

Rotary

Thailand

โรตารีประเทศไทย

No. 216 January - February 2025


District Agenda 3340 by
District Governor Saengthiwa



Three-Year Timeline of
'Safe Roads Save Lives'
– Rotary Thailand's major
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Bring the joy

I always walk into meetings at my home club of McMurray, Pennsylvania, with a smile on my face.

A few years ago, someone arrived late. Instead of scolding the person, we cheered. Since then, we've made it a tradition to applaud all members when they arrive for meetings. It's tough not to smile with a greeting like that.

There's nothing more powerful for engaging and retaining members than a club that's vibrant, welcoming, and — yes — fun.

Think back to what drew you to Rotary. Chances are, it wasn't just the service projects or professional networking. It was the people — the friendships, the shared laughter, and the joy of working toward a common purpose. That's what keeps us coming back.

If you're looking for that sense of joy in your meetings, don't be afraid to ask yourself and your fellow members some tough questions. If you were a prospective member, would you join your current club? It's a powerful question but don't stop there.

Do members of your club feel that they belong? Are your meetings fun? If not, what can you do about it together?

At your next meeting or event, try something new to bring out a few extra smiles. It's the simple things that create lasting bonds and make clubs simply irresistible.

Here's one example of a club moving in the right direction. The Rotary Club of Fukushima, Japan, has been combining environmental responsibility with community fun since 2021. In Japan, people have made picking up trash into a sport known as SpoGomi, and every year the club hosts a game. This year, more

than 400 participants cheered each other on while they came together to improve their community.

This event is an excellent example of how Rotary clubs can have fun, make a difference, and raise awareness for broader global challenges all at the same time. And the inclusive, family-friendly format allows people of all ages to participate.

When we enjoy what we do, that energy becomes contagious. It's what attracts new members and keeps our clubs strong and engaged. It helps people feel that they belong.

Retention and culture go hand in hand. The healthier our club culture, the more likely members are to stay. Rotary magazine is an outstanding resource for inspiration on how to enhance our club culture and deepen member engagement. I encourage you to explore the stories and strategies in these pages, drawing from other clubs' successes to find ideas that work for you.

Together, we can create a more engaged, enjoyable, and inclusive Rotary that every member can feel proud to be part of. Let's continue with renewed commitment and enthusiasm, living The Magic of Rotary.

STEPHANIE A. URCHICK
President, Rotary International



Ripples of hope and change

This month, as we come together for the International Assembly and the Presidential Peace Conference, we celebrate The Magic of Rotary — a unique blend of global connection, vision, and action that empowers us to create lasting change.

One of the most inspiring examples is our Rotary Peace Fellowship program, a cornerstone of Rotary's mission to build a more peaceful and just world.

For more than 23 years, Rotary Peace Fellowships have been transforming communities. Our Rotary Peace Centers, hosted at leading universities around the globe, have educated over 1,800 fellows who now work in more than 140 countries.

These centers cultivate expertise in fields like conflict resolution, sustainable development, and peacebuilding, preparing fellows to tackle some of the world's most pressing challenges. This program exemplifies how Rotary turns vision into action, creating a ripple effect of hope and change.

This month during the Presidential Peace Conference, we celebrate a significant milestone with the opening of our newest peace center in Istanbul. This center will focus on training leaders to address peacebuilding challenges in the Middle East and North Africa, further extending Rotary's impact.

Peace fellows are dedicated champions of transformation, addressing critical issues such as refugee resettlement, youth and women's empowerment, and reconciliation in conflict zones. Many founded vital organizations or hold

leadership roles in governments, nongovernmental organizations, and international institutions like the United Nations and World Bank.

One inspiring story is that of Ntang Julius Meleng, a 2024 Rotary Peace Fellow at Makerere University in Uganda. Through his Social Change Initiative, Julius has worked to empower young people in Cameroon to take active roles in peacebuilding and leadership.

His project provided training in conflict prevention, civic engagement, and leadership to youths and community officials in areas affected by conflict, equipping people to drive sustainable peace efforts.

Julius harnessed Rotary's global network to overcome obstacles, including limited funding and security risks, and make a meaningful impact.

The Rotary Peace Fellowship gave Julius the tools and support to turn his vision into reality. His work embodies The Magic of Rotary — the transformative power of connecting people, sharing resources, and uniting for a common purpose.

As we reflect on the achievements of our peace fellows and celebrate Rotary's enduring commitment to peace, let us also recognize the role that everyone in our network of 1.2 million members plays in creating magic through service.

Together, we can amplify our impact, inspire new generations of leaders, and build a brighter, more peaceful future.

STEPHANIE A. URCHICK
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Editorial



With over 30 years of experience in Rotary, I have witnessed numerous changes and developments — both as remarkable progress and certain setbacks. On the positive side, Rotary has evolved into a modern organization, embracing innovations that have propelled its growth. Rotary International's website stands among the world's leading platforms, serving as a vast repository of information for both members and the public. Additionally, Rotary magazines — whether at the international, regional, or national levels — circulate in the millions.

However, it is unfortunate that we do not fully utilize the potential of these valuable resources. Another significant development is the adoption of modern management systems, such as the highly effective Strategic Plan and Rotary Club Central, which facilitate advanced planning for clubs. The introduction of e-clubs has expanded our networking reach beyond geographical limitations. Yet, despite these advancements, fellowship among members has declined.

One of the most noticeable regressions is our emphasis on quantity over quality. There is minimal screening or classification of professions, and we lack a serious approach to meeting attendance — whether in person or online.

My key message is that we need to return to the basics of Rotary — back to our core values: Fellowship, Integrity, Diversity, Service, and Leadership. Most importantly, we must ensure that Rotary does not become a costly endeavor. We should evaluate and eliminate unnecessary expenses and extravagant events that deter prospective members. For instance, consolidating seminars into single events could be a practical approach.

When asked about my vision for Rotary's future, my response is clear; if we fail to return to the basics and simplify our approach, Rotary's future will be at risk. However, if we succeed, Rotary will continue to thrive and fulfill its guiding principle of Service Above Self.

As for Rotary in Thailand, we have both strengths and weaknesses. Our greatest strength lies in our highly capable members, many who play significant roles at both national and international levels. Senior Rotarians from Thailand are well-respected figures within the global community.

On the other hand, one of our most evident weaknesses is our lack of commitment to acquiring knowledge about Rotary. Many members show little interest in attending training sessions and seminars, despite the fact that a deep understanding of Rotary is crucial. The accumulated wisdom within Rotary has allowed it to remain at the forefront, providing a strong foundation for achieving its mission and objectives.

Thus, I firmly believe that we should emphasize 'knowledge management' in all aspects of Rotary, including governance, bylaws, and practical applications such as protocols, project planning, and role rotations to ensure continuous learning. After all, everything can — and must — be learned and shared.

How should we move forward?

We must advance with unwavering commitment to Rotary's ideals. In other endeavors, one may receive monetary compensation, titles, or material rewards. However, serving Rotary requires personal sacrifice of both time and financial resources.

Therefore, let us not dwell on trivial matters or engage in conflicts over issues that fail the Four-Way Test. In other words, if we are already investing our time and money, let's not waste our emotions as well.

Chamnan Chanruang
Senior Editor

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*Samantha Cristoforetti dreamed of space travel
since she was a kid. Now, she's sharing the cosmic
awe with her fellow earthlings.*

District 3340's Strategy for Strengthening Clubs –
Targeted development using three key questions
by District Governor Sangthiwa Tong-U-Chang





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'Rotary Empowers Ordinary People to Achieve Extraordinary Things' – A simple phrase that led to the impactful firefighting equipment donation project by the Rotary Club of Kaen Koon.

Rotary's Full Commitment to Road Safety Initiatives – PDG Dr. Sanguan Kunaporn documents the three-year journey of 'Safe Roads Save Lives', Rotary Thailand's national road safety campaign.



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A woman with dark hair, wearing a blue t-shirt, is looking out of a large window in a space station. Her hair is floating in the air. The window shows a view of Earth with blue oceans and white clouds. The interior of the space station is visible, with various equipment and structural elements.

WHERE NO TIKTOKER HAS GONE BEFORE

Samantha Cristoforetti
dreamed of space travel
since she was a kid. Now,
she's sharing the cosmic awe
with her fellow earthlings.

BY DIANA SCHOBURG



IN SOME WAYS IT'S JUST LIKE ANY OTHER ROTARY MEETING.

Dozens of members of the Rotary Club of Köln am Rhein gather on a pleasant Monday evening at one of the famous Kranhäus office buildings, architectural gems shaped like upside down-L's over the Rhine River with the towers of Cologne Cathedral visible in the distance. The night's speaker, an out-of-this-world member of the club, is scheduled to give the Rotarians a virtual tour of her workplace. The Wi-Fi connection on her end is finicky, and they wait eagerly.

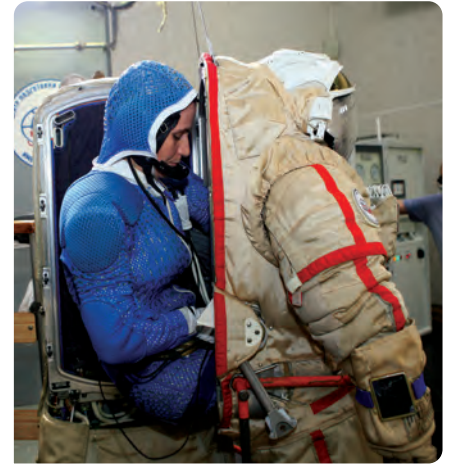
At last, she appears, and that's when this meeting takes a decidedly different turn. Because Samantha Cristoforetti, an astronaut aboard the International Space Station, is floating.

Cristoforetti is four months into her second stint on the space station, a research vessel about the size of a six-bedroom house that orbits the Earth every 90 minutes. Her hair set loose from the confines of gravity in a way that would make an '80s metal rocker jealous, she takes questions and wows club members with the cosmic views. "Most of the time I try to take meetings from the cupola, because then you can show people the Earth from the windows," she says in an interview with Rotary magazine.

Astronauts' personal items are rigorously monitored; they must meet a strict weight limit of only 3.3 pounds total. Among her select few items, Cristoforetti has included the red-and-white banner of the Köln am Rhein Rotary club. As the meeting closes, her fellow club members thank her with thunderous applause.

She rolls backward away from the camera, leaving the club banner on screen floating behind her.





Previous pages: Cristoforetti in the International Space Station.

Clockwise from top left: A spacecraft approaches the station; Cristoforetti trains in a Russian spacesuit; she simulates a spacewalk underwater.

1990s, when Cristoforetti was a teenager. So when the agency announced it was accepting applications in 2008, she knew that was her once-in-a-lifetime opportunity.

Along with 8,412 other qualified applicants, she toiled through the astronaut recruitment process, which included aptitude tests, psychological evaluations, medical exams, and interviews. She brushed up on her Russian language skills using a Harry Potter audio-book. ("I still have a small but enviable vocabulary of Russian magical terms," she writes in her book.) Finally, she received the news she'd



Cristoforetti's journey to space began during her childhood in a tiny village in the Italian Alps, her taste for adventure whetted by summers spent roaming the woods with cousins and winters skiing. But it was her voyages in books, read in secret under the covers at bedtime, that primed her imagination for her meteoric rise. "I doubt I'd be an astronaut today if I hadn't climbed a ladder to the Moon many years ago, ... if I hadn't traveled all the way to China with Marco Polo or fought epic battles beside Sandokan the pirate", she recalls in her 2018 book, *Diary of an Apprentice Astronaut*.

