a, or humility. And of course there is aloha, which many people recognize as a Hawaiian word for both hello and goodbye. But “aloha” has a much broader meaning, one that encompasses love, peace, compassion, and mercy. It’s so central to Ha-waiian culture that the “Aloha Spirit” — defined as “the traits of character that express the charm, warmth, and sincerity of Hawaii’s people” — was codified in Hawaiian law. “ ‘Live aloha’ is something we say all the time,” Cazimero says. “It’s not just a phrase on a Tshirt. It comes from the heart.”

The Hawaiian Islands are such a beautiful place, they have been the setting for many movies and TV shows — and Tony and Joe Gedeon seem to know the location of every one of them. As we drive through East Oahu, the father-son duo, members of the Rotary Club of Waikiki, dazzle us with nuggets from their combined encyclopedic knowledge of Hawaiian pop culture. They point out the filming sites of Magnum P.I., Hawaii Five-0, and the famous beach scene in *From Here to Eternity*; we see the home of Tom Selleck, the site of the *Real World*: Hawaii house, and Bruno Mars’ high school.

Our tour culminates in a drive through tropical jungle and a series of hairpin turns to the top of Mount Tantalus, where we delight in the 270-degree perspective of the island.

(We made the ascent by car; more adventurous visitors may choose to challenge the switchbacks on a bicycle.) From the Pu'u 'Ualaka'a lookout, we can see Diamond Head, Punchbowl Crater, and downtown Honolulu — the same view enjoyed by Chad (Elvis Presley) and Maile (Joan Blackman) during their abbreviated picnic in Blue Hawaii. Hungry for a lunch of our own, we head back into town to sample some poke — diced marinated seafood. When you order, remember: Poke rhymes with OK.

We conclude our day with another meal — though with its combination of food and entertainment, a luau is far more than a meal. Hawaiians might host a luau to celebrate a birthday or anniversary the way people in other parts of the country might throw a clambake or a barbecue. The luau we attend is at Paradise Cove at the Ko Olina resort in Kapolei, and we arrive as two men pull a roasted pig out of the imu, a fire pit lined with banana leaves and hot rocks. To work up an appetite, we kick off our flip-flops — slippers in local parlance — and embark in an outrig-ger canoe, which has a spar or float (the outrigger) projecting horizontally from the hull to stabilize the boat in the rolling ocean. After some vigorous paddling, we pause to watch a spectacular sunset over the water.

Back on shore, beneath a glowing sky and a crescent moon, we eat a variety of traditional dishes, including the succulent *kalua* pig — *kalua* means “baked in an earth oven” — and poi, a purple dish made of taro. As a nod to this traditional family-and-friends luau, the emcee asks who is celebrating birthdays, honeymoons, or anniversaries. We see different styles of dancing from around the Pacific islands, and Bea leaps out of her seat when they ask for volunteers to hula, joining the other keiki (children) as they learn to move their hands to “stir up that bowl of poi,” “make the motion of the ocean,” and “cast out your fishing pole and reel in your fish.” To the hypnotic beat of island drums, the evening concludes with a man twirling sticks of fire, the audience cheering as he spins and leaps and cartwheels through the magical night.

I am inside the Honolulu Museum of Art with Tina and Christina Bui. The twin sisters are both studying biology at the University of Hawaii with plans to go to medical school, and they are copresidents of the University of Hawaii at Manoa Rotaract Club, which they joined after several years in Interact in high school.

The Buis exhibit pretty much every characteristic of identical twins I've ever seen or heard: They dress alike — all in black — and talk simultaneously using the same words.

Sometimes I feel as if I'm listening in stereo. “I like how quiet it is,” Tina whispers as we examine the pieces in a room that traces the evolution of Buddhist art. “And the lighting,” Christina finishes. “Because it's so quiet, you can think to yourself.”

The two young women wanted to show me the museum because it's a favorite spot they like to visit with friends. As I wander about, I find myself lured into the museum's Hawaiian room, which focuses less on historical Hawaiian artifacts and more on the way Hawaiian artists make sense of the modern world. The Buis in particular love the portrait gallery, where the juxtaposition of older and modern paintings accentuates the varieties of artistic styles. Interspersed among the indoor, climate-controlled galleries are themed courtyards that are works of art themselves; the Mediterranean courtyard, for instance, with fountains and teal tiles on the walls, and the Chinese courtyard, with a koi pond, provide museum visitors an opportunity to linger outdoors.

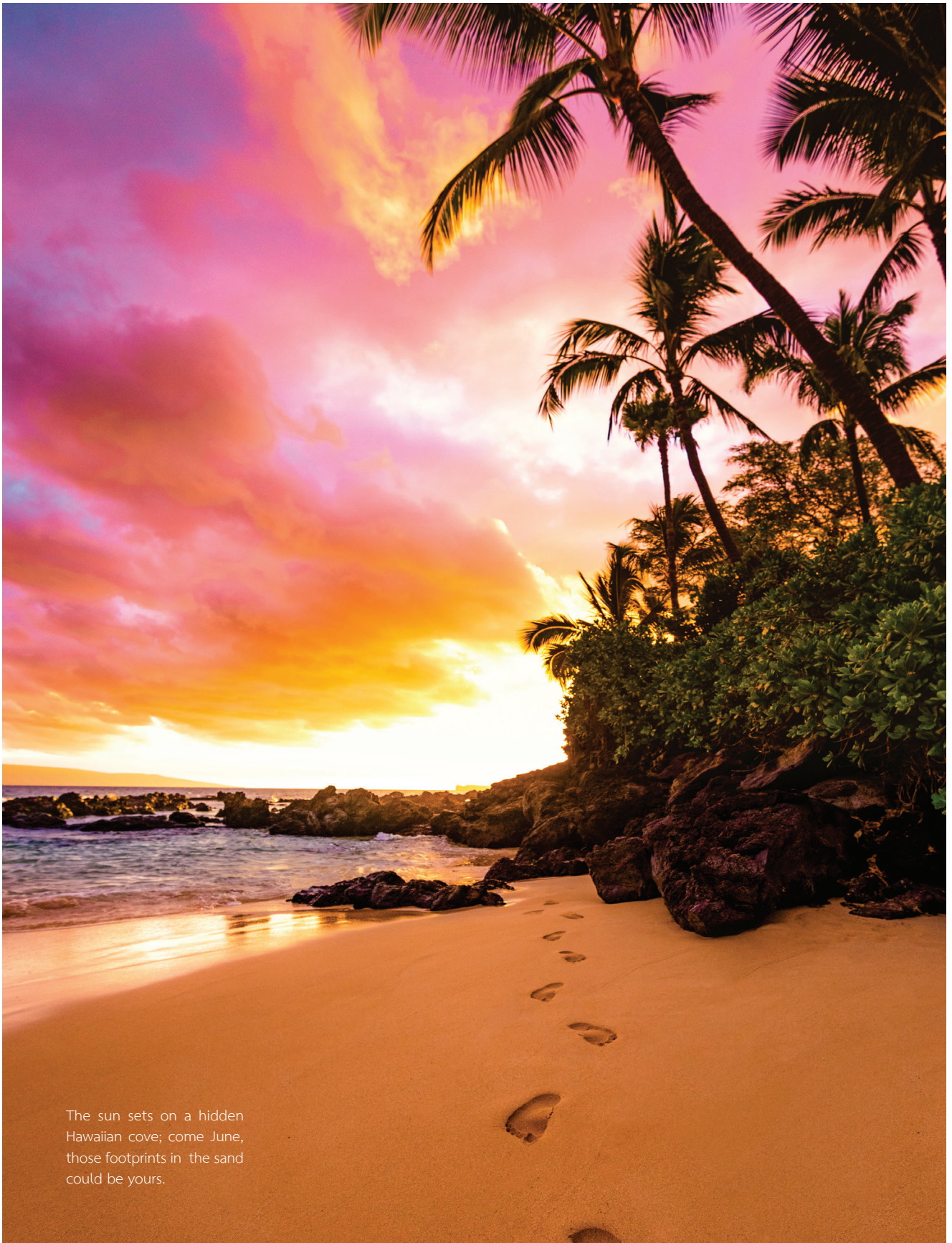
Afterward the Buis take me to see some street art in Kaka'ako, a former industrial neighborhood about 2 miles from Waikiki now filled with craft breweries, coffee shops, restaurants, and, most famously, murals, making it a place to hang out that's off the beaten path. “It's young and open to everyone,” Tina says. Nearly every surface of every wall in the neighborhood is painted with murals that range from realistic portraits to cartoon “aloha monsters.” We encounter a few tourists taking selfies — and so do we. We can't resist.

We're jostling with the other tourists as we listen to an audio tour and meander through the exhibits at the visitors center at Pearl Harbor National Memorial. But as we reach the point where we stand along the shore and look out at the USS Arizona Memorial, I'm compelled to stop. I remove my head phones and shut my eyes to close off the rest of the world. I want to take a moment and try to fully comprehend the significance of this hallowed site.

This may be Oahu's top tourist attraction — 2 million people visit the memorial annually — but it's also the kind of place that can give you goosebumps even as you're surrounded by strangers. It's a solemn reminder of the tragedy of war.

But it's also a symbol of the power of reconciliation. The Rotary clubs of Pearl Harbor and Hiroshima, Japan, formed a sister club relationship in 1982 to turn scars from the war into bonds of peace. Rotarians from the clubs visit each other's memorial sites and plant peace trees that flourish in the two cities.

The USS *Arizona* Memorial straddles the submerged



The sun sets on a hidden  
Hawaiian cove; come June,  
those footprints in the sand  
could be yours.

hull of the battleship, which sank in nine minutes during the surprise attack of 7 December 1941. The memorial was closed for repairs when my family visited. But it is anticipated to reopen in fall 2019, when visitors will once again be able to walk above the final resting place of the more than 1,000 men who died on the ship.