When she was 17 and a senior in high school, she traveled to St. Paul, Minnesota, as an exchange student. "I was fascinated by space flight already. I was a big Star Trek fan," she says. "All of that was centered in the United States." One day, while eating out with her host mother, the two saw an advertisement for Space Camp in Huntsville, Alabama. Cristoforetti was all in. At Space Camp, she studied the space shuttle and simulated a 24-hour mission. "I got to go and play astronaut for the week," she says. "It got me so much closer to the whole space thing."

When she returned home, she went on a second journey, that of acquiring the skills she'd need to apply to become an astronaut, should that rare opportunity present itself. She studied engineering and became one of the first female fighter pilots in the Italian Air Force. "I wouldn't say I was obsessed," she says. "I always took pleasure in learning and doing what I was doing at that time. But I always kept the dream in mind."

The European Space Agency had recruited astronaut candidates only twice before, most recently in the early

been waiting to hear that she had fulfilled her childhood dream. "When you get that phone call that says you've been selected it's like, Wow, what are the chances of this really happening?" she says.

In September 2009, she began training for missions to the International Space Station. For spacewalk training, she practiced underwater to simulate weightlessness. She was fitted for both Russian and American spacesuits; the American gloves alone required 26 measurements. And she prepared for emergencies that she hoped would never happen - just little workplace mishaps like becoming untethered from the space station and floating away.

It was during one of these trainings that Bernd Böttiger, a member of the Rotary Club of Köln am Rhein, first met Cristoforetti. Böttiger, an internationally renowned specialist in emergency medicine, teaches astronauts resuscitation procedures in case of an emergency on the space station. "She impressed me as being extremely positive, extremely tough, extremely straightforward, extremely focused," he says. "I can easily imagine how they found her among the thousands of applicants."

In November 2014, after what may have felt like light-years of training, Cristoforetti was ready to rocket to space.

Pusk," comes the voice on the radio at the launchpad in Baikonur, Kazakhstan. Start. Fuel begins to flow into the combustion chambers of the Soyuz TMA-15M Russian spacecraft.

"Zazhiganiye." Ignition.

"Poyekhali!" Let's go! the crew's commander, Anton Shkaplerov, shouts. Cristoforetti and crewmate Terry Virts join in his cry as they catapult into the air with a sudden jolt. It's the same thing cosmonauts have been shouting since Yuri Gagarin, the first human in space, did so in April 1961.

Crews flying into space perform rituals that surpass even the long-standing Rotary traditions familiar to members. In the days leading up to liftoff, Cristoforetti details in her book, traditions include a screening of a Soviet-era film, a tree planting in Cosmonauts Alley, and a toast with fruit juice.

Crew members sign their names on their hotel room doors, receive sprinkles of holy water from an Orthodox priest, and walk out to the bus that will take them to the launch site to the famous Russian rock song "Trava u Doma," or "Grass by the Home." And this will sound familiar to Rotary members: Once on board the space station, new astronauts may receive a pin, to mark their membership in an elite club.

As the seconds tick by on the Soyuz, Cristoforetti and her crewmates are pressed into their seats with increased force until, about nine minutes later, the engines cut off as they reach orbit.

"In their thick gloves, my hands are dangling at about eye level, as if they weren't attached to me," she writes in her book of that moment. "In an immediate flip that flies in the face of millions of years of body memory, I have to make an effort to hold them against my body."

They reach the space station in about six hours and, after a couple of hours of procedures, the hatch between the Soyuz spacecraft and the research station opens. With a gentle push from Shkaplerov, Cristoforetti squeezes through. It's "like a second birth," as she describes it, "one of those rare points of connection between past and future." With that, she becomes the 216th person to live in the space station.

Since the first crew of one American and two Russians arrived in 2000, the International Space Station has been inhabited continuously by astronauts from 23 countries in something akin to a relay race, uninterrupted for 24 years. Cristoforetti has participated in two missions, her first from November 2014 to June 2015, at the time the longest ever for a woman in space at 200 days; the second from April to October 2022, which included a couple of weeks as space station commander, making her Europe's first woman to hold the role.

Cristoforetti adjusted to all the space "firsts": her first sleep (she opted not to tie herself to the wall with bungees and instead free-floated in her phone booth-sized crew quarters); her first meal (scrambled eggs and oatmeal, which she set afloat so she could chomp it midair); her first trip to the bathroom (because of urine recycling, "yesterday's coffee becomes tomorrow's coffee," she writes in her book). Then she got on with the business of being an astronaut.

Work hours run from about 7 a.m. to 7 p.m. and start with a morning meeting. The station is first and foremost a scientific research vessel. During her missions, Cristoforetti has contributed to research on health topics such as the effect of noise on hearing, the maintenance of muscle tone, and osteoporosis, as well as other areas of science like the physics of emulsions and the properties of metals.

Keeping the space station up and running falls to the astronauts, with duties like housekeeping (even in space, you need to vacuum), maintenance, and the loading and unloading of cargo vehicles. They're also required to exercise

2.5 hours daily to prevent the loss of bone and muscle mass. Interspersed are meetings with their manager, flight controller, doctor, or psychologist. When their work is done, they might call home or enjoy the view from the cupola, one of Cristoforetti's favorite pastimes.

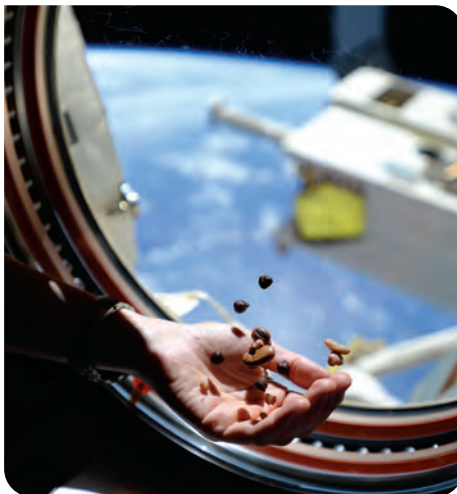
"Sometimes there are really busy weeks when you're working all the time and jumping from one task to the next. You literally forget that you're in space," she says. "Floating is your normal way of locomotion. You kind of forget about what it feels like to sit or to walk."

Still, she retained her sense of awe. On one of the final days of her first mission, she remembers spotting noctilucent clouds, a rare type of high-altitude cloud that thrills skywatchers with vivid blue wisps. "I'd been in space for over half a year, so you might think that you're kind of jaded by then, but it was like, 'Oh my gosh, here they are.'"

On her second mission, Cristoforetti participated in a seven-hour "extravehicular activity," what the rest of us know as a spacewalk, the first by a European woman. She and a Russian crewmate deployed 10 nanosatellites as part of an experiment and did work on a robotic arm attached to the outside of the space station that assists astronauts with maintenance.

"It's overwhelming to carry out demanding psychologically and physically, especially if you're a small female like me," she explains. "It's sheer concentration and willpower while you're doing it, and then once you're done, you can really let it sink in. It was such a feeling of accomplishment at having finally been able to do that. Just the experience going out, it was amazing."

In space, astronauts' days are programmed by others; there's no running to the grocery store or fighting traffic. Once they're back on Earth, they experience something akin to reverse culture shock. And there's that pesky thing called gravity. When Cristoforetti landed after her first trip, she details in her book, she borrowed a colleague's phone to call her partner, Lionel Ferra, who also works for the European Space Agency. As she finished, she began to push the phone back toward her colleague as if it would float on its own. A classic astronaut mistake. She caught herself just in time.



Cristoforetti is an astronaut, engineer, fighter pilot and a TikTok sensation. Her biography on the social media platform reads, "European Space Agency Astronaut boldly going where no Tiktoker has gone before".

Her TikTok feed runs the gamut from science experiments to space life tidbits. Videos include how to use the space toilet, floating 101, and flying into the aurora borealis. In a clip about how to drink coffee in space, a foil pouch floats beside her graphic reading "coffee please" flashes on the screen and the song "Coffee Break" by Jonah Nilsson plays in the background. Incorporating a bit of science into the video, she demonstrates why a regular cup won't work in microgravity and how her gravity-boat-looking mug uses capillary action to guide the liquid toward her mouth.

"I wanted to try something new and to make sure that we reached the young audience. Everybody was telling me they're all on TikTok," she says. "I was like, 'It's going to be a problem. I don't even know how to dance. I'm not sure you can dance in space. But she gave it a shot and ended up having a lot of fun."



Clockwise from top left: On the space station, food floats away if it's not secured; a device measures Cristoforetti's fat and lean mass, part of scientific work to learn how the human body changes in space; planting a tree in Cosmonaut Alley is one of many astronaut traditions.

PHOTOS: (TOP) ESA/NASA, SAMANTHA CRISTOFIRETTI; (BOTTOM) GCTC



Top left: Cristoforetti's first spacewalk.

Left to right: Cristoforetti (center) returns to her hometown of Cologne after her second mission; exploring the ocean floor in preparation for astronauts' future missions to the Moon and Mars.

While the space station work was exacting, Cristoforetti found other ways to spice up life in orbit. Her first mission, the quintessential Italian teamed up with Lavazza to bring on board the first space espresso maker, dubbed the ISSpresso machine. She celebrated its arrival on a Dragon cargo spacecraft by changing into a uniform from Star Trek: Voyager. The espresso maker served double duty as a study in fluid mechanics. And as part of a UNICEF initiative, she sang the John Lennon classic "Imagine" from the space station cupola, one of many renditions by people all around the world that were included in a video released on New Year's Eve 2014.

When she's earthbound, Cristoforetti lives in Cologne with her partner and two children. Impressed with her character, Böttiger invited her to join the Köln am Rhein Rotary Club between her first and second missions. "I thought it was a good place to bond with people who want to maybe live life with purpose," she says. And who doesn't want to dine with an astronaut? "It is really impressive to sit together with her at a table and eat and drink with her," Böttiger says.

Beyond space, Cristoforetti's work has taken her from the ocean floor (she lived 19 meters below the Earth's surface for nine days as commander of NASA's NEEMO 23 crew) to Norwegian fjords, where she participated in a field expedition studying lunar-like geology. It was practice for someday soon when astronauts will again explore the Moon's surface.

Having been everywhere from the ocean's depths to outer space, where's next for Cristoforetti? She ponders the question. "Will I ever go to New Zealand? I don't know. It's so far. It's such an investment of time and effort. When I was on the space station, I flew over New Zealand every day. It was so easy, right?" she says. "I could just look out the window and, in a way, I was there."

"But at the same time, you're kind of curious to see how it looks down there, so of course I'd love to go to Patagonia. I'd love to go to the mountains in Chile, all those places that become so familiar to you when you are in space. And yet, they are so far when you are on Earth."

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'ROTARY MAG,
FRANCE' AND
FRENCH-SPEAKING
COUNTRIES

Fighting forest fires in France

The growth in the number and scale of wildfires in recent years has spurred Rotarians to mount prevention and response efforts



Since the 1980s, forest cover in France has increased by 20 percent, currently representing nearly a third of the country's land. Its ability to absorb carbon dioxide, the main greenhouse gas driving climate change, is essential. The need to protect woodlands has never been so urgent given the recent scorching summers that have sparked gigantic fires.

Preservation of trees is becoming all the more crucial because although tree cover has increased, less carbon dioxide is being absorbed. From 2019 to 2022, French forests absorbed about 20 million tons of carbon dioxide annually, compared with about 45 million tons annually from 2013 to 2018 and about 65 million tons annually from 2005 to 2013. This spectacular drop can be explained by increased tree mortality, decreased growth, and increased felling.

↑
Municipal forest fire committees in the south of France include Rotarians among their volunteers. The groups assist with surveillance, warnings, and logistics.

While one of the main benefits of forests is to absorb carbon dioxide, when one catches fire it has the opposite effect: The carbon stored in dead wood is released into the atmosphere. These scientific findings, added to the human victims and material damage, have motivated Rotarians in France act against forest fires.

During the 2022-23 Rotary year, district governors in France delivered an appeal to Rotarians to protect the country's forests. The appeal was written by the Rotary clubs of Arcachon and Brignoles, which are located in southern areas of the country that have experienced devastating fires in recent years. The call encouraged actions to prevent forest fires as part of the protection of the environment, one of Rotary's areas of focus. Clubs in France have undertaken projects to raise public awareness and allocate equipment to response forces.

Raising funds with paper airplanes and theatrical performances

The fires in the department of Gironde in 2022 are still on residents' minds. The Rotary Club of Mérignac responded by hosting a lighthearted world championship of throwing paper airplanes. Nearly 400 participants and spectators gathered for the second edition of the contest on 1 June, including students in the Rotary Youth Exchange program. Dozens of paper planes flew in the sky of Mérignac.

"The objective is to raise funds for an organization called Defense of Forests Against Fires," says Pascal Guérin, a member of the Mérignac club.

The competitors worked diligently to fold paper planes that would fly as far as possible close to the runways of the Bordeaux airport. The winner's plane soared more than 150 feet.

Defense of Forests Against Fires develops water points and creates infrastructure such as forest trails

to facilitate access for firefighters. The association, which includes Rotarians, also raises awareness among the public about the risk of forest fires and the behaviors to prevent them.

In another project, the Rotary Club of Nord Blayais assists young people who are training to become firefighters by handing out sports clothing and training equipment. The club purchases the items using the proceeds from theatrical performances put on by volunteer actors.

Raising awareness with a comic book

While extinguishing fires is an excellent thing, avoiding them is even better, hence the need to inform people, who are responsible for starting 90 percent of wildfires, about key prevention measures.

Forest fires threaten all regions of France, not just the south of the country, as well as other countries in Europe.

Chantal Danjon, 2024-25 president of the Rotary Club of Bourges Jacques Coeur, located in the center of the country in Cher, is launching a project with the Rotary Club of Cassino, Italy, to publish a comic book in French and Italian on the prevention of forest fires.

"After having students from the Bourges agricultural high school work on this subject and meeting with firefighters, a scenario was created by one of our members; the story takes place in the forests of Sologne and Abruzzo, close to the two Rotary clubs involved," Danjon explains.

The comic books will be distributed to the public, including by firefighters in Cher who will hand them out to young people participating in France's Universal National Service and at schools where they are invited to speak.



During the 2022-23 Rotary year, district governors in France delivered an appeal to Rotarians to protect the country's forests.



Plagued by fires, French forests are absorbing much less carbon dioxide. In addition, the carbon stored in the dead wood is being gradually released into the atmosphere.

Rotarians in the field

At least 10 Rotarians from District 1730 (Var, Alpes-Maritimes, Corsica, and Monaco) volunteer with municipal forest fire committees and conduct information, prevention, and surveillance activities, says Jean-François Pradurat, a member of the Rotary Club of Brignoles and deputy president of the forest fire committee of Brignoles.

Five Rotarians in his club participated in 60 actions in 2023, representing about 250 hours of volunteer service dedicated to the protection of our forests.

The municipal committees are present in many parts of the south of France. These committees cultivate respect for forests among the public, whether summer visitors or permanent residents. They mainly assist the rescue services and those in charge of forests, particularly in terms of providing warnings, information, guidance, management, and logistical support. Volunteers monitor the forest areas of their home municipality throughout the year, on patrol or in a lookout post. They can then alert the fire brigade and participate in the rescue chain.

Taking action year-round

Rotary clubs in France have found many opportunities to act against forest fires, including the dissemination of information, equipment donations, and direct involvement by members. There is no longer just one season to respond; the alert is always red.

---- CHRISTOPHE COURJON

SERVICE ABOVE SELF

THE OBJECT OF ROTARY

The Object of Rotary is to encourage and foster the ideal of service as a basis of worthy enterprise and, in particular, to encourage and foster:

FIRST: The development of acquaintance as an opportunity for service;

SECOND: High ethical standards in business and professions; the recognition of the worthiness of all useful occupations; and the dignifying of each Rotarian's occupation as an opportunity to serve society;

THIRD: The application of the ideal of service in each Rotarian's personal, business and community life;

FOURTH: The advancement of international understanding, goodwill, and peace through a world fellowship of business and professional persons united in the ideal of service.

THE FOUR-WAY TEST

Of the things we think, say or do:

- 1) Is it the **TRUTH**?
- 2) Is it **FAIR** to all concerned?
- 3) Will it build **GOODWILL & BETTER FRIENDSHIPS**?
- 4) Will it be **BENEFICIAL** to all concerned?

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.



Trustee's message

January 2025

This year, become a regular

January marks a fresh start, a time to take stock of what we have achieved and plan for future success.

It is important to remember that we are in the middle of a major year for fund development. The Rotary Foundation has set an ambitious goal to grow Rotary's Endowment to \$2.025 billion by this year, 2025. This will only be possible through the generous support of every person reading this message.

January is also Vocational Service Month, when we recognize how vital each member's professional calling is to the work Rotary accomplishes.

During the Arch Klumph Society weekend in October, Gay and I were inspired by the diverse vocations represented among some of our most generous supporters. They included teachers, engineers, health care professionals, and builders. Uniting them was a shared commitment to building a better world through The Rotary Foundation.

So many of us bring the insight of our professions into Rotary through Vocational Service. The Rotary Foundation Cadre of Technical Advisers exemplifies this. These Rotary members use specialized skills to guide project planning, grant applications, and evaluations, ensuring the projects you fund and implement are sustainable and effective.

The work of The Rotary Foundation, from safe water initiatives to literacy programs, depends on regular giving by our members. One convenient solution for many is Rotary Direct, which provides a simple way to make monthly, quarterly, or annual contributions.



This empowers Rotary to plan effectively, respond promptly to urgent needs, and continue transforming lives.

The Paul Harris Society, which honors those who contribute \$1,000 or more annually, also strengthens the Foundation. Paul Harris Society members, like Klumph society members and Rotary Direct contributors, embody the spirit of sustained giving.

When setting your personal goals for this year, remember that by supporting The Rotary Foundation,

you extend your impact worldwide. Every contribution — no matter the size — adds to the momentum driving meaningful change. So, as we enter 2025, let us reaffirm our commitment to The Rotary Foundation.

By combining our efforts and our giving with others in our great organization, we can truly say that no matter our vocation or location, we are contributing to a global force for good.

Thank you for all you do.

February 2025

Ambassadors of peace

By some measures, great progress has been made in building more peaceful societies around the world. Yet the reality of ongoing regional wars, skirmishes, and violence globally reminds us how far we still have to go. These conflicts affect the humanity of us all, whether they occur far from us or in our own communities.

So, what can Rotary do to build peace?

As a global force for peace and conflict prevention, Rotary addresses the root causes of conflict. Our role at the 1945 United Nations charter is a testament to this enduring commitment.

Another cornerstone of this work is the Rotary Peace Centers program. Through The Rotary Foundation, these seven centers provide fully funded fellowships, empowering individuals to address the complex challenges of conflict and development.

More than 1,800 alumni now work in over 140 countries as champions of peace, creating lasting change in their communities. Consider alumni like Pablo Cuevas, a 2015 peace fellow who leads the Paraguay office of the International Organization for Migration, aiding those displaced by crises. Leni Kinzli, a 2023 graduate, advocates for Sudan's humanitarian needs with the United Nations World Food Programme. Yuki Daizumoto, a 2007 peace fellow, supports life-changing agricultural and livelihood projects in Afghanistan with the Japan International Cooperation Agency. These individuals embody Rotary's investment in peace.

This month, the Foundation Trustees will consider a plan

to establish our eighth Rotary Peace Center, in Asia, as part of our vision to have peace centers on every inhabited continent by 2030.

But our commitment extends beyond the peace centers. Through Rotary's partnership with the Institute for Economics and Peace, we have trained over 300 Positive Peace Activators from 60 countries. Our forgiveness and social cohesion curricula help members heal communities. Through our Foundation grants and service, Rotary members are fostering peace by engaging with youths, strengthening civil society, and resolving core issues that can lead to conflict.

At President Stephanie Urchick's Peace Conference in Istanbul this month, we will celebrate this work and the first class of the Otto and Fran Walter Rotary Peace Center at Bahçeşehir University.

Remember that you are also ambassadors of peace through service projects, exchange programs, and as supporters of The Rotary Foundation.

My wish for 2025 is for peace to take root and flourish ever more widely, with Rotary playing an increasingly meaningful role in that noble pursuit.

MARK DANIEL MALONEY
Foundation Trustee Chair

To enroll in Rotary Direct, visit my.rotary.org/rotary-direct



DG Sangtiwa Tong-U-Chang District 3340

This issue of Rotary Thailand magazine contains the insight of District 3340. One is the interview with DG Sangtiwa Tong-U-Chang which is an exclusive scoop for understanding our district leader's role and performance as a Rotarian over the last 20 years.

DG Sangtiwa, affiliated with the Nongkhai Rotary Club, was brought up in Nongkhai province. Her mother is Singaporean and her father is Thai. During childhood, she usually went back to Singapore with her mother for the school holidays. She started primary school in Nongkhai and then studied in high school in California, USA. She graduated with a bachelor's degree in business administration in Singapore. Furthermore, she completed a bachelor's and master's degree in business marketing in Australia.

After her education abroad, she returned to Nongkhai and happened to know some businesspeople who convinced her to join Rotary activities, such as attending meetings and especially the service projects. A few years later, she became an actual Rotarian in 2007. She did many duties in the Rotary Club of Nongkhai when she was the club president in 2012. She had various roles in district committees, Foundation chair, service projects committee, and assistant governor. She succeeded in a service project when it was called Matching Grant, and later it was renamed as Global Grant while she was the club president with the Rotary motto 'Peace through Service'.