I wasn't sure how much my young daughter would understand about all of this. But even Bea was moved by the sacredness of the site, and as we walked out, she held her hand over her heart.

**B**ea squeals at the waves crashing near the rock she's perched on, spattering us as tongues of water lick the shore line. "Oh yeah, there's a big one!" she shrieks, beckoning the water. "Come by me!" Meanwhile, Del Green, the 2020 Host Organization Committee chair, is pointing out the green sea turtles underwater, backlit as the sun shines behind the waves. The excitement is contagious, and I scream too as I see an occasional flipper or head peek out of the water. "They bring out the child in all of us," Green admits.

We're on Laniakea Beach on Oahu's North Shore, often called Turtle Beach for the green sea turtles that feed here. The turtles, called honu in Hawaiian, reach lengths of 3 to 4 feet and weigh in at 200 to 500 pounds. You can't miss them at the Honolulu convention: They're featured on the convention logo.

We're midway through our circle tour of the island with Green, a member of the Rotary Club of Downtown Honolulu, and his girlfriend, Diana Doan, who's a member of the Honolulu Pau Hana club. When they picked us up earlier in the morning, Green and Doan greeted us by kissing our cheeks and putting purple and white flower leis around our necks, a welcome we encounter several times on our trip. Hawaiians seem to give leis whenever they have an excuse: as a greeting, a thank you, or to recognize an achievement — "to share your aloha," Green says. Lei shops can be found in Chinatown and at the airport, and the adornments can be made with not only flower petals but also nuts, shells — or dollar bills. The host committee, Green says, is planning to have Rotarians help make the world's largest lei out of paper money from their countries, with the proceeds to go to End Polio Now.

As we drive from Honolulu, Green explains that people here don't use the words "east" and "west" as directionals, as they do on the mainland. Instead they reference geographical landmarks: "Diamond Head" for east and "Ewa" (pronounced eh-va, for Ewa Beach) for west. And then there's mauka and makai, which mean "toward the mountain" and "toward

the sea." Between the beaches, we admire the majestic Ko'olau mountains, verdant cliff faces with wrinkly folds like fingers that have soaked far too long in the tub. It's just before lunch, and in the midday light the mountains look almost two-dimensional, as if they were a backdrop for a movie. (In fact, they were the setting for Jurassic Park, among other films.) Even Green, a local, stops midsentence at least three times during the drive to admire them. "Aren't they beautiful," he exclaims. We pass a parking barrier painted with the phrase "Aloha is a lifestyle" — a sentiment the people we've met on our trip fully endorse.

**A**fter we fly home to wintry Wisconsin and Bea goes back to school, her kinder garden teacher asks her to write in her journal about our trip. This time, it's not the beaches, the ocean, or the incredible weather she recalls. Instead, she writes about our day hanging out with Del and Diana. Even my six-year-old recognizes that, as many natural wonders as the islands have to offer, the best part about a Rotary convention is the people you meet.

## Discover aloha in Honolulu!

Register for the 2020 convention now and save up to \$200. The early registration fee is \$450 for Rotarians and \$120 for Rotaractors through 15 December. Register at [riconvention.org](http://riconvention.org). While there, download the promo kit to encourage your fellow Rotarians to attend Rotary's biggest event of the year — or watch and share an enticing video that previews the Rotary Convention.

Experience the culture of Hawaii at events planned by the Host Organization Committee in Honolulu; they include a concert at the Waikiki Shell, a sunrise walk for peace, an ancient fishpond project, and a meal with local Rotarians. Learn more at [rotaryhonolulu2020.org](http://rotaryhonolulu2020.org).

## Arch Klumph Society

### Another page of history in Thailand Rotary with the higher level of contribution to The Rotary Foundation as the Arch Klumph Society Member – Chairs' Circle (US\$ 500,000)



**PP.Arnaud C.M.C. Verstraete**  
**Rotary Club of Patong Beach, District 3330**

#### *Who are you?*

I was born in Antwerp, Belgium on Sep 24, 1960, the youngest of 3 children. My father and brother sadly passed away years ago. My father was a Supreme Court President and my mother lives happily in Brussels, taken good care by my sister and her family. I attend primary school in my hometown and then moved to a boarding school in Brussels where I went to a Technical College before joining the Army-Cadets at the young age of 17. After 15 year Military career that brought me to Germany, U.S.A. and Greece, I decided for a big change to move to a tropical country, preferable a nice island with gentle and smiling people... hear I am, Thailand (1992). I first came to visit my sister who had a resort on Koh Phi Phi and I immediately felt in Love with this country and its citizens. After 27 years in Phuket in the "Land of Smiles", I am still hear and don't regret it for a minute. Thank you for making me feels so good in my adopted new home. My knowledge of Thai language however is still pretty poor, but I can help myself. On the other hand, I do speak English, German, French and Dutch fluently.

#### *Why you join Rotary and your impressions of Rotary?*

Quiet simple as my father, brother, uncle and cousins all have been Rotarians since I was born to become one... I was happy to join the Rotary Club of Patong Beach as a Charter Member in 2001. Since then I had the most diversity positions, from sergeant at Arms, Vice President and President Elect to Club President in 2005-2006. Later I was happy to serve DG.Orachorn Saisrithong as her Assistant

Governor for the English speaking clubs (RC Patong Beach, RC.Koh Samui & RC Royal Hua Hin) during 2011-2012. I remained focusing on The Rotary Foundation at club level for several years as I strongly believe it's the "Bank" of Rotary International that makes so many projects financially possible. We need member's knowledge, people with dedicated time, but also funding, to make it all happening.

#### *What inspired your major gift of USD 500,000 as the Arch Klumph Society-Chairs' Circle Member of The Rotary Foundation?*

I am happy and proud to have been honored as a Multiple Paul Harris Fellow, as a Benefactor and as a Bequest Society Member. It has been a great pleasure to contribute to The Rotary Foundation, recognized me as a Level 4 Major Donor and Arch Klumph Society Member's Trustees Circle with more than US\$300,000 were given. It is even a greater pleasure to engage myself to the next level to be recognized as the Arch Klumph Society Member's Chair's Circle with a commitment of US\$ 500,000 including my initial contribution of US\$50,000 to the Endowment Fund under my name "Arnaud C.M.C. Verstraete Endowment Fund"

#### *How did you come to be so generous?*

I believe in Rotary in particular that has inspired my own commitment to make a difference for many people in need through meaningful projects and programs. Let's "Doing Good in the World"!

#### *Could you see yourself becoming more involved in Rotary as a higher level of donor in the future?*

I cannot predict any future commitments. If there is any possibility, I might consider to go for it.

#### **Arch Klumph Society Levels**

- \$250,000-\$499,999: Trustees Circle
- \$500,000-\$999,999: Chair's Circle
- \$1,000,000-\$2,499,999: Foundation Circle
- \$2,500,000-\$4,999,999: Platinum Trustees Circle
- \$5,000,000-\$9,999,999: Platinum Chair's Circle
- \$10,000,000+: Platinum Foundation Circle

## Our District



From left to right - DG.Kamolsak Visitsakulchai (3360), DG.Thanongsak Pongsri (3350), DG.Maruai Jintabunditwong (3340), DG.Sakon Uengsroithong (3330)

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## Editorial

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## We're equal

PP.Jantanee Tienvijit, Rotary Club of Lanna

### People with disabilities: Opportunities and basic social rights

*"The best and most beautiful things in the world cannot be seen or even touched - they must be felt with the heart"*

thus wrote Helen Keller, the author who was deaf and blind. She was an American who lived from 1880 to 1968 and wrote several books such as: The world I live in, Light in My darkness, Midstream: My later life, Out of the dark and many others. Even though she had passed away these many years, tales of her abilities is still evident today.

When Rotary Thailand set 'disability' as the theme for the magazine, for articles on the disabled or marginalized in the society which Rotary is supporting to be allied with current needs, we see that the disabled has shown society their capability and are insisting that society acknowledge and support their basic rights including giving them a chance to co-exist normally with normal people in the society. The Editorial team therefor interviewed many persons of different disabilities to find out their role and opportunities that they received from society including basic social rights which they receive or desired to receive and how we should behave towards the disabled.



Damkerng Mungthanya 'Khru Ice'



Variporn Thongchamnonng 'Nong Kw'



#### Damkerng Mungthanya

Damkerng Mungthanya or Khru Ice had been vision impaired from birth. Khru Ice graduated from the Faculty of Education, Chulalongkorn University and teaches English at Satri Sisuriyothai School, Bangkok. Today he is a role model for the disabled person who persevered with studies until he entered university without using the quota for the disabled and obtained his Bachelor's degree with first class honors earning a gold medal. He found work as English language teacher in a secondary school in Bangkok.

His teaching was accepted by teachers, students and their parents. For this Khru Ice commented that society gave him the opportunity and accepted his capabilities. Compare this to the older days when society branded disabled people as people with no ability. But it was not easy for Khru Ice to reach this point of acceptance from society. He had to work twice as hard to prove himself. Because he could not see, he asked the students to record their voice introducing themselves. He used that to



ang' Voraphon Ekchaipaibul 'Tong'

Prisana Khankaew 'Luk Nu'

Sirin Techawongtham, Sai

remember each voice. In teaching he cannot write on the board so he prepared powerpoint presentation including pictures and video. If the information is in Braille he can immediately prepare his teaching plans. Khru Ice says that "Without braille I can read using NVDA program (program that read pictures). I can do it 2 ways – if it is teaching file I read to the computer and can prepare the teaching material straight away. But if it is a whole book, I need to scan it to the computer first, and convert it to alphabet that can be read before I can use it to prepare teaching aid. Most of the time I prepared in powerpoint, then I write my notes in braille to use it to read when teaching. The books that I use, I print them in braille to make it easier for me."