She started as membership chair when the Nongkhai Rotary club commenced to bringing in new generations, and she was the one. She enjoyed making friends and engaging in social services in the same period of the Matching Grant procedure while the club collaborated with Rotary clubs in district 2510, Hokkaido who handed over the mobile hospital project to the area affected by the tsunami in Fukushima, Japan. She also started a Global Grant project to train underprivileged youth in a Vocational Training project. Other Global Grants were related to Environment in District 3340 in association with District 2510. She realized that being a Rotarian, one could get friendship in one's club, other clubs, and overseas clubs. Those

fellows made such good acquaintances that led to small projects and then big projects. For instance, DG Shikako Demura, a Rotarian of Hokkaido Rotary Club, District 2510, developed their companionship from good friends to best friends over nearly 20 years. It is coincidental that he became current District Governor the same year

as she did. "My best friendship is my Magic of Rotary".

DG Sangtiwa started official club visits on 25 July and completed 63 clubs on 25 October. Building strong clubs is her policy that she wants to emphasize. It's because she attended the International Assembly in USA and on the gala night, she had a seat at



the same dinner table as RI President Stephanie Urchick. She found that Stephanie had a down to earth personality but an intelligent mind which anyone could reach out to and it was practical to use. The Rotary structure that the RI President had designed was able to be used effectively. However, an excellent structure will be useless if Rotary clubs do not use it at the club level. Therefore, club leaders and Rotarians must examine their own potential and to what extent is their club's potential. When our DG visited the clubs, she perceived their strengths and weaknesses and she could directly support their capabilities. As Rotary leaders, we need to inspire them to do much better than they

normally do. She formulated the three key points to strengthen Rotary clubs as follows:

1. What has the club done in the past?
2. What is the club doing now?
3. What will be done next?

Basically, Rotarians have



meetings and do activities of the club, and they will devote their most valuable thing, ‘time’ to the mission of Rotary. When they join Rotary, they can do good things at all levels: clubs, Rotarians, and community. She arranged the District Agenda and distributed it to clubs prior to the date of the official visit so that the clubs have enough time to assess their strengths and weaknesses, and then make their plans accordingly to strengthen the clubs. When she spent a day on an official visit, she grasped the club’s performance through talking with Rotarians, encouraging their potential, listening to their strong points, and what character and nature the club had. Let’s think about the service they had done, it could be formatively changed to a small project – from a small project to a big project. From continuously doing big projects, they could collaborate with other clubs to expand a big project to become a Global Grant project because of the relationship among clubs, districts and countries. Developing relationships lead to cooperation in the Global Grant projects which is very beneficial, and can extend to a higher level of support. Knowing the strengths and weaknesses of each club, acknowledging the potential of Rotarians, then taking this opportunity to strengthen theirs, and inspiring by stimulating feelings of everyone to see what they had done. The District Agenda is an important tool to build morale and empower all Rotarians from every club.

To evaluate the club with the three key-point questions, Membership, The Rotary Foundation and Public Image committees need to examine the club’s characteristics by applying the three key-point questions as follows.

1. Why do Rotarians join?
2. Why do Rotarians stay?
3. Why do Rotarians leave?

DG Sangtiwa said that she had applied the three key-point questions to measure Rotarians’ characteristics: join, stay, and leave. No matter what health, finance, or any other problems they have, providing these questions will create the analytical process that mirrors Rotarians’ characteristics. When a newcomer joins the club,



they will see the club’s characteristics. Throughout the DG’s official visits of 63 clubs, the three key-point questions were used as a measurement to ask and answer to the clubs, including the district team, assistant governors and district committees. The district team could identify the facts of the clubs that look the same; however, some facts were quite different in each club. It is like everyone in the family who looks the same, but each one is different and vice versa. So, the Intercity Meeting in Sakon Nakhon held in November 2024, had a brainstorming session related to developing the club’s characteristics by applying the three key-point questions. As a result, it started the thinking process and development to find the most suitable approach. The thought process was taken from Dr. Arthur Sweeney who was a professor of business marketing in the university where she studied in Australia. He presented the value of analyzing the business marketing like this; “Find out what they want and give them more. Find out what they don’t want and give them less”. That’s why she adopted it to use in Rotary and said, “Why they join, why they stay and why they leave” to guide the management of the club.

This year the membership policy in District 3340, 'Budding Shooting' was launched to increase the number of clubs in a probable area without thinking less nor focusing on splits. Budding Shooting means that from the integrity and strength of the club, it is ready to expand and set up a new club. For example, in Pattaya city, the challenging area, members are from different nationalities speaking



English and other foreign languages in club meetings for general communication. Club expansion also uses the method of sprouting by gathering members with the same potential and interests. If, for example, they are interested in sports or lifestyle, they can set up a new Rotary club to do related activities together. Rotarians must analyze and determine their own strengths and weaknesses. There were some periods in District 3340 when membership declined. It was noticeable that senior Rotarians in the Rotary Leadership Institute gave advice on how to retain and increase membership. The District Agenda was particularly applied to support such cases. For retention and increasing membership, we do not demand only higher figures. On the other hand, Rotarians need to remain in an 'existing state'. We can help each other stay happy and worthy as Rotarians. Rotary is like a gigantic cruise where Rotarians stay together. Leaders in each year can find leaks on board, they give a hand to perform maintenance and then carry forward to the next leader for a safe cruise to move on promptly and steadily.



DG Sangtiwa is one of the Young Governors, less than 50 years of age, together with 50 governors worldwide at the International Assembly in Florida, USA. She is a businesswoman running import and export designer jewelry to many countries in Asia and Europe and possibly expanding to Italy. She is the president of Be Green Company Limited. She has an active personality and good relationships. She can speak many languages, especially three main languages; English, Mandarin Chinese and Thai.

During her nearly 20 years as a Rotarian, she has used her knowledge and abilities to serve in Rotary, especially in foreign countries that mainly require English communication to do service projects that are concerned with foreign countries. Moreover, taking concepts and practical methods that are not only based on theory or academically, but to also apply the Active Learning Model to the management of Rotary clubs and District 3340. The facts found in the survey will be adjusted and used to strengthen the clubs and Rotarians.



In the roles of social work, DG Sangtiwa is a Director and Vice Chairman of the Nongkhai Provincial Chamber of Commerce, and has allocated her time to work in business, Rotary and social work perfectly, being an example of the new generation who are always improving themselves. In the end, she said that she had become a Rotarian because of friendship, and she has developed friendships with many people to serve others, the community, and internationally and "Friendship is My Magic of Rotary".

Article by PP Chantane Thienvijit
Rotary Club of Lanna



Firefighting Gear Project

PDG Somchai Chiaranaipant, District 3340



“Rotary: A Timeless and Borderless Friendship”

The enduring relationship between the Rotary Club of Kyoto Northeast, District 2650, Japan, and the Rotary Club of Kaen Koon, District 3340, Thailand, began in 1998 when Japanese Rotarian Tetsu Ishida visited the Rotary Club of Kaen Koon in Khon Kaen province. This connection grew stronger over time, eventually leading to a formal twinning agreement between the two clubs.

Over the past 27 years, both clubs have actively collaborated on various Rotary projects, including drug prevention programs for youth, the donation of 10,000 bicycles, and the establishment of libraries for children and families. In each initiative, the Rotary Club of Kyoto Northeast took the lead in fundraising from fellow Japanese Rotary clubs to support projects in Thailand.

Fire Truck Donation from Kyoto Municipality

In 2017, upon learning that the Kyoto municipality had planned to decommission two fire trucks, the Rotary Club of Kyoto Northeast sought permission to receive and transfer these vehicles through the Rotary Club of Kaen Koon to be donated to the Khon Kaen municipality.

Although decommissioned, the fire trucks remained in excellent condition. After a lengthy process, the vehicles were successfully delivered to Khon Kaen municipality. A delegation





from Japan traveled to oversee the handover and visit the Khon Kaen Fire Station.

During discussions with local firefighters, it became evident that essential firefighting gear — including heat-resistant jackets, trousers, helmets, and other protective equipment — was old and worn out. Rtn Usarat Chiablaem, secretary of the Rotary Club of Kaen Koon, was present at the time, and took note of this issue but had no immediate solution in mind.



A Simple Comment that Led to an Extraordinary Project

In early 2024, PP Tetsu Ishida visited the Rotary Club of Kaen Koon again, bringing financial support for the library project for children and families, a project his club had initiated with Kaen Koon in 2005 and had been running successfully for a decade. This visit marked the 11th edition of the project.

During a meal, the conversation turned to fire trucks, highlighting Thailand's urgent need for more vehicles. Japan, on the other hand, had decommissioned fire trucks ready for donation, but Thai law prohibited the importation of vehicles older than five years.

Rtn Usarat then raised a question: "What if, instead of fire trucks, we focus on firefighting gear? During our past donation events, we noticed that most firefighting equipment was in poor condition, which could pose risks to the firefighters. We felt concerned for their safety." This heartfelt concern had been on her mind for over seven years.

PP Tetsu Ishida took this idea back to Japan, where he discussed it with his club and approached the Kyoto municipality. Coincidentally, and most fortunately, the Kyoto municipality was preparing to decommission its firefighting suits! Upon receiving this news, the Rotary Club of Kaen Koon coordinated with Khon Kaen municipality to formally request the donation. The Kyoto municipality promptly approved and arranged for the Rotary Club of Kyoto Northeast to facilitate the transfer. CP Suwimol Wongwatanakiet then





collaborated with Khun Toi, owner of Tokyo Plaza Company — a businessman with strong ties to Japan — to help transport the equipment to Khon Kaen. His generous support ensured the smooth delivery of the gear.

A total of 20 firefighting suits, including jackets, trousers, helmets, and protective gloves, have now arrived in Khon Kaen. The equipment is in excellent condition and some items appear to have never been used. Based on price estimates, each set is valued at no less than THB 50,000. This donation will significantly enhance the safety and effectiveness of local firefighting and rescue teams.

This pioneering initiative within District 3340 serves as a model for other Rotary clubs partnered with counterparts in Japan or other countries. It demonstrates how international collaboration can bring essential resources to communities in need.

Rotary: Empowering Ordinary People to Achieve the Extraordinary. A simple remark can lead to something extraordinary. *The Magic of Rotary—the miracle of making a difference!*



Rotary District 3330 THE MAGIC OF ROTARY

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Rotary's Commitment to the Nation's 'Road Safety' Mission

PDG Dr. Sanguan Kunaporn

Rotary Public Image Coordinator, Zone 10B & 10C Rotary International
Chair, Safe Roads Save Lives Committee - Rotary Thailand

It has been almost three years since the 'Safe Roads Save Lives' project was launched in response to a national scandal in which a female specialist ophthalmologist named Dr. Kratai was struck and killed by a police officer's motorcycle as she crossed a zebra crossing in the center of Bangkok. The video footage of the incident was widely broadcast in both domestic and international media, highlighting the risks associated with traffic accidents on Thailand's roads, which are reputed to be among the most dangerous in the world.

This has awakened Thai people to be aware of the dangers of vehicles that surround us all, including members of many Rotary clubs in Thailand. The four Rotary districts in Thailand are committed to supporting the nation's Road Safety mission by serving as civil society partners, and we can help reduce the traffic accidents and the number of fatalities, which reached about 17,000 annually. We are aware of the injuries, and the number of people who lose their family's tower of strength - hundreds of thousands of people - not to mention the trillions of Thai baht in annual economic losses. Additionally, a timeline that will be documented for future use is provided below.

- Prior to 2022, Rotary clubs in several locations of District 3330, such as Kanchanaburi, Phuket, Krabi, Nakhon Si Thammarat, etc., carried out projects involving road safety campaigns, slogan contests, helmet giveaways, and also collaborated with the Safer Road Foundation UK to build roundabouts to replace intersections, install traffic lights at intersections, install lane dividers, install red light cameras, provide breathalyzers to police, and train the Sweet Water Group (Kong Roi Nam Wan).
- Since January 2022, after the incident of Dr. Kratai being hit by a motorcycle on a crosswalk, Rotary District 3350, led by Mr. Preecha Klinaeuw, an Assistant Rotary Public Image Coordinator (ARPIC), has discussed with the Rotary Public Image Coordinator (RPIC) Zone 10B & 10C, PDG Dr. Sanguan Kunaporn and the Rotary District 3330 Road Safety Committee, and Dr. Chuchart Nijwattana, to consult on the road safety project guidelines of District 3350.
- In May 2022, PP Preecha Klinaeuw unveiled the logo 'Safe Roads Save Lives' to serve as the name of the road safety project of District 3350 for 2022-23. The benefits of the project in the long term were discussed and if the four Rotary districts would cooperate.
- In August to November 2022, the decision to collaborate on the 'Safe Roads Save Lives' project was made unanimously following talks with the four district governors of 2022-2323: DG La-or Chinda (3330), DG Pantida Rojwannasin (3340), DG Mitsutaka Ida (3350), and DG Supalak Lohajoti (3360). Additionally, the Rotary Thailand Safe Roads Save Lives Project Committee (SRSL RT) was chaired by DG Dr. Wiroon Boonnuch (3350). and Secretary-General PP Preecha Klinaeuw held talks with the Rotary Thai District Foundation and Rotary Centre in Thailand before the use of the name and logo 'Rotary Thailand' was approved as the project logo.
- On 9 December 2022, the district governors and club leaders from all four districts, namely Districts 3330, 3340, 3350 and 3360, on behalf of Rotary Thailand, attended the Thailand SAFE meeting to sign a memorandum of understanding with various networks from the public sector, private sector, and civil society. This included the Thai Health Promotion Foundation, the Office of the Public Sector Development Commission, the Road Safety Center, and the Strategic Plan for Cooperation between the Thai Government and the World Health Organization (RTG WHO CSS-RS) at the Thai Parliament, chaired by





Professor Emeritus Pornpetch Wichitcholchai, President of the Senate, to jointly campaign for increased road safety among road users and reduce the number of deaths and injuries from traffic accidents.

- In 2023, the Safe Roads Save Lives – Rotary Thailand Project Committee invited Rotary leaders from all four districts to meet and exchange ideas with experts from the Thai Health Promotion Foundation and RTS WHO CCS-RS to establish a committee structure and project implementation framework to maximize participation from Rotary clubs and districts in Thailand. The project chairman was changed to PDG Dr. Sanguan Kunaporn (District 3330). PP Preecha Klinkaew (District 3350) continues to serve as secretary-general. Rtn Dr. Chuchat Nitchawattana and PP Ratchada Thepnava (District 3330) serve as assistant secretaries-general and PP Chuanchuen Peerapatdit is the treasurer. All four Rotary districts - PDG Theeranan Wonglaw (3330), DGN Phakphum Joomprak (3340), PDG Thanongsak Phongsri, DGN Srifa Siriudomseth (3350), and CP Phatthana Phittraphan (3360) were appointed to serve on the committee. In addition, representatives of Rotary clubs in provinces where Rotary clubs are located were assigned.

- On 19 November 2023, Safe Roads Save Lives – Rotary Thailand, through Rotary clubs in Bangkok and several provinces, collaborated with the Department of Disaster Prevention and Mitigation and Provincial Disaster Prevention for the first time to organize the World Day of Remembrance for Road Traffic Victims, initiated by the World Health Organization (WHO), to raise public awareness on a major global problem that kills 1.19 million people per year, especially Thailand which has been one of the countries with the highest traffic accident death rates in the world for decades. There were campaigns on the streets, candles were lit, and flowers were laid to commemorate the victims. The Bangkok Governor and governors of several provinces presided over the ceremony.



- On 17 November 2024, there was an important event in the Rotary environment of Thailand when Rotary clubs spread across all four Rotary districts, totaling 39 provinces or half of the total 77 provinces in Thailand, acted as the primary hosts in each province to organize the World Day of Remembrance for Road Traffic Victims ceremony. There were co-hosts such as the Provincial Disaster Prevention Office under the Department of Disaster Prevention and Mitigation, Ministry of Interior, and the Provincial Traffic Accident Prevention Support Plan under the Thai Health Promotion Foundation (Thai Health). This was to remind people in Thailand to be aware of the loss of life and injuries from road accidents.

- On 18 December 2024, Safe Roads Save Lives – Rotary Thailand was invited as a civil society partner to attend the

2nd PACTS Thailand “Thai Parliament towards Road Safety” meeting at the Parliament, chaired by the Deputy Speaker of the House of Representatives, Mr. Pichet Chueamuangphan, and the Deputy Speaker of the Senate, General Kriangsak Srirak. The meeting was to acknowledge the performance of the four subcommittees and the report of the World Health Organization’s representative in Thailand on the country’s road safety situation.



- On 6 January 2025, the Manager of the Strategic Plan for Cooperation between the Thai Government and the World Health Organization, CCS-RS WHO, Dr. Wiwat Sitamanoch, invited Rotary Thailand to meet together on stage to create a plan to drive the prevention and reduction of road accidents at the Amari Don Muang Hotel in Bangkok. There were current district governors, elected district governors, former district governors, and club leaders participating in the event. More than 20 participants from four Rotary districts engaged in creating the plan.

- On 22 January 2025, Rotary Thailand was invited to the Parliament to receive a certificate of honor from the Deputy Speaker of the Parliament and sign a memorandum of understanding, declaring the private sector’s intention to jointly create road safety. Other organizations also joined the ceremony, such as the Board of Trade and the Federation of Thai Industries.



I had the opportunity to learn about the Save Roads Save Lives (SRSL) project from PP Preecha Klinkaew, who traveled to give a presentation about the project at the Intercity Meeting in Koh Chang, Trat province two years ago. This made me aware of road safety, especially in Thailand, where the number of people who died by road accidents is among the highest in the world.

When I initially learned about the problems and data regarding Thai fatalities from accidents, I was still unable to comprehend how this project would be carried out or how to find a solution to lessen the issue. However, following a first-year discussion among the four Rotary districts, we established a goal for this project: to reduce accidents and losses by 10% annually. However, how can we raise awareness about safe driving? The government has been aware of this issue for a long time but has either failed to solve it or is unable to do so.

The four Rotary districts met to discuss ways to address this issue from all angles, including public relations, training young people to be aware of traffic laws like wearing helmets, and supporting legislation that penalizes drivers who violate them. We believe that it is challenging to change the behavior of adults. Only rigorous law enforcement will be necessary. If we can raise awareness among kids and young people, they can act as a spokesperson for their parents and friends via the project ‘Save Thai Youth, Away from Accidents’. The aim of the Safe Roads Save Lives activity is to raise awareness among children. The goal of this project is to instill a lifelong awareness of road safety in the youth. The project is currently being tested in District 3350, and I think it will serve as a model for youth training in other Rotary districts.

The third Sunday in November is set aside as the World Day of Remembrance for victims in traffic accidents. For the last two years, Rotary Thailand has participated in this event. In Udon Thani province, more than 320 students were given helmets, and the younger generation is now more conscious of the significance of wearing them at all times. It is hoped that parents will also pay close attention to road safety.

DGND Pakphum Jumprak
Magkang Rotary Club

Pictures of activities on 17 November 2024

‘World Day of Remembrance for Road Traffic Victims’ in all four Rotary districts







Conflict management in Rotary clubs

PDG Somphop Thirasan, District 3330

Rotary clubs are organizations that aim to serve society and develop the community through the collaboration of members with a diversity of experiences and perceptions. However, conflicts within clubs are inevitable, because each member has different ideas and perspectives. Understanding the causes of conflict is an important first step in effectively handling problems.

We may summarize the causes of conflict in Rotary clubs as follows:

1. Differences in goals or visions: Members may have different views on what projects the club should undertake. For example, some focus on education and vocational skills development, while others focus on environmental preservation. These differences can lead to conflicts.
2. Unclear communication: Incomplete or incorrect communication can lead to misunderstanding. For example, unclear information or the omission of important information can lead to conflicts among members. If the club does not hold meetings, or holds meetings but does not summarize the resolutions of the meetings to members who did not attend, the less communication there will be.
3. Differences in personality and working methods: All members have different personalities and working methods. For example, some people like order and formality, while others prefer flexibility. These differences can create conflicts while working together.
4. Conflict of personal interests: Conflict may arise when some members prioritize personal interests over collective interests, such as choosing projects that promote their business or image.
5. Decentralization and decision-making: When some members feel that they are not involved in the decision-making process or that the decentralization is unfair, this may lead to dissatisfaction.
6. Failure to comply with club bylaws or agreements: Conflict can arise when agreements are violated, such as inappropriate use of club funds or failure to comply with meeting resolutions.
7. Dissatisfaction with management: Members may feel that projects are not being carried out effectively or that management is slow, leading to dissatisfaction among members.
8. Differences in attitudes or values: Cultural differences, beliefs, or opinions on important issues such as politics, can create conflict within a group where differences are not respected.

9. Lack of participation, engagement and unequal participation (Equity and Inclusion): If some members feel that they are not given the opportunity to participate in activities or decisions, it can lead to feelings of injustice and conflict.

10. Misinterpretation: The misinterpretation of certain opinions or behaviors can create dissatisfaction and conflict among members.

I would like to suggest the following approaches to solving and managing conflicts in clubs:

1. Promoting clear communication: Transparent and comprehensive communication can help reduce misunderstanding. All members should have the opportunity to listen to information and express their opinions openly. In particular, club meetings should be held and the results of the meetings should be announced to all members.
2. Applying Rotary's ethics and values: Important principles such as The Four-Way Test that we all memorize and often suggest for others to practice instead of starting from ourselves first, that is, asking questions every time before thinking, speaking, and doing: Is it true? Is it fair to all concerned? Will it build goodwill and better friendships? And is it beneficial to all concerned? All these questions will help members consider creative solutions.
3. Managing conflicts systematically: If conflicts occur, the club should appoint a neutral mediator or an ad hoc committee to solve the problems so that all parties feel that they have received fair treatment.
4. Training and skills development: Organizing training on conflict management and teamwork will help members develop skills in problem-solving professionally.
5. Emphasizing unity and shared goals: Being aware of the goal of serving and developing the community together will help reduce conflicts that arise from personal perspectives.

Conflict in Rotary clubs is inevitable due to the diversity of our members. If managed properly with an emphasis on transparent communication, mutual respect and application of Rotary principles, these conflicts can become opportunities to create better understanding and relationships so that we can live together inclusively and happily.