When asked about opportunities he received as a disabled person who is vision impaired, Khru Ice said that he had received opportunities from society from young age. He attended primary school at a school for the blind. People came to donate goods and offer lunch. At secondary school there was no special school for the blind so he was accepted by St Gabriel School which had 2 quotas for blind students to study free of charge. He studied in class with other kids but had a teacher from the school for the blind come to prepare braille lessons for all the vision impaired students there. After completing high school, he was able to pass entrance exam and enter the Humanities faculty of Chulalongkorn University through regular admission. The special treatment he got was when the professor gives out sheets to other students he would instead get a computer file which he could then convert to braille. When it was time to practice teaching, he would get help from his teacher counselor. When he finished his studies he had competitive exam. A university official helped read the questions out for him. After he completed his studies, and was accepted as English language teacher, the next challenge was students and their parents and guardians

must have confidence in his teaching ability. In the beginning, he was assigned to teach lower secondary classes, but by the next term he was trusted with teaching high school students. He was accepted by parents and guardians like other teachers. Khru Ice said "When opportunity strikes we must take it up and be more diligent. When people appreciate and accept my capability, I feel warm inside."

Today Khru Ice is the person to announce exam time with some help from other teachers in typing out the announcement times and then he announced it on the school loud speakers. Khru Ice loves this job and is proud to be trusted with his job even if it meant he had to make more preparations than other people. Khru Ice says he thank the school administrators for their trust and commented that "Even though I cannot do certain things, the school does not hold this against me and gives me things that I can do and the opportunity to do it." Because he is a person who is always acquiring new knowledge and with his diligence, he learnt to become a professional coach and has taken his PCC or mid-level coach examination from the International Coach Federation. He is collecting his coaching performance time and will soon take exam to rise to the next level. Again, today Khru Ice has received Fulbright scholarship to study Masters' degree in Teaching English Language in the US in August 2020.

Khru Ice wants society to do something for the vision impaired people: make the roadside pavement evenly flat so that handicapped people can walk safely. Drivers should respect traffic signals. When the light turns red, cars should stop. He has found that at the road signal where the walker presses the signal for the light to turn red, passing cars do not stop even with red light. A blind person will not see the approaching vehicle, and faces dangerous situation time and again. Also do not park or drive vehicle be it cars or motorcycle on the sidewalk.



### Variporn Thongchamnon

Variporn Thongchamnon or Nong Kwang is hearing impaired from birth. Today she is studying at Mathayom 4 at Setsatien School for the deaf. Nong Kwang lives at the school dormitory, with other deaf students. She is a good student earning 3.8 grades on the average. She is multi-talented. She paints, performs Thai dance, can prepare desserts and loves sports. She was a disabled swimmer winning gold medals from international competitions. Today she is happily playing badminton. Communicating with Nong Kwang by using sign language, we learnt that she was chosen by JICA (Japan International Cooperation Association) for cultural exchange to visit Japan 3-10 October 2019. Nong Kwang would be demonstrating Thai dance and how to paint Thai motifs on handbag.

When asked about opportunities she received from society, Nong Kwang replied that she received opportunity to study, scholarship, and free medical treatment. She also received disability allowance of 800 baht a month, free travel by bus. Society also provides translators with hand signals especially for TV news. Actually she wanted this to increase to include sports news too, or at least showing captions below that can be read.

Nong Kwang dreams of studying for Bachelor's degree in the US. There is a special university for the deaf, where the students can choose the technology or innovation they wanted. Thai universities have very few places where there are hand signers. Her teacher explained that some such studies are in areas that are not complex like classical dance, home science, painting etc. The very capable students try to enter the same faculties as normal students.

Nong Kwang wants the society to be aware and be more understanding of hearing impaired persons. Because of the limitations in communication, she wants more persons to serve as mediators, because problems are often caused by misunderstanding. This happens in the family too. Today she is in school and teachers are around to help. Once she finishes school, who will help her?

### Voraphon Ekchaipaibul

Voraphon Ekchaipaibul or Tong is a motion disabled person. He can hear and understands but has emaciated legs his walking is unsteady like a polio survivor. Tong studied Human Resources Management from the Faculty of Commerce and Accounting, Thammasat University. He was admitted using the Disability student's quota of which there are 15-20 available in a year. The university prepared basic infrastructure that is conducive to the wellbeing of the disabled. Tong must use a cane to keep him upright when he walks. When commuting he uses public transport, i.e. he uses public van, or BTS, taxi or motorcycle taxis. After finishing his studies, after a year he was admitted to Human Resources Department of the Office of the President, Srinagarinvirote Prasanmit University on 1 September 2019.

On opportunities received, Tong said that he received the opportunity to attend school with normal students he received compassion from teachers, and more attention than normal students. Friends accept him and behaved normally towards him like he was a normal person. And when he was given a job, he was able to earn income to help himself.

What he wishes society to consider:

1. Education opened the door to opportunity for the disabled to work with normal people. When the disabled person has education, he can help himself and becomes less of a burden to his family.
2. Basic infrastructure must be provided for the disabled so that they can enter lift. Some electric train stations keep the lift locked and he must contact the ticket counter which is on the upper floor, and he cannot climb the stairs. Some lifts are located on the center of the traffic island and disabled person cannot access it.
3. People should behave according to rules and have empathy towards and help others less fortunate. The reason he uses taxis, Tong says, is because he cannot get on the bus. Bus drivers tend to leave the stop rather fast, making it difficult for him to climb up or down the bus. He wants bus drivers to give time for him to get on the bus. Passengers should get up and offer a seat for the disabled, young children, and elderly. Many today just do not see



### Prisana Khankaew

Prisana Khankaew, or Luk Nu is physically handicapped caused by an automobile accident that happened when she was 7 years old. At the time she was severely injured, unable to walk and lived on wheelchair from that time. Luk Nu's family lived in Phuket, but from the time of the accident they came to live near Nonthaburi Children's home for severely handicapped. Luk Nu was able to attend Srisangwal primary and secondary schools. She went on to do her high school at the Nakhonluang Polytechnique College, and then using the Handicapped quota she studied at the Faculty of Journalism and Mass Communication, Thammasat University. At that time she lived at university hostel, and loved doing activities that improved livelihood of the community. She taught classes for students, raised funds for hill tribe school and played sports of handicapped swordplay. She has completed her studies and is now looking for work. During her studies she was able to find work at Thai PBS and she dreamed of doing a documentary about handicapped persons, or else reality show or talk show to reveal how they lived to show the current generation that that being handicapped today means you can live with normal people.

Luk Nu was offered opportunities by being accepted into the Nonthaburi Children's Home, she got an education, learnt to do things by herself, was able to travel, she had part time work, which gave her the opportunity to save money for taxi fare. Most of Luk Nu's travel was by taxi. There is a Blue bus (carrying handicapped sign) with low floor where she can lift her wheelchair which comes to Thammasat. But such vehicles are few and far in between.

Luk Nu said that Disabled persons ask that society offer them opportunities to live like normal people and

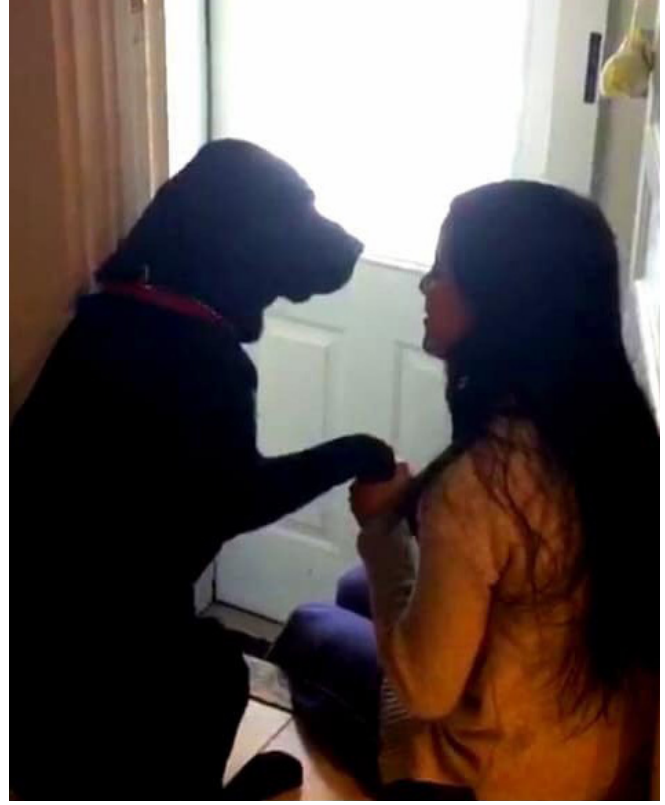
share in their life. Disabled person ask that public buses must have low floor so that wheelchairs can be lifted. She wants society to:

1. Change their mindset, think that disabled persons can help themselves if society gives them the opportunity and accept them.

2. Offer them basic infrastructure that is conducive to their mobility – i.e. level pavement, slanted access for wheelchair. She described that once she was working at Huai Khwang, the pavement was under construction and it was not flat she had to use a lot of effort pushing her wheelchair and each day was tired out from travelling. Design of basic infrastructure must be handicap friendly, not universal design. She once had to use handicapped toilet which was in the zone of men's toilet and not suitable for women to use.

3. Provided facilities must be for actual use. Lift must be accessible. Some buses have wheelchair access stickers, but are really not accessible for wheelchairs. Luk Nu said stickers should be removed if the buses are not wheelchair accessible. Disabled people should not be given false hope.