Charter Celebration and Club Officers Installation Ceremony of the Rotary Club of Phuket MAX, the 11th Rotary club in Phuket. The club received their charter certificate from Rotary International on 31 July 2024 in the year of Jakchai Visutthakul as District Governor. Withit Ekwanich is the Charter President with 43 members and their new Club Advisor is PDG Orachon Saiseethong of the Rotary Club of Phuket South as the sponsor club.





All nine Rotary clubs in Areas 3, 4 and 5 of the Songkhla and Satun provinces joined together to provide assistance to flood victims in Hat Yai district by setting up a Rotary kitchen to produce 1,150 lunch boxes and 371 relief bags, and were distributed at the district office, the Teachers Council Village, Prasanmit Village, Khuan Lang subdistrict, Hat Yai district, Songkhla province, on 29 November – 2 December 2024.



The Rotary Club of Yala distributed relief bags to flood victims in Na Tham and Yupo subdistricts in Yala province, which were flooded with water up to two meters high. They encouraged the people of Yala to overcome the crisis quickly.



The Rotary Club of Narathiwat prepared food and drinking water to distribute to flood victims in Mueang district, Tak Bai district, Yi-ngo district, Ra-ngae district and three temporary shelters, including the areas of Khlong Yakang and Khlong Watchari Bamrung.



The Rotary Club of Pattani, led by P Krit Kongsiput and members, distributed clean drinking water to communities in Pattani city.



DGE Wiwat Srisomphong
Membership Chair 2023-26,
District 3340

The world's first charity organization with a history of over 120 years needs a new generation of members who have the ideology and intention to systematically help fellow human beings, to join and eventually replace the existing members who are entering old age and will gradually leave us one by one. Currently, District 3340 has a need to increase its membership as much as possible, because it is a district with fewer members than the other districts in Thailand. As of 1 July 2024, there were 1,223 members. If it becomes fewer than 1,200 members, the district may have to be dissolved and merged with another district.

I was assigned by District 3340 to continue in the role of District Membership Chair from PDG Wimon Kachinthaksa. As a member of the Rotary Club of Chanthaburi with the highest number of 60 members, I should be able to find a way to increase the total number of Rotarians. Over the past year, we have tried to focus on giving awards to clubs that have increased their memberships at various levels. As a result, the Rotary Club of Buayai in Nakhon Ratchasima received the Krommamuen Narathipphongraphan Trophy as the club with the highest net increase in members from 17 to 49, an increase of 32 members or 188.24%. Membership in the district also increased from 1,316 members on 1 July 2023 to 1,389 members on 1 May 2024, an increase of 73, which was a good result. However, on 1 July 2024, there were only 1,223 members left, with 166 members lost, which was very shocking. This made me think that giving awards was just a temporary incentive to increase membership. Why did clubs withdraw a large number of members in June 2024? After asking around, there are several reasons: 1. Members left at the end of the term of current club president. 2. Removing the name first so that there was no need to pay the membership fee to Rotary International next year. 3. Conflicts in the club caused some members to leave and set up a new club. 4. Members are getting old and want to take a break. 5. Relocation to another area. 6. Changing to honorary membership so that there is no need to pay the membership fee to Rotary International. We can see that there are many reasons that are factors in the decrease in membership.



Rotary Membership



The Krommamuen Narathipphongraphan Trophy
for the Rotary club with the highest number of
members added, it was the Rotary Club of
Buayai in Nakhon Ratchasima.

In Rotary Year 2024-25, PRID Prof. Dr. Saowalak Rattanawich came to help solve the membership problem by having a Zoom meeting with DG Sangtiwa Thong-U-Chang, the District Membership Chair and club presidents to help campaign to increase the number of members to be more than 1,300 by August 2024. Membership increase is the main agenda of District 3340. The result is that in August 2024, 103 members were added, and in October, there was a total of 1,342 members, an addition of 119 members. I would like to thank all the clubs that were able to increase their membership beyond the set target.

In February 2025, there will be another award for increasing membership, but they should be sustainable and permanent members, not withdrawing or resigning in June. We will have to follow up. If we want our District 3340 to be stable in terms of membership, we must help each other and then every club can be successful. Clubs with many members will have the power to serve more and a variety of members will help in various activities. Clubs with 20 or more members are considered standard clubs by Rotary International and District 3340 has 64 clubs. Only 30 clubs have more than 20 members, which is 46.87%, just less than half of the district. Another 34 clubs have less than 20 members, which is 53.13%, and is considered a failure and needs to be developed more. If any club needs advice on increasing membership or want the district to provide knowledge to the club's prospective members, you can contact the District Membership Chair. There will be a team to help your club. Thank you again for the clubs that are determined and can increase their new members this year and in the following years.

Proud to be a member of Rotary



AG Nattanan Kitjanya
Rotary Club of
Chumphae

When someone first invited me to become a member of Rotary 15 years ago, I signed up because I felt considerate to the person who invited me. I intended to be a member for only one year and then resign. I didn't even know what the purpose of this organization was or how it operated. I would join some activities and not join others because I didn't have much free time at that time. But recently, I have

more free time to be able to join more activities. My husband often asks me what activities Rotarians do and what they do with the money they earn from charitable fundraising. After that, I started to study and found out that the money raised from those activities is truly used for the benefit of society. When we donated ambulances and medical equipment to hospitals, sports equipment to schools, and blankets to the needy in rural areas, and did many other service activities with the Chumphae Rotary Club, we felt full with joy and happiness that I couldn't describe being a giver. And every time we saw the heartfelt smiles from the recipients and the joy they felt, the fatigue from working for the organization and society disappeared. It was like there was some kind of energy that motivated our ambition to work for society and the underprivileged all the time, without feeling sorry for the time and money we donated.

I am very happy and proud to be a member of the Chumphae Rotary Club, which has good leaders, kind adults who support us, energized quality members who are united and truly contribute to society, according to the Rotary motto, "Service Above Self."



On my first day as a member of Rotary E-Club Dolphin Pattaya International, what impressed me the most was the warm welcome and friendliness from the club founders, Dr. Otmar and Dr. Margret Deter. When I became the club president, I knew that I would have a very hard job because our club had a very low number of members. However, I never gave up and believed that if we think good and do good, the divine will always protect and help us. I am determined to make our club to be better. In the first year as president of the club, the club has done a total of 24 service projects, and in the second year did a total of 17 service projects. There are two projects that I am very impressed with:



"Food distribution project for the impoverished person" during COVID-19. While distributing food, I heard a child about three years old tell his mother that he had eaten big shrimp that day. Hearing those words made me feel so touched that I can't describe it. Every time we bring food to distribute, we order the same things that we eat. The second project is the mangrove planting project in asbestos pipes on Koh Phra, the club earned the Best Environment Award.

Finally, I would like to thank Rotary for giving me many great opportunities as a Rotarian. Rotary teaches us to be kind-hearted, learn how to help fellow human beings and get the opportunity to know many people from various professions.



AG Chanunda Kongphol
Rotary E-Club of Dolphin
Pattaya International



AG Vittaya Virakul
Rotary Club of
Moon River

When I first became a member of Rotary, I was trembling, scared, and nervous because I am a businessman and did not go to any events. But when I received training to be a club president and met the presidents of the same year, I felt warm, being dared to express myself, I had leadership skills and wanted to help the underprivileged in need. I understood Rotary when I was the president in the 112th year of Rotary under DG Eknarong Kongphan. I have been involved in various Rotary activities and met members from almost every district, I felt more open-minded and I smiled, talked, and exchanged ideas. I learned how Rotary is good. Especially when I went to help Rotary events both in the area and in other areas, including neighboring countries, it made my life so overwhelming.

Thank you for everything Rotary is all about. I promise to invite the new generation of teenagers and adults who are still skeptical to be a part of Rotary Thailand. I will do my best. I love Rotary, I love this organization, and I love the society that has selected kind adults, good friendships, good friends, brothers and sisters. Thank you to the Rotary organization.





The Rotary Club of Khao Soi Dao led by PP Watcharalak Takbai and P Nopparat Inprasit brought the children in the project 'Young Smart Rotary #1' to join the volunteer activity 'Doing Good with Our Hearts' at Soidao Wittaya School, Chanthaburi province. The youth were taught to understand how to create society and use their free time to develop the value for others on 4 December 2024.

On World Polio Day, the **Rotary Club of Buayai**, together with the Bua Yai District Public Health Office, organized a service project to donate 118 wheelchairs for the disabled and elderly to the Subdistrict Health Promotion Hospital, Bua Yai district, Nakhon Ratchasima province on 6 December 2024.



The **Rotary Club of Nakhon Phanom** welcomed members from the **Rotary Club of Suita West, Japan, District 2660** to jointly deliver two water filters to Nakhon Phanom Kindergarten School and Na Thung Mang School, Mueang district, Nakhon Phanom province.



The **Rotary Club of Srisaket, District 3340** with the **Rotary Club of Patumwan, District 3350** and the **Natural Farming Center** jointly delivered solar-powered water pump equipment and provided training on how to install and operate the equipment to 10 selected farmer households. The recipients were delighted to receive the equipment to help extend their work on the Khok Nong Na project #2.



The Rotary Club of Thareua Trat led by AG Somporn Graissamutr, the president of the activities in Area 1, Trat province, organized a campaign walk to commemorate those lost in road accidents together with the Trat Provincial Disaster Prevention and Relief Office. The governor of Trat province, Mr. Natthaphong Sanguanjit, presided over the opening ceremony. There were participants from various government agencies, private organizations, ballroom dancing clubs and student groups, and Miss Grand Trat contestants, totaling 250 people who joined the event. The event was broadcast live on NBT Trat.



The Rotary Club of Khunying Mo-Korat led by Ms. Warunee Kupratumsiri and club members donated 100 sets of blankets and pillows in the project 'Sharing Warmth and Uniting Kindness to the Community and the Homeless' to communities and homeless people in Muang district, Nakhon Ratchasima province on 9 December 2024.



The Rotary Club of Chanthaburi led by P Sairung Srisukawat and members held a ceremony to present 299 white canes and 99 relief bags to the blind, worth THB 78,000 from the Rotary Fair of Chanthaburi-Khlung, with the vice president and secretary of the Blind Association of Thailand with over 100 blind people receiving the gifts at the Avada Hotel in Trat province.



PP Rungkhajee Nitthiranon
Chairperson of the Rotary
Friendship Exchange (RFE)
Program, District 3350

The Rotary Friendship Exchange (RFE) is an international exchange program for Rotarians and their friends, allowing participants to take turns hosting guests in their homes and clubs. Participants may travel individually, as couples, families, or groups, and they do not necessarily have to be Rotary members. Those joining the exchange are responsible for their airfare and preparing unique gifts that represent their country's identity to share with the hosts. Hosts, in turn, arrange transportation, provide all meals, and introduce participants to cultural and significant attractions in their country.

I was contacted by Ms. Sophie Chuang, Chairperson of RFE District 3490, Taiwan, who expressed interest in visiting Thailand with her delegation. I gladly accepted and welcomed the 13-member RFE from Taiwan on 20-24 July 2024, marking the first country to visit under the RFE program. I, along with other Rotarians, personally greeted the Taiwanese group at the airport. Despite the hot weather, everyone was warm and friendly. I arranged a minibus to take them to Ang Thong province, where I hosted them for their first meal at Mandarin Suki & Dim Sum, featuring dishes they were familiar with and enjoyed. During their visit, they stayed in Ang Thong for two nights and in Bangkok for two nights. They required that they take responsibility for their own accommodation costs.

I brought them to the Rotary Club of Ang Thong for a meal and a joint meeting with members from several other Rotary clubs. Upon learning that the Taiwanese group was interested in spiritual tourism, I took them to visit significant temples in Ang Thong and Ayutthaya, and provided them with traditional Thai massages which they greatly enjoyed. Moreover, I introduced them to Thai culture by dressing them in traditional Thai attire for photos at Wat Chaiwatthanaram and they enjoyed riding elephants.

We also had the honor of a lunch hosted by PDG Vuttichai Wanglee at the Chanpen Restaurant. On their last day, I brought the group to shop at Icon Siam and hosted a farewell dinner cruise along the Chao Phraya River, where DG Patsri Suwimol joined us. The event ended with dancing and celebrations that left everyone deeply impressed. Before departing, the Taiwanese group extended an invitation for us to visit Taiwan.

When it was our turn to visit, from 25-29 September 2024, a 13-member RFE team from District 3350, led by me, traveled to Taiwan. I planned the trip meticulously under the principles of

Rotary Friendship Exchange (RFE)



'economy, utility, and firm friendships'. Upon arrival at Taipei, the Taiwanese RFE team welcomed us enthusiastically, presenting us with colorful garlands and warm embraces. They arranged a spacious VIP bus and took us to visit famous attractions such as Longshan Temple, Taipei 101, and the Chiang Kai-shek Memorial Hall. We also enjoyed a luxurious buffet lunch at a five-star hotel.

Other memorable stops included Yilan, a city with a serene atmosphere, where the family of the Taiwanese RFE Chair has a vacation home. In addition to building friendships with Taiwanese clubs, we also developed more friendships with Rotary members from Mexico, as Taiwan was at the same time hosting the RFE team from Mexico as well. A joint welcome party was organized for both groups, strengthening our connections with two countries during this single visit. We had the honor of visiting a beneficial microbiology factory producing probiotics, supplements and cosmetics, hosted by DGN Jun, and the factory owner also treated us to a hot plate barbecue lunch at his daughter's restaurant. Additionally, we visited Sabelina, a crystal printing factory owned by a Taiwanese Rotarian, where we participated in a hands-on workshop. Many other members, such as PP Jason, hosted us for delightful meals, including home of mala hot pot. On the last day, a farewell dinner was sponsored by DG Ethan Chen from District 3490. The Taiwanese Rotary clubs accompanied us to the airport, ensuring our smooth departure. They kindly gave us a lot of souvenirs to take home, and they also warmly invited us to return to Taiwan in the future.

Finally, I would like to express my heartfelt gratitude to the RFE

program for providing me and my team with an incredibly enjoyable, memorable, and invaluable experience. Our next journey will be to Districts 4110 and 4130 in Mexico.





PDG Prawit Rojkajonnapalai
District Leadership Seminar
Committee Chair

This leadership seminar is recommended by Rotary International for every Rotary district to organize at the end of each Rotary year. The purpose is to enhance leadership skills, expand knowledge on leadership, and inspire individuals to pursue higher leadership roles within the organization. This includes leadership at the club, district, regional, and even international levels. Participation is open to both long-standing and new members, allowing attendees to learn from the experiences, successes, challenges, strengths, and weaknesses of past leaders. These lessons serve as a foundation for developing new Rotary leaders who are both respected and effective in their roles.

For the Rotary year 2024-25, District 3350 held its Rotary Leadership Seminar with the theme “Rotary Model Leadership” on Saturday, 23 November 2024, at the Miracle Grand Convention Hotel on Vibhavadi Road. The half-day seminar was attended by 101 participants.

Session 1: Leadership Excellence Skills

The first session focused on teaching 10 essential leadership skills (details can be accessed via the QR code). These skills are fundamental attributes that every leader should possess and utilize in managing an organization.

The concept was likened to the “Ship of Leadership” (Ship #1). However, the seminar posed a question: If a Rotarian possesses all the qualities of Ship #1, does that make them a Rotary Model Leader? The answer was ‘no’, as they also need support from five additional ships, each representing a unique quality:

- #2 Fellowship – The Ship of Building Relationships
- #3 Friendship – The Ship of Creating Friendships
- #4 Membership – The Ship of Membership Development
- #5 Mentorship – The Ship of Providing and Seeking Guidance
- #6 Internship – The Ship of Learning through Practical Experience

A Rotarian who embodies all six ships demonstrates complete Rotary leadership qualities. This ensures success in leadership roles, satisfaction in their duties, and recognition at all organizational levels.

Session 2: Insights from Past Leaders

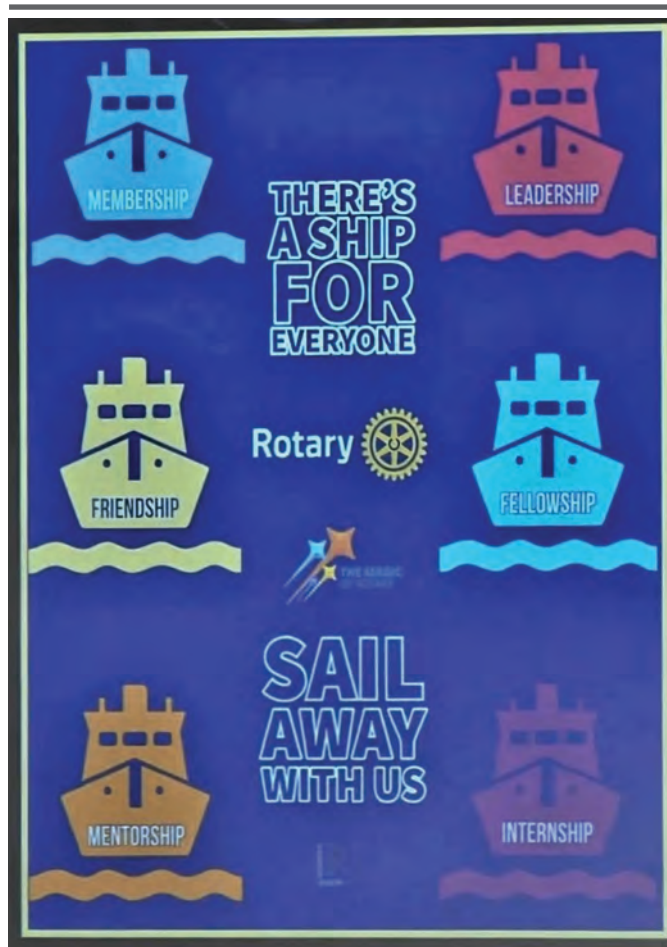
The second session featured a panel discussion with five past district governors, who shared their personal experiences, notable achievements, and valuable insights from their terms in office.



They provided advice on leadership preparation, including what to do and avoid. These suggestions aimed to help participants refine their unique characteristics and complete the qualities needed to become Rotary Model Leaders in the future.

The two-way communication seminar allows participants to express themselves, and they can offer opinions and ask questions. It is very beneficial for everyone.

Rotary Leadership Seminar





Rotary Club of Tharua celebrated its 40th anniversary by organizing the "Rotary Tha Rua Cup" charity football tournament at the Nittayakul School stadium, Tha Rua, Phra Nakhon Si Ayutthaya. Proceeds went to the purchase and repair of clean water purifiers and service in the Tha Rua district and nearby communities.



Rotary Club of Phra Phutthabat in collaboration with the Saraburi Provincial Probation Office led a group of 19 people who were on probation to do social service work and paint the temple walls at Ban Noi Temple.



Rotary Club of Nakhon Nayok together with the Presidents of Rotary Year 120, participated in the activity "One Million Trees Day" at Chulachomklao Royal Military Academy, Nakhon Nayok province on Sunday, 15 December 2024.



Rotary Club of Saranrom Tha Pra organized the event Rotary Day under the Tha Pra intersection MRT bridge on Sunday, 15 December 2024. Nearly 2,000 participants came to the event for vocational training. There were massages, haircuts, scholarships and assistance for bedridden patients.



Club President - AG - District Governor Meeting #2 at the Thai Institute of Justice on Saturday, 16 November 2024.



DG Patsri Suwimol with Rotarians, Rotaractors, Interactors and the Thai Jogging Organization participated in the **World Day of Remembrance for Road Traffic Victims** on Sunday, 17 November 2024. As part of Rotary Thailand's Safe Roads Save Lives initiative, the group walked from the City Hall to the United Nations Building on Ratchadamnoen Nok Road.



Leadership Seminar 2024-25 at the Miracle Grand Convention Hotel on Saturday, 23 November 2024.



PDG Dr. Waewdao Limlenglert

I became a member of the Chiang Mai Thin Thai Ngam Rotary Club during the 1994-95 Rotary year. The club president at that time was Dr. Wanchan Pimphilai. She was our family doctor, taking care of my parents-in-law, and frequently visited them at our office. Her clinic was near Somphet Market, and my workplace (Saha Panich Chiang Mai) was on Chang Moi Road close to Warorot Market.

Dr. Wanchan and I were alumni of the same institution, Chulalongkorn University. She graduated from the Faculty of Medicine while I graduated from the Faculty of Commerce and Accountancy. Although I am not originally from Chiang Mai – I am from Chonburi – I married into a northern family and managed the financial and accounting affairs of my husband's family business.

Dr. Wanchan invited me to join the Chiang Mai Thin Thai Ngam Rotary Club, encouraging me to use my accounting and financial expertise to help manage the club's finances. She also suggested that I provide financial guidance to external communities, helping them establish structured financial management both within and beyond organizations.

My Journey in Rotary Finance

In my first year in Rotary, I had no idea what was happening. We met every Thursday at noon at the Rincome Hotel, where we listened to special lectures, had lunch together, practiced Rotary songs, and learned about Rotary principles – Rotary Information. Each meeting lasted from 90 minutes to two hours, after which we all went our separate ways. That first year, I made some new friends, attended meetings outside of work, and heard insightful talks from guest speakers, but I still didn't fully understand what Rotary was about or how members benefited from the club.



Rotary Finance: Understanding Rotary's Financial System



In my second year, I was assigned as the club's master of ceremonies (MC). This role significantly increased my understanding as I had to attend board meetings. As the MC, I needed to be well-prepared and informed about club affairs. The club president, treasurer, secretary, and committee chairs briefed me on the announcements and reminders for upcoming meetings. By then, I understood about 80% of the club's operations, though not entirely.

In my third year I was assigned as the club treasurer. The secretary would inform me when it was time to remind members to pay their dues. At that time, annual club dues were THB 4,000 per member and collected in two installments; 2,000 in July and another 2,000 in January. These fees covered both the Rotary International dues (twice a year) and the district dues (once a year), and members paid their own weekly meeting fees.

I would like to share updated information regarding the Rotary International dues and district dues for the 2024-25 Rotary year. New members may not fully understand how their contributions are utilized.

Rotary International Dues

Club presidents and secretaries receive invoices via email or can access them through My Rotary starting on 16 July 2024 and 16 January 2025. Payment should be made within 120 days from the invoice date. If a club fails to pay within this period, it will be terminated. To reinstate the club, the process must be completed within 150 days, including a USD 30 per member penalty fee and settlement of outstanding dues.