In ending Luk Nu said that in facilities that offer services about disabled persons, they should invite people like her to give information so that people will know how to work with handicapped persons. Once she went on the electric train and the security guard helped moved her wheelchair inside but he did not do it right and the chair fell into the space between the train and the platform. Another time she insisted she can do it herself but he insisted on helping and both were slammed by the closing doors.



### Sirin Techawongtham

Sirin Techawongtham, Sai is vision impaired. When she turned 13, brain tumor caused her to be completely blind. She completed her Bachelors' degree from Hendrix College, USA in May 2019. Two years previously, Sai received a guide dog called Luther from Guiding Eyes for the Blind, New York. This was Sai's first pet. After obtaining Luther, both Sai and Luther went to places together. They attended college together, went in to town, and visited other states – New York, Boston, Oregon, Seattle, New Orleans and even London, UK. On finishing her studies, Sai brought Luther to Thailand to continue with her life here. But she met with problems. People in Thailand do not understand the concept of 'Guide Dogs'. People do not understand that Guide dogs are tools for the disabled and can be taken anywhere with their owners, even in places where pets are not allowed.

Sai and her family then set about educating the public about guide dogs for the blind. The information is to educate the public, organizations, companies, shops, restaurants. They needed to understand that these are highly trained dogs and permit them on the premises with their blind owners. This has enabled many organizations to understand and allow Sai to bring her dog on the premises. BMA now allows guide dogs in parks, while Central Department stores, BTS and others follow suit gradually. When this story came to the attention of HRH Princess Chulabhorn Walailak, She invited Sai and her family to an audience and gave them encouragement and requested Veterinary & Remount Department to study ways to train guide dogs for the visually impaired in Thailand. This was a great honor for Sai and her family and this action will benefit other visually impaired persons in Thailand.

The Opportunity that she received from the society is the opportunity to meet with top leaders in several organizations, which enabled her to learn about many new issues, and to show her

abilities. At her school at Ruamrudee, even though they never taught a blind person before, they were ready to offer the opportunity for Sai to study together with other students until she completed high school. Other teachers taught her computer usage, Muay Thai, Piano, Braille, and the art of self-protection. Then there was the public who was interested in the story of Sai and Luther which Sai said that the understanding and belief in her was worth more to her than other people can understand.

Sai wanted to have the society consider these issues:

1. Consider the rights of disabled as a basic human right it is not a special benefit. In practice, the government, organizations or persons who design infrastructure, or goods or opportunities, must consider all the people who will be using it, not just the majority. The disabled with various types of disability must be considered. For example, instead of building access ramp for wheelchair whenever there is a protest, they should be included in the design from the start.

2. Offer equal treatment to the disabled as you would a normal person. This includes listening to the needs and wants of the disabled, and respect for their decision, and offering them opportunities to show their capabilities, and not preventing them because they have a disability. Consider the disabled person may not immediately find ways of performing the work, but that does not mean it cannot be done.

3. This last request - I want people to be courageous and speak to the disabled. You will learn about his life and his abilities. People fear they will make mistakes and cause the disabled to feel bad and hence do not make a move. But if you don't try you will not have the opportunity to learn about disabled people. If you open up in this regard, you will find that the disabled think and feel like other normal people.



**Dr. Panadda Wongchanta,**  
**Director of Setsatian School for the Deaf under the Royal**  
**Patronage of His Royal Highness Crown Prince Maha**  
**Vajiralongkorn**

The writer had the opportunity to interview Dr. Panadda Wongchanta about the Setsatian School. This school has 170 deaf students of which 40 are boys and 130 are girls. The school has a dormitory for girl students only, with 89 girls staying there. The school teaches from kindergarten to high school level. Thailand 21 schools for the deaf. At this school, the ratio of teacher to students is 1:6 per class room. Thus there are 32 teachers including administrative staff. Teachers are normal hearing people who taught by the curriculum. A translator who knows sign language will translate in class. Thus the teacher will teach science, English language etc. The teaching will be through the hand sign translator. Many teachers try to learn sign language so that they can teach students themselves. When asked where sign language is taught, she replied that there used to be a syllabus at the Rajsuda College, Mahidol University. However this institution no longer exists and only the Thailand Association for the Deaf has a course for community sign language. Parents of the deaf students do not know about this. If the parents can learn sign language they will be able to communicate with their deaf children better. There will be mutual understanding in the family. Again deaf students do not come to school until 5 years old. When parents don't know how to communicate with their young child, these kids do not get proper development before coming to school. Intelligence at this beginning stage of their lives will be affected.

Students who enter Vocational Education and Diploma in Vocational Education and some Universities that offer sign

language translation e.g. Suan Dusit Rajabhat University benefit from sign language. Students often choose Home Economics Science. Some choose to study at universities where there is no sign language, they concentrate on lip reading. The courses they chose tend to be design, or Fine Arts. Actually the legal regulations covering the Office of the Higher Education Commission (OHEC) state that there must be translators from Disability Student Support (DSS). But this rule is still not widely applied in Thailand.

There are more than 4,000 hearing impaired persons in Thailand. This means 3 deaf persons per every 1,000 normal persons. For about 90% the condition is genetically inherited, the rest is caused by deterioration of hearing nerves. Again, there are 19% deaf persons out of all disabled persons. They form the second highest group in Thailand, after the physically disabled. Deterioration of hearing nerves do occur when exposed to loud noise for long periods, or through eating foods that destroy ear nerves. Normal people should take care.

### **Social Innovation Foundation (SIF)**

Recently, this writer was a volunteer speaker training disabled persons who have completed their studies, to prepare for job interviews. This enabled her to observe the capabilities of the disabled in terms of their thought process, and their expressions.

She was also able to learn about the working of the Social Innovation Foundation which supports disabled persons getting a job including job training, and coordinating with the organization that hires the disabled persons to work in their own organization or to work at the SIF. An SIF officer will oversee the operation and will send work to that particular department by the venues that will be set up. Another method is the organization hires the disabled person but send the disabled person to work in his own locality, e.g. at the community hospital. SIF will coordinate and send reports to the Department of Social Development and Welfare about hiring of disabled person according to the law. Under the Labor law, all organizations must hire one disabled person for every 100 persons in their employ. An organization that does not do so must send monetary compensation at the rate of minimum wage for every disabled person they are required by law to hire. SIF facilitate the hiring of disabled persons and when organizations send disabled persons to work in the community that is a matter to be praised.

In summary:

***"The best and most beautiful things in the world cannot be seen or even touched - they must be felt with the heart." When we felt with our heart about the disabled persons we will feel energized to offer opportunities to and promote the basic rights of disabled persons so that we can live together with happiness in this world.***

## GLOBAL GRANT PROJECT

By PDG.Somchai Chiaranaipanit  
Rotary Club of Kaen Koon

“Kindness is  
the language  
which the deaf  
can hear and  
the blind can see”



### Rotary International District 3340 “Library for Kids a

#### Rotary International District 3340 “Library for Kids and Family Project”

Rather shocking news appeared in the local media that an average Thai person reads about eight lines of printing per year. This is close to the lowest in Asia. Thai kids’ average IQ was also considered to be on the ‘rather low’ level, lower than those in Vietnam. And yet education is at the heart of mankind development and is the most important weapon used in fighting against poverty.

The Library for Kids and Family Project in District 3340 applies the concept of “We must begin at the beginning” - from preschool to preprimary school. In 2006 PDG.Somchai Chiaranaipanit from Rotary Club of Kaen Koon in District 3340 and the Rotary Club of Bangrak in District 3350 donated books to communities, where improving literacy for children was taken more seriously. At the same time, the donors also discovered that those communities lacked necessary tools used in helping children in primary level to keep up with their peers. For that reason and from realizing how urgent the needs were, PDG.Somchai has proposed the Library for Kids and Family project to the Rotary Club of Kyoto Northeast in



## and Family Project”

District 2650 Japan - sister club to the Rotary Club Kaen Koon. The response was positive and they were ready to move on with it.

Early in 2007, PDG.Somchai had brought up the Library for Kids and Family project to District 3340 with an objective of locating the best books for children from local sources and abroad to give to the communities that had the need to improve learning for their primary level children; and the project was accepted by the district. Rotarians in Japan, Australia, and many from clubs in District 3340 offered their financial support worth 1.6 million baht; and were able to distribute 10,000 books to preschools, public libraries, and primary schools - a total of 20 locations across the district.

The project continued in the following year with an addition of 10 more local clubs, clubs from the United State, Japan and Australia. Altogether they were able to accomplish four projects, in an amount of 2.6 million baht, and were able to deliver 15,000 books to preschools, public libraries, orphanage homes and primary schools - 40 centers in all in District 3340.

The result of the project, “Building knowledge and interest in reading books in preschool and primary

school”: the communities were very happy and realized the benefit of having books to help the children to excel their learning abilities and ultimately improve their brain. Naturally, children thirst for stories. If they are taught the habit of reading from a young age, this habit will remain with them for the rest of their lives. The love of reading is the basis of all knowledge.

Countries that have good educational system will emphasize more on children at primary level. This is the time to create a good foundation for learning in young people, who will soon grow and become the future of the nation.

The Library for Kids and Family Project is thus a project that all Rotarians can work together to help our country. We must begin at the beginning – that is the beginning of formal education because it will create learning and educational sustainability for our nation’s future.

In 2019, this project has been running for nine consecutive years; and donations were made to 600 libraries - giving more than 155,000 books, benefiting over 200,000 children, and providing a new career for not less than 1,000 librarians.

D.3330

Editorial of District 3330, RI



PDG Juthatip Thamsiripong  
Rotary Club of Pra Pathom Chedi

Fellow Rotarians and readers of Thailand Rotary magazine, my team and I realize the usefulness of articles on service projects, ranging from environmental projects like replanting mangroves, to vocational projects for the disadvantaged people, providing medical equipment to hospitals, and donating necessities to the needy. All those projects were the respond to the needs of the communities. Ultimately, we, Rotarians, would also like to see our communities and our societies benefiting from all six areas of focus that RI has laid out for Rotarians worldwide to follow.

Rotary now enters its 115th year. If we bring articles that show our spirit of service for humanity, and the large amount of money donated, we will be proud to be Rotarians. As you may know that Rotary, as an organization, is expanding in many aspects. If you, readers, toss our magazine away for 6 months or one year, you will probably find yourselves outdated and it will be hard to keep up with what is happening in our organization. So I would like to thank you for continue reading the magazine, and also for providing us good articles and worthwhile stories. Let's move forward together, shall we?

## GEN to GEN

### Gen-B Baby Boomer



When World War 2 stopped, people all over the world learned an unforgettable lesson. People who were born in the year 1946-1964 were called Gen-B (Baby Boomer). They would be 55 years old or more. These people have families to think about, so they live with patience, economy, and carefulness about expenses. Most of them have children who are Gen-X, which should now be around 33-47 years old.

Today I have the opportunity to attend the weekly meeting of the Rotary Club of Phra Pathom Chedi on Friday at noon. After the meeting, we had some coffee and talked about Past-Present-Future. Five of us talked about "the old days" of RC Phra Pathom Chedi. Now of club is 31 years old. Two of us started membership in 1989, now they are 62 years old. And the rest of us (three of us) are 58 and 55 years.

We thought about various club members including our clubs. We touched the difference between Gen-B and Gen-X. There are differences in learning and patience. People in Gen-B would say that every club meeting were full of knowledge from listening to Rotary information, and lectures from the experienced Rotarians and from leaders in other organizations. The meetings were the opportunities for a friendly relationship with the real business owner, exchange ideas and helping each other (sincere guidance).

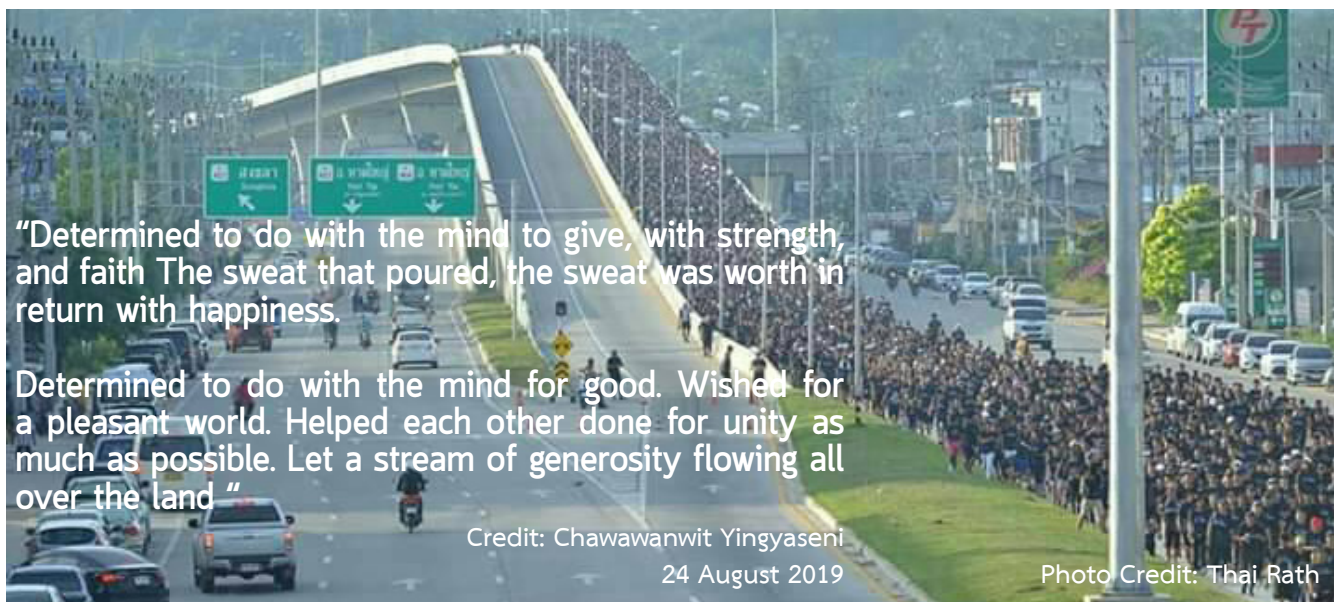
But now, Gen-B is often seen as aunt, uncle, grandpa-grandma, grandmother, as if in the world behind. The meeting has less content to study. The content is relied on electronic media. You must be good at IT, you must know the world online. We concluded that Gen-X, who was in their 30s really needs advice or they like to experiment or challenge new experience themselves? And we were thinking whether Gen-B should be only at home to support their grandchildren. If this feeling continues, Rotary members are about to disappear.

We analyzed the decreasing membership in club level, district level and world level. It is scary and frightening. However, we think that Gen-B are needed to use patience in all things and increase the effort to learn about IT. We have to live because of generations Gen-X and Gen-Y are our children, grandchildren, and some of you are raising Gen-Z.

In conclusion, five of us laughed and satisfied that we, Gen-B, were always able to adapt. Because we have learned a lot from World War 2 and we are still able to this day because the Gen-B has patience, diligence, diligence and desire to learn and fight.

**“Rotarians serve the community with heart.  
Come together in return for your land ”**

By PP. Ratchada Thepnava  
Rotary Club of Khuan Lang-Hat Yai



“Determined to do with the mind to give, with strength, and faith The sweat that poured, the sweat was worth in return with happiness.

Determined to do with the mind for good. Wished for a pleasant world. Helped each other done for unity as much as possible. Let a stream of generosity flowing all over the land ”

Credit: Chawawanwit Yingyaseti

24 August 2019

Photo Credit: Thai Rath

**Bangkok Bank # Prince of Songkhla University**

**Account Name: 99-year statesman General Prem Tinsulanonda for heart surgery patients  
saving account 641-0-19590-0**



**“Rotarians serve the community with heart. Come together in return for your land”**

Rotary members, volunteers and families from the 11 Rotary clubs in Songkhla and Satun joined hands showing the heart of service above self. They served over 30,000 runners by supporting drinking water and seasonal fruits. After the event, Rotary members collected and separated waste. At the end of the event, they also donated 24,000 baht for medical equipment for Heart Surgery Center at General Prem Tinsulanonda Historical Park, Songkhla.

“Running in return for Motherland, 99 Year, Million Good Deeds for the Statesman General Prem Tinsulanonda “running event, organized by the Faculty of Medicine Prince of Songkla University on 24 August 2019 was a remembrance of goodness to General Prem Tinsulanonda, President of the Privy Council and the Statesman. This was to continue with the

intention to support the construction of a heart surgery center at Songklanagarind Hospital. With over 50,000 patients being admitted per year, the severe heart patients requiring 500 to 800 surgery per year. This heart surgery center would be the most excellent and the first heart transplant in the southern region. Aside from increasing the chances of having a new life for the patient, it also reduces the loss of life and disability from access to treatment. It is also a center for research, and training for cardiologists both from Thailand and abroad. With this center, it would be able to help patients in 14 southern provinces including patients from other regions in return for motherland. This is adherence to the royal aspiration of Somdej Pramahitathibej Adulyadejvikrom Prabarommarajajanok “The benefit of fellow humans is the first priority” and serving the community with heart of Rotarians “Service Above Self” ... People of Action.

# D.3330

## Activities

The Rotary Club of Sanam Chan in cooperation with Interact Club of Wat Huai Chorakhe Witthayakhom School organized a vocational training for male barbers. The clubs renovated the barber room, and donated hair cutting tools for Huai Chorakhe Witthayakhom School.



Rotary Club of Samrong in cooperation with Rotary Club of Samutprakan, Rotary Club of Poochao Samingprai, Rotary Club of Erawan, Rotary Club of Thepharak, Rotary Club of Ladluang, Rotary Club of Phra Samut Chedi, Rotary Club of Bang Bor, Rotary Club of Bangplee, Rotary Club of Phra Pradaeng, and Interact Club of Khlongkratumratutit School participated in environmental conservation and rehabilitation activities, planting 1,500 mangrove trees for the 8th consecutive year in honor of Mother's Day at Bang Pu Resort, Samut Prakan Province.



The Rotary Club of Samrong gave away glasses and measuring eyesight for students for communities as their club services for over 30 years.



The Rotary Club of Ban Pong, Ban Pong District, Sub-district Administrative Organization, Sub-district leaders with villagers celebrated 123 years of Ban Pong, a City of Nice People, by publicizing and promoting the image of Rotary with large signs that communicate various activities. They distributed water, gave away cloth bags, Rotary shirts were sold with game and activities in order to raise funds to buy medical equipment for Ban Pong Hospital.





The Rotary Club of Ban Pong made donation of books in 5 schools.



Rotary Club of Phosadet - Nakhonsri joined the communities and Rotarians in mangrove forest planting at Tha Sak Subdistrict, Mueang District, Nakhon Si Thammarat Province.



The Rotary Club of Leung Krabi provided vocational training in Krabi Prison. The club taught female inmates how to make scarf.



The Rotary Club of Nakhonpathom organized the Dharma talk from Phra Maha Sompong Talaputo for 3,600 students at Phra Pathom Wittayalai School.

D.3340

## Editorial of District 3340, RI



Rtn. Deara Pibulwattanawong  
Rotary Club of Magkang

Dear Fellow Rotarians,

We begin 2019-2020 Rotary with interesting articles of activities in District 3340. Many clubs have new strong leaders who are eager to diligently work on global grants. How many will succeed remains to be seen.

DG Maruai Jintabunditwong, RI District 3340, is a native of Bua Yai, Nakhon Ratchasima. He has devoted his time and effort even before his DG's term to prepare his team, and also encourage his President Elects of all clubs to do the same. This has made the clubs in District 3340 quite active right from the beginning of the Rotary year.

District 3340 begins the Rotary year with the formal opening ceremony of Nong Nong Tai Hall and the Lake of Love project at Akas Umnuay District of Sakon Nakhon. The project is the pride of all Thai Rotarians. As we all know that its inspiration came from Past RI President Bhichai Rattakul and we, Rotarians, fulfilled that wish by devoting our time and energy to make this a reality. Many of you who attended the ceremony on August 30-31, 2019 would have seen the success of this project and had to be very proud of our efforts.

Thank you and we will meet again.

## GEN to GEN

### Gen-B Baby Boomer



#### Gen-B Baby Boomer

CP. Wichian Pookchomngam, Charter President of Silpakom Rotary Club

During the time that I was born, it was when the World War II had ended shortly. Fortunately, my father and mother did not name me according to the event, like many children of those days, whether it was "Sa-gnop", "Sri Sa-gnop" "Mitraparp" or anything related to peace which returned again after the war. I grew up in a small district in Udon Thani Province with many brothers and sisters. I have to say our homeland was an important base for America. During the war, I got to know many foreigners that could be an outgrowth for me. Importantly, I knew "Rotary" by the advice of a respected adult. I have completely studied the way of Rotary. It made me feel that people in my hometown were still underprivileged in many different matters which were not different from other countries in the world, especially in the countryside far from the capital like Udon Thani.

I was fortunate that I had no difficult life compared to others. I had a family that loved each other and had happiness. I had good luck in having a simple society, clean food and water, good clothes to wear, a house of my own and could see a doctor when I was sick, but there were still many underprivileged people.

I have been on Rotary's path for over 30 years, being happy to help less fortunate people than me. I am happy to be a part of starting the Rotary Club of Silpakom. Despite it being a small club in District 3340, I am proud that this club played an important role in helping the local people as I had intended. There would be nothing better than doing good deeds in the world. For me, I am one of those people who are not quite young having seen many hardships, especially the hardships that occurred all over the world, whether they were epidemics, famine and hunger. I wanted these disadvantages or difficulties to be relieved and as least as possible. I have been a Rotarian throughout my life. I believe that "Rotary" will be an important organization that can help eliminate deadly diseases and disadvantaged most sustainably.

# Bright Future project



## Bright Future Project

The project to promote education for underprivileged students in Udon Thani Province of the Rotary Club of Magkang has been operating for over 6 years, a project that uses management funds over 400,000 baht per year to support the diligent, grateful and studious students who are poor and underprivileged in various matters, whether it's fatherless, motherless or both for these children will have educational opportunities leading to a sustainable and better future. The club selects these children in the local area following to the specified criteria to promote knowledge in learning, activities and the environment in school that will affect a child before giving the scholarship when the child is selected after the club conducted the survey.

Miss Sumitra Ratsadorndee is one of the pride of the Rotary Club of Magkang's project because she is an underprivileged student that has passed the criteria of the project and has received the club's scholarship for 3 consecutive years and besides, she is a studious student.

I am Miss Sumitra Radsadorndee, currently studying in Vocational Level 1, Commercial Department, Accounting Department at Phitchabandith College of Technology 2, Udon Thani Province. During the past 3 years, I received a scholarship from Magkang Rotary Club. I used the fund which I received economically. Being a student in the club's project, I am proud and thankful for the chance to have a better quality of life and an opportunity to study for my own future, she said.

"I do not have a warm family like my friends do. I don't have father and mother. I have only aunt who has been raising me since I could remember. It is the only happiness that I have received since childhood until today. She is both father and mother who has taken care and upbringing of me. She is kind, compassionate and give everything to me. Auntie is a father at Father's Day and is a mother on Mother's Day at school. I have never met both of my real parents. Auntie works hard because she wants me to study. If there is no Aunt, there will be no me today".

"Teacher Wanida Somjai is another person that made me feel so lucky to have the opportunity to study at Ban Na Kham Luang School. I feel fortunate to meet all the lovely friends and kind teachers. Teacher Wanida is like my second mother. She has not only taught in lessons but also in daily life activities. She gave us a lot to learn and Teacher Wanida was the person who made me meet with Ms. Watcharaporn Phanoi, the Project Chair of the Rotary Club of Magkang, allowing me to participate in the project continuously. Until finally I received a continuing scholarship up to graduate with a bachelor's degree. I feel lucky to have received this opportunity. What I have today because of the kindness of the Rotary Club that has improved my quality of life. I promise to concentrate on my studies, to be a good girl of Auntie and Teacher and will spend most economically and cost-effectively. Whenever I graduate and pursue my career as intended, I would like to be a member of the Rotary Club to help the underprivileged and continue to benefit society.

The activities in the first 2 months of this rotary year of the clubs in District 3340 are mainly focusing on projects to help school-aged children and schools. Since it is the beginning of the first semester, underprivileged children in rural areas will be greatly deprived of scholarships, food, transportation, school supplies, and etc heading to successful education. Many clubs have organized a scholarship program and educational equipment project for children such as Rotary Club of Laemchabung, Namphong, Khon Kaen, Mukdahan, Roi Et and Magkang. However, we still do not neglect other disadvantaged in society, especially those with disabilities and poverty. We donated the necessities for living and improved their habitats. This is to help the underprivileged in the society for they have a better living. There are also many other good projects that many clubs in District 3340 are working on to write a project for the Global Grant so that the project can help the people at the macro level.

**Rotary Club of Khao Soi Dao in collaboration with the Sister Club, Rotary Club of Muang Mukdahan,** donated clothing and gave 5,000 baht to people whose houses were burned down at Khao Soi Dao District, Chanthaburi



**The Rotary Club of Thareua-Trat,** led by President Uthen Kongsamak, Past Assistant Governor Sasithorn Khaokhom, President Elect Somporn Kraiamut and club members paid a visit and donated Pampers with other necessary things to 3 bedridden patients in Wang Krachae Sub-district, Nong Khan Song Sub-district and Tha Taphao Sub-district respectively in Trad Province.

**The Nam Phong Rotary Club in cooperation with Lumpini Rotary Club** donated educational equipment to students at Nong Kung Ding School, Kranuan District, Khon Kaen Province.





The Rotary Club of Mukdahan, led by President Manirat Nawakanchanaphat, along with the members, received the money from the generous adults to give scholarships to students who have studied well but were short of funds in the area of Mueang Mukdahan and Kham-cha-ei districts for 85 scholarships, 1,000 baht each, totalling 85,000 baht at Mukdahan Kindergarten, Mukdahan Province.



Roi Et Rotary Club, led by President Mongkolkorn Surasaknithikul, along with members participated in the "Royal Heart to the Region" activity, providing food to female inmates at Roi Et Prison and visiting and giving English translation book to students at Baan Yang Ku School, Thawat Buri District, Roi Et Province



The Rotary Club of Magkang organized the 6th Scholarship Award Ceremony for underprivileged students whose grades were 2.5 and above in Udon Thani, for total 90 grants, divided into 4,000 baht each for 80 grants and 8,000 baht each for 10 grants, totalling 400,000 baht annually in which the grants has been already donated more than 1,600,000 baht. There were also the donation of love bag of inspiration for the grantees, which contains dried food, mama, canned fish and stationery, and lectures on reducing and giving up foam usage. Simultaneously, Miss Nicoline Pichapa Limsanukan, Miss Thai World and Vice Miss World 2018 honored to join the activity to inspire the funded children.

D.3350

## Editorial of District 3350, RI



AG. Trong Sangswangwatana  
Rotary Club of  
Bangkok Suwanabhum

Dear fellow Rotarians,

Rotary membership worldwide shows it still stand at 1.2 million Rotarians, from 529 districts, and a total of 35,950 clubs in more than 200 countries. Rotarians of both sexes come in all ages. The Editorial department sees the importance of passing the information from generation to generation so we wish to bring out the thoughts of Rotarians in each generation to offer to the next generation.

In this issue we offer the thoughts of the Baby Boomer or Gen B. This means people who were born from 1946 to 1964. This represents the largest group in today's society. These people tend to be conservative, respect rules, and hold traditional values. They tend to be resilient, prefer security, recognize the value of money, and work hard for advancement. They have high confidence in their own ability, and are not comfortable with technology.

Now, knowing the characteristics of Gen-B, read the personal thoughts of male and female Rotarians in that generation and see what they are like.

For activities, apart from our regular activities, in this issue I want to show you the activities of our Interactors, and about the service project which shows interesting developments. Read the little SCOOP here.

## GEN to GEN Gen-B Baby Boomer



PDG. Kriangpet Thongborisoot  
Rotary Club of Yannawa

I see the difference between baby boomers and the present generation in attitude to life -- the current generation does not save while the older generation was afraid to spend. Again there are things the older generation does not spend on, while this generation does. In case of attitude to work -- we of the older generation are not choosy about work, we can even start from zero and slowly work up. The new generation may think they want everything to be perfect first, that they need to be more ready.

Speaking about Rotary, in the old days when I attend the club meeting I feel proud, I enjoy learning new knowledge, making new friends. Just walking to get our name tags like the ones you have today means we meet and greet friends. When we know the vocation of your new friend then it becomes another talking point.

In the old days they emphasized attendance and we strive to make 100 percent attendance. For those who have not made 100 percent, when they achieved that they were so proud. This source of pride has disappeared today. Attendance is insignificant. Everything has become so easy today. There is no striving to get 100 percent, no effort to put on name badge. If you notice -- what had remained for 100 years are all ritual. What is too easy will disappear quickly because there is not striving to prop it up. If we compare this to a culture that has existed not long ago -- the hippies, they soon disappeared.

So it is a point of worry for Rotary. Today we are doing everything the easy way. We don't want it to disappear. I want you to have organization like in the old days. Like when we go to meet with another club it looks so important, so forceful. If we go where it is so simple, and easy to do, we become ordinary. Wearing name tag seems too much bother but it should be done. When I visited a Rotary club in Japan in a short while I could speak to more than 10 persons, I know their vocation. Don't think it is a small matter. It is small matters like this that shines the light on Rotary. Even if the light has dimmed a bit, it still gives of enough light.



PP. Suvimil Phirapatdist  
Rotary Club of Bangkok East

As an organization, Rotary is composed of members who come from different generations. They all follow theme of Rotary Connects the World. This theme connects all thoughts to create inspiration that leads to service. People of the baby boomer generation have to adapt themselves and their attitude to mix with other groups. They must not be too conservative or attach themselves to old tradition and club culture else they become boring to the younger generation. Even at RI level the Rotary rules and regulations have been loosened. For example attendance make up is no longer 14 days before or after. Rotarians can make up within that Rotary year. However club basics the unique culture of each club, the strengths and weaknesses are not the same. The club needs to find the appropriate point that does not go against RI constitution. It is now time to reflect on the reason why for so many years the Rotary membership has remained at 1.2 million.

We have the Rotary Centre as our first home. Is it time to have a second home where we can do weekly meetings, meet, and organize installations, without having to rely on hotels? We must dream, we must have a vision be it so farfetched. One day we can strive to meet it. Even in donation to the RI Foundation Thailand had shown the Rotary world that it can lead, many years ago.

## Vocational Service for the Disadvantaged



When speaking about the disadvantaged the common meaning is people in hardship mode. They need help. Usually the term refers to persons who are affected by economic hardship, which impacted their social interaction, education, public health, political, legal, cultural, impact from war, and natural disasters. This term is also used to describe those disadvantaged persons receiving the state's basic cost of living assistance.

Rotary's activities are targeted towards the disadvantaged in society so that they can attain the advantage that will enable them to live a self-reliant life like others in society. Thus vocational development is one method that many clubs offer on a continuous basis. I wish to cite the example of RC.Bangkok Banglamphu:

Beginning from PP Nitaya Laksanavisit, president in the year 2004-2005 who wished to promote knowledge of Thai cooking that largely use herbs in its ingredients as food that combat diseases. She desires Thai people to eat more of this type of food and at the same

time promote organic vegetables to create balance among growers of organic products and their consumers. Thus she turned to promoting traditional cooking which is economical, suitable for eating in the family, or for small scale business with low investment costs and is self-reliant. This activity has become the signature project of this club and at District level other clubs have joined the project, and this year District has supported the activity with a District Grant.

Over the years this club has taught many useful recipes at the community level, and at school level. They also developed a system where others who have learned the process will teach the new comer. They have added lessons in simple book keeping, knowledge of costing, and how to set the sales price. Many Rotary clubs in this District and from other Districts have invited the group to give them cooking lessons. Coming up in September is Lessons at Thonburi Remand Facility for Women Prisoners, and at Udomrangsri school in Uthai Thani Province.

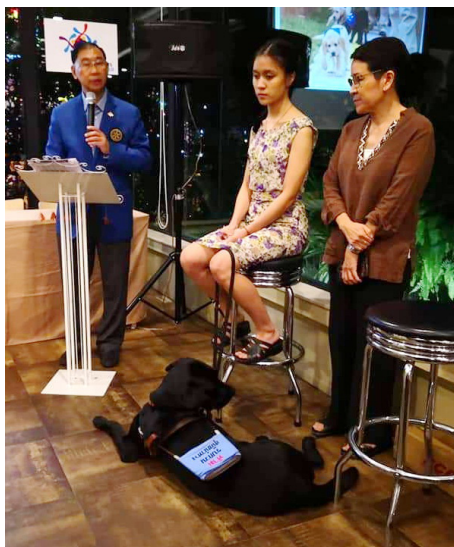
Governor met with Club Presidents, assistant governors and district committees, on Saturday 17 August 2019.



Rotary Club of Bangkok Suwanabhum, in realizing the importance of social equality of the less fortunate in Thailand, invited Miss Sai a young lady with visually impaired, and her lead dog from the US to talk about “Together, Changing perspectives of Thais toward persons with differently abled”, on 6 August 2019.



Rotary Club of Phra Phutthabat joined hands with the Non-formal Education office to teach and do haircutting, free of charge, for the public on last Saturdays of each month until June 2020 at the club office.



Rotary Club of Wat Singh presented scholarships to students, a fire engine to Wang-Man Sub-district Administration Organization, and unleaded pots to the community, on 28 August 2019.





D.3360

## Editorial of District 3360, RI



PP. Dr. Natthanin Sestawanich  
Rotary Club of Phrae

Dear fellow Rotarians and all readers of Thailand Rotary magazine,

This September-October issue comes during the hectic activity of District Governors official club visit in their districts. In this issue, aside from interesting project activities in District 3360, we are offering information on outstanding project that has been helping the disadvantaged persons by Rotary Club of Lampang - a continuous project with lots of benefits to the needy.

For special article, I have interviewed PDG Nithi Sungkawang about his perspective in regarding to Rotarians of different generations, starting with the Baby Boomer. I hope this will lead to interesting ideas and be useful to all Rotarians and all readers.

This is the rainy season, please take care of your health. Don't forget to exercise regularly to build up your immunity.

## GEN to GEN

### Gen-B Baby Boomer



PDG. Nithi Soogsawang  
Rotary Club of Nan

My 27 years of life in Rotary passed in the blink of an eye. I was originally a shy guy with short-sighted who speak less and always smiling for people. After my spouse moved from Ratchaburi to Nan when we went out together, she often saw me smiling at people. She gently said to me, "Why do you know a lot of people? You smile at them all the way." I laughed at her question and keep walking then the same situation happened many times, she still wondered so she pretending to asked again a little louder, "Do you know girls all over Nan? Why you have to smile all over the market, smile at every intersection, smile for the red lights, smile all over the city." I laughed and honestly said that people with short-sighted might concern that they will lose their manners and don't greet people well because they have bad eyesight. Therefore, they smile to everyone. So "Always smiling at every opportunity" is one basic attitude in my young simple life.

I don't know when I started to develop my personality, but it is clear that I am a young Rotarian who had grown up to became an active Rotarian and finally step into the senior Rotarian. By absorbed ten thousand stories continuously from the weekly meetings, learning from experience while meeting with many luminaries when participated in various Rotary District meetings, learned and shared from service activities, self-learning about basics of Rotary organization as well as learning from the district leaders, club leaders as well as fellow Rotarians. I also learned in practical from being a member, a club committee, a club president, a district governor as well as past district governor. I also participated in the activity and the service. Many times, after handing over certain projects, for example, helping to take care of patients in order to share the work of doctors, nurses, and patients' family. After seeing many bedridden patients, I was happy that I could help them felt better. I realized how lucky we are and also keep in mind to live carefully. This is an experience that is not available outside Rotary and it is self-discipline. Now, I was not the same young Rotarian any more, life is not as simple as before, it is difficult, heavy, colorful and very pleasurable. Rotary brought so many things into my life and my memory which I would like to call "ROTARY PRECIOUS MOMENT".

Rotary is now a part of my life. Rotary convince Rotarians to think positively, to sacrifice with "service above self" mindset. We do good in the world for disadvantaged world for disadvantaged children, for the community, for the underprivileged, activities that are suitable for their community and commit to success. Whether the projects are the same or different, the purpose is similar, and it is to do good deeds, be a good person, be kind and share. These are all attitudes that have been used in our organization. In Rotary many things have been

accomplished, something that is just working but nothing fails. Because when we encounter obstacles probably from different opinions, different working styles, different ages or any other problems. In Rotary, there is nothing cannot be resolved by friendship, if we working as a team, we can still complete all task. Sometime it could be a bit harder but if we still have the same goal the success is there.

The Rotary magazine editor team requested me to write about the “Attitudes of living, problems and solutions, and my perspective about the future of Rotary. I think, as a human we live for an average of only twenty thousand days, so we have very short

time to do good deeds together, working for Rotary is a volunteer spirit, it is to share and do good deeds with Rotary friends in the same club as well as fellow Rotarians from different clubs, different districts, different countries, different languages and also coordinate with other organizations working for human beings by using various program of The Rotary Foundation. It is a wonderful story of our life, the obstacles that may occur are just a little trouble. “Thinking of having a rock in your hand. If you think it’s too heavy to carry. Then just put it down. That’s so simple way of thinking”.

## Bedridden Patient Visiting



Nowadays, Thailand is shifting into an aging society. Many elderly people are lack of caretaker and are living alone or living with children in school or pre-school age. While the family ‘s adults have to go out and work hard regarding the current economic slowdown. The family’s income might not enough for the cost of living, high-priced consumer goods. Therefore, many working-age people do not have time to take care of the elderly and have to let the elderly live alone by living allowance only. Many elderly people with disabilities have an underlying disease or have to be bedridden. They have no chance to join or do activities with some social groups or clubs and might force them having depressions and discouraged to continue living.

Therefore, The Rotary Club of Lampang initiated a Bedridden Patient Visiting Project in August 2019, which began with visiting the Kamphaeng Muang community, Muang District, Lampang Province, to provided food and beverages to 5 bedridden patients. They also talked with the patients to build the inspiration of living for patients as well as to encourage caretakers.

D.3360

## Activities

### The Rotary Club of Phitsanulok

organized the 12 August activity which were called “Run Together With Mom Phitsanulok 2019”, the activity also including serving vegetarian food and fish releasing for charity. There were D.3360 DG.Kamol Sak Visitsakulchai and PDG.Roongraanee Sangsiri including 3,000 people participated this event. This activity had the objective of making merit to the Queen Mother Sirikit by bringing income from activity to purchased medical equipment for the Neonatal Center at Buddhachinaraj Hospital, helped the underprivileged and bedridden patients and supported the education of children in rural areas.

### The Rotary Club of Sila-Assana

held an activity to provided snacks and English-Thai dictionary as well as tooth brushing and oral care kit for students at Wat Doi Tha Sao School. This activity was held on the birthday of a club’s member with a very pleasant and warm atmosphere.

### “The Rotary 3360 Zero to Winner Project”

was organized for tutoring course for students in Grade 12 in Phrae Province to be prepared for the ONET test. This project was supported by the supervised and coordinated of the 4 Rotary clubs in Phrae province including the Rotary Club of Phrae, the Rotary Club of Wiangkosai, the Rotary Club Song and the Rotary Club of Rong Kwang. There were 730 students from 11 schools in Phrae participated the tutoring course at the auditorium of Piriyalai School, Phrae Province. This project was very successful.

### The Rotary of Wiangkosai

associated with the Rotary Club of Ming Song, Taiwan in the Global Grant # 1986730, donated 4 dialysis machines worth 1,798,000 Baht to Phrae Hospital.







## The Inaugural Ceremony of Sala Karoon or Karoon Pavilion and the Lake of Love under the Royal Initiative Project at Nong Non Tai, Sakon Nakhon Province



*“When His Majesty King Bhumibol Adulyadej passed away, the Thai people were extremely sad for this great loss. In remembrance of His Majesty who was the patron of Rotary in Thailand, Rotarians unanimously agreed to pay a final tribute in a concrete way. In cooperation with the Department of Royal Irrigation, members of the Rotary Clubs in Thailand continued with Phase I of His Majesty’s Monkey Cheek Project initiative at Nong Non Tai, Ban Sao Wat, Pone Ngarm Sub-district, Agas Amnuay District, Sakon Nakhon Province. This project was funded by Rotary Clubs and the Department of Royal Irrigation.*

*In addition, Rotary Clubs sponsored the landscape improvement around the Lake of Love and constructed Sala Karoon (a 9-angle shape pavilion), a water treatment plant, toilets, a workshop, a playground, an activity area, a parking lot, roads inside the project, a waterfront pavilion and a public park. All these facilities built by Rotary on the 12 rai of land are for the benefits of the public for many years to come.”*

*The writing above on the sign at the entrance explains clearly the background of this project which led to the inaugural ceremony on 31 August 2019.*

# Lake of Love

Nong Non Tai Monkey Cheek Project



On 30 August 2019 - one day before the ceremony - after the wind and the rain caused by the storm had passed, Past Rotary International President Bhichai Rattakul, Project Chairman, along with Rotarians from 4 districts and community leaders, attended the religious ceremony at Sala Karoon. After that, 200 bicycles donated by Japan's Bicycle Parking Facilities Provision via the Rotary Club of Bangkok Suriwong, and 50 wheel chairs donated by the First Rotary Asia Charity Golf Committee (District 3350) were presented to the villagers. There were smiles on the face of the givers as well as the receivers including children and their parents.

The inaugural ceremony of Sala Karoon began in the morning of 31 August 2019 after the rain which poured all night stopped. As a result, the weather was very pleasant as the name of the area, Agas Amnuay, suggests. (Agas

Amnuay means weather permits.) Approximately 400 Rotarians from 4 districts as well as about 400 villagers and community leaders joined the ceremony. While the monks were blessing, a miracle happened. The sky was clear, and the sun shone brightly. What an auspicious day! Then, Past Rotary International President Bhichai Rattakul and Mr. Noppadol Paitoon, Deputy Governor of Sakon Nakhon Province, made an opening speech and disclosed the Sala Karoon sign amidst the great joy of all who witnessed the ceremony.

After that, the rain trees were planted at the circle in front of Sala Karoon. Those who were present were so touched when they saw Past Rotary International Bhichai Rattakul kissing the rain trees with love so that they would grow and provide shade for people who visit this public park in the future.



Once the ceremony was over, everyone including the villagers joined in the Chinese lunch. For so many people, it was the most delicious as it was prepared from the heart of District 3340 Governor Maruai Jintabunditwong. After lunch, it was time to walk around the project. There were a lot of smiles and laughter. Children were happy playing in the playground, while adults enjoyed shopping for local products like indigo clothes. Another activity which everyone was waiting for was a 10-rower boat race with 8 teams participating. On-lookers cheered on while the announcer described the race enthusiastically. Furthermore, there was a traditional Thai massage corner, a tent providing eye-sight glasses and tents of Rotarians from various districts distributing necessary items to the villagers.

In the evening, the villagers performed local Pong Lang music and the community leaders were on the catwalk presenting their beautiful local indigo clothes. The highlight of the night was the light and sound show. Past Rotary

International President Bhichai Rattakul set free the fire bird to ignite all the lights around the lake while the fireworks brightly lit the sky above the Lake of Love. It was another most impressive sight before everyone said farewell.

*In summary, the ceremony went smoothly with good fellowship. Everyone was happy in the public park and the surrounding area. Some people who visit this place for the first time might think that Rotary came here to build a public park. In fact, the Monkey Cheek reservoir is the heart of this project which will benefit the villagers and bring them happiness in a long run. The public park, Sala Karoon, the water treatment plant, the playground, the activity area and the waterfront pavilion will help make this area lively, create income for the community from future activities or tourism and finally provide better quality of life for everyone living there.*

## Rotary Centre in Thailand



### Message from the Chair

Dear Fellow Rotarians,

September 14 is a particularly important day for the Rotary in Thailand. In this month, the passing day of H.R.H General Prince Purachatra of Kampaengphet, the 35th son of King Chulalongkorn (Rama V) of Siam, is marked. He chartered the first Rotary Club in Thailand (RC of Bangkok) and initiated a significant number of activities that have been truly beneficial to the country. He was honored and named as father of the Thai railways, serving in many important positions such as the Commander-Rail Train, Commander of the Military Engineer Department, Minister of Commerce and Transport, and first initiator of the Petroleum Survey in Siam. In remembrance of H.R.H Prince Purachatra, on this day, the Chair of the Rotary Center in Thailand, District Governors, club leaders and Rotarians represented all Rotarians in Thailand to join with the military officers of the Signal Battalion, Kamphaengphet Camp, in a wreathlaying ceremony to pay tribute to the H.R.H at his Royal statue at Amphur Kratumban, Samut Sakorn province, as well as a praying session to respond to H.R.H's benevolence through the Rotary ideal of service above self.

September 16th represents the Past RI President's Bhichai Rattakul's birthday. It is another meaningful day when many Rotarians from various clubs in Thailand join together to wish him all the best; this event takes place at the Bhoman Temple for the religious ceremony. On behalf of the Rotary Center in Thailand, may the power of holy things protect and wish him the following four blessings: a long life, tender complexion, mental happiness, and good health.

During September of this year, many areas in Thailand were hard hit by tropical storm Podul and other storms, causing significant suffering due to flood damage, particularly in northeast and northern areas such as Khonkaen, Roi Ed, Karasin, Ubol Rachathani, and Amphur Wangthong, Pisanulok. To urgently assist in alleviating the suffering, the committee of the Rotary Center's Sudden Aid Fund allowed a sum of funding to initially help and support the victims through cooperation with the local District and Rotarians. The great Rotarian spirit manifested itself by helping others in a highly impressive manner. Many thanks go to all those whose patient efforts in every way were rendered to assist during this time.

The Rotary center has been attempting to improve communication services and information for all Rotarians for the updated Rotary events and activities as well as provide important data through its website, Facebook and magazine in both Thai and English.

Lastly, I would like to thank the Rotary Center's advisors, administrative committee members, Rotarians and staff members for their substantial efforts to develop Rotary Thailand's activities to be the most beneficial to the public under the ideal of Rotary Service.

Yours in Rotary,

ปรีดีศัล รัตนาวิช

PRID.Dr.Saowalak Rattanavich  
Chair, The Rotary Centre in Thailand  
Administrative Committee

### Number's Rotary Data source [www.rotary.org](http://www.rotary.org), 25 September 2019 (1 July 2019)

District	3330	3340	3350	3360	Total
Members	<b>2,398</b> (2,327)	<b>1,465</b> (1,401)	<b>2,937</b> (2,821)	<b>1,423</b> (1,370)	<b>8,223</b> (7,919)
Clubs	<b>102</b> (102)	<b>66</b> (66)	<b>113</b> (113)	<b>67</b> (67)	<b>348</b> (348)



Join in make  
*Change*

**"Wheelchairs for the Disabled Project"** The Rotary Club of Phrae gave wheelchairs to people with disabilities. The wheelchair recipients will be evaluated while the mobile medical units are deployed in different areas every 3 months. Then the observer team will provide suitable equipment as well as health care information and wheelchair instruction for the recipients.



# World Polio Day, 24 October

Rotary has been at the forefront of polio eradication since 1985, helping to immunize more than 2.5 billion children and reduce polio cases by 99.9 percent. Our work fighting the disease won't stop until polio is gone for good.

GIVE TODAY : [rotary.org/donate](http://rotary.org/donate)