To ensure accurate billing, club secretaries should update their club's membership information before 1 July 2024 and 1 January 2025 through My Rotary.

ค่าบำรุงสโมสรได้ถูกนำมาใช้เพื่ออะไรบ้าง



- เงินเดือนผู้ช่วยเลขาธิการ/เจ้าหน้าที่ธุรการสโมสร**
 - ซึ่งเจ้าหน้าที่คนนี้จะมีการจัดการงานต่างๆ ของสโมสร อาทิเช่น ติดต่อสมาชิกเพื่อแจ้งนัดหมายหรือแจ้งข่าว
 - ดูแลการลงทะเบียนการประชุมของสโมสรทั้งประชุมประจำปี และการประชุมงานเลี้ยงรับรองอื่นๆ
 - ประสานงานกับสถานที่ประชุมของสโมสร เพื่อการจัดการเตรียมการประชุมทุกครั้ง
 - ติดต่อประสานงานทุกเรื่องตามที่ทางเลขาธิการสโมสรแจ้งให้ไม่ดำเนินการ
- ค่าของที่ระลึกให้แก่แขกของสโมสร**
- ค่าของขวัญวันเกิดสมาชิก**
- ค่าใช้จ่ายเตรียมการต้อนรับการเยือนอย่างเป็นทางการของผู้นำการปกครอง**
- ค่าใช้จ่ายเบ็ดเตล็ดอื่นๆ ที่เกี่ยวข้องกับการประชุมของสโมสร หรือกิจกรรมบำเพ็ญประโยชน์ของสโมสร**

How to Pay Rotary International Dues

Payment can be made through a bank draft or cashier's check payable to 'Rotary International' in Thai baht as per the invoice. Alternatively, funds can be transferred to:

Bank: Kasikorn Bank

Account Name: Rotary International

Account Number: 028-2-67821-7

After transferring the funds, clubs must send a copy of the payment slip along with the invoice to Rotaryfath@gmail.com. Alternatively, proof of payment can be submitted to the Rotary Centre in Thailand.

Rotary International Financial Representative in Thailand
PDG Dr. Chairat Prasertlum

Rotary Centre in Thailand, 32nd Floor, Ocean Tower 2, 75/82-83
Sukhumvit Soi 19 (Asoke), Wattana, Bangkok 10110
Phone: 02-661-6720-1

District Dues

Every Rotary member must pay the annual district dues of THB 1,100 covering:

- 510 – Rotary Centre in Thailand fee
- 220 – Thailand Rotary magazine fee
- 200 – Training for club presidents-elect
- 50 – Training for club officers
- 50 – Annual District Conference support
- 20 – Disaster Relief Fund
- 50 – District Governor's operational expenses
- 1,100 Total

District dues are billed once a year based on the July membership report from Rotary International. Payment is due by 31 August.

The THB 1,100 district dues support essential activities and services that each club benefits from and collaborates with at the district level.

Breakdown of Rotary International Dues

The membership fees paid to Rotary International fund various activities worldwide, including:

1. Rotary International Headquarters Operations (20-25%)
Staff salaries, office equipment, and essential technology systems.
2. Service Projects and Grants (40-50%)
Global Grants (GG) and District Grants (DG) for humanitarian projects.
3. Rotary Foundation Support (25-30%)
Polio eradication programs, clean water initiatives, and literacy development.
4. Training and Development Programs (5-10%)
Providing members with resources to support community service projects.
5. Public Relations (5-10%)
Promoting Rotary's work globally to build credibility and attract new members.
6. Membership Development (around 5%)
Expanding Rotary's reach and ensuring diverse and high-quality membership.
7. Networking and Events
Organizing seminars and conferences that connect Rotarians worldwide.

Why Paying Rotary Dues Matters

It is crucial for members to pay their Rotary dues. Have you and your club completed your payments?

Every organization requires financial resources to function effectively. As dedicated Rotarians, let us fulfill our financial commitments to support Rotary in Thailand and ensure the continued success of our service projects.

ค่าบำรุงโรตารีสากล

งวดที่ 1 วันที่ 1 กรกฎาคม 2567 (July 1, 2024) ชำระค่าบำรุง \$40.25
ค่าบำรุงโรตารีสากล \$39.25 ต่อคน + ประชุมสภานิติบัญญัติ (COL) \$1

งวดที่ 2 วันที่ 1 มกราคม 2568 (January 1, 2025) ชำระค่าบำรุง \$39.25 ต่อคน



The theme of the District 3360 Intercity Meeting was ‘A Wonderful Temple Fair – Intercity at Sukhothai’ on 14-15 December 2024. Hosted by the Rotary clubs in Sukhothai province, the event lived up to its name, receiving overwhelming praise from fellow Rotarians in the district. Attendees not only strengthened their friendships but also had the opportunity to explore the historic city of Sukhothai where many had never visited before, while others had been but have never explored its ancient sites. A highlight of the trip was paying homage to sacred Buddha images and discovering the legendary ‘Speaking Buddha’ at Si Chum Temple, a significant historical site in Sukhothai Historical Park and a UNESCO World Heritage City.



A key feature of the event was special guest speaker Mr. Jatupone Chompoonich, who graciously shared insights on ‘Building Love and Bonding within an Organization’. His talk provided valuable perspectives that could be applied to Rotary clubs.

Additionally, the event featured a Rotary information contest under the theme, The Magic of Rotary.

The evening banquet was filled with vibrant light and sound performances, along with carnival-style games reminiscent of a traditional Thai temple fair. Rotarians had an absolute blast and the event organizers, district governors, and past district governors even transformed into carnival game participants, reliving the nostalgic charm of the classic fairground game ‘Dunk the Girl’. It was a delightful throwback to the golden era of fairground fun.

This event was a truly magical experience for members attending the Rotary gathering. Some participants even changed their perception of district meetings, viewing them in a more positive light. It was an Intercity Meeting unlike any other, with many members expressing how inspired they felt by DG Apisak's leadership and the warm camaraderie of fellow Rotarians. It is our hope that future District 3360 meetings will continue to attract new members, fostering even stronger friendships and connections within our Rotary community.





The Rotary Club of Chiang Saen and the Rotary Club of Krathum Baen Join Hands for Disability Support

The Rotary Club of Chiang Saen, District 3360, in collaboration with the Rotary Club of Krathum Baen, District 3330, led by President Ekkannarin Champa and club members, conducted an activity to donate two wheelchairs to disabled patients in Yonok subdistrict, Chiang Saen district, Chiang Rai province. This project marks the 9th consecutive year of cooperation between these two clubs, aiming to provide essential support to public health agencies or individuals with disabilities who lack access to such equipment. The initiative was supported by Khun Thanakorn Tangkitsopa and Khun Panomchai Chotikasupa and took place on 12 November 2024.



World Day of Remembrance for Road Traffic Victims

The World Day of Remembrance for Road Traffic Victims, designated by the United Nations, was observed on 17 November 2024 following the resolution of the Thai Cabinet. The event commemorates those injured or who have lost their lives in road traffic accidents. This year, District 3360 received support from multiple provinces to organize awareness campaigns to remind road users of the dangers of traffic accidents. Each participating province is planning to conduct similar activities in collaboration with the Provincial Disaster Prevention and Mitigation Office (DPMO) and various governmental and private sector networks.

Activities include:

- Memorial marches to honor the victims
- Ceremonies of remembrance with flower-laying
- Public awareness campaigns to instill a sense of responsibility in road users
- Integrated efforts to prevent and reduce road accidents



2025 Convention

A traveler's convention

When you're already traveling to the Rotary International Convention, why not add on a side trip? Members say they often double up on their travel to visit part of the world near the convention host city. And don't miss the chance to register by 15 December before the price goes up.

The timing of the convention in Calgary 21-25 June is just right to see an iconic Canadian event: the Calgary Stampede. Take a vacation or business trip after the convention and return to the city for the rodeo 4-13 July that celebrates the country's West and Indigenous cultures. The Host Organization Committee curated easy-to-book getaways ranging from a one-day tour of Banff and Lake Louise in the neighboring Rockies to 12 days through the mountains to Vancouver with a train ride on the return trip to Calgary for the Stampede.

For a coastal experience, Tofino near Vancouver has surfing vibes and rugged landscapes. French-speaking members, in particular, would enjoy Québec City to see its beautiful buildings and hear the locals' distinct take on the language. Beyond Banff, quaint towns in the Rockies with picture-postcard main streets seem endless.



The Tofino coast

Visit a famed vacation spot accessible from Calgary, like Toronto, New York City, the Grand Canyon, the Caribbean, Cancun resorts in Mexico, or Los Angeles and Disneyland. Beyond big-name tourist stops, try Oregon's redwoods, Mexico's Baja California Sur for ecotourism, sites that inspired Anne of Green Gables on Prince Edward Island, or the Canadian Arctic for wildlife and the midnight sun that doesn't set. Whatever type of trip you prefer, Calgary is your gateway to North America.

Unforgettable evenings in Calgary

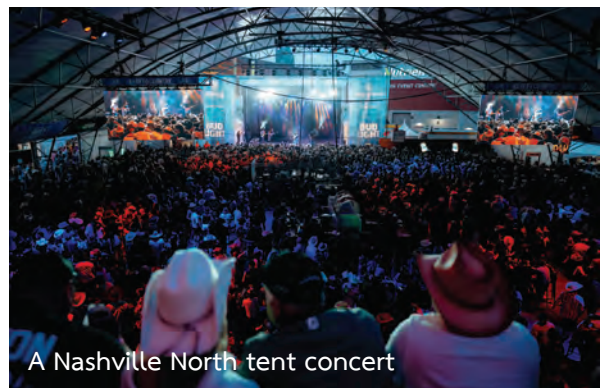
Get your cowboy hat. Your Rotary pals in friendly Canada are excited to welcome you to signature convention events, including dinner in their homes, a country music jamboree, and boot-stompin' celebrations of the Western culture in Calgary.

"We're a big small-town city, and so the hospitality we have, the ticketed events, the experiences — they will be fantastic," says Mark Starratt, co-chair of the Host Organization Committee for the Rotary International Convention 21-25 June. Buy tickets at rotarycalgary2025.org.

■ **Grandstand Spectacular, 21 June:** This night of showmanship includes Indigenous hoop dancing, toe-tapping music, and horseback relay races.

■ **Rockin' the Big Tent, 22 June:** From twangy guitars to honky-tonk beats and, this concert will appeal to country music fans and people who want to sample Calgary's Western charm. The event is billed as the night "Rotary rocks the roadhouse" in the Nashville North tent.

■ **New Blood with the Calgary Civic Symphony, 22 June:** The dance show features Peter Gabriel's music and explores Blackfoot traditions through the story of a man who survived a government residential school for Indigenous children.



A Nashville North tent concert

■ **Host hospitality evening, 23 June:** For this convention favorite, members invite Rotary visitors to their dinner tables, restaurants, or other venues to "break bread and share in fellowship," Starratt says.

■ **Western Ranch Showcase, 24 June:** You may notice you're holding your breath from excitement when you watch bronc riding of the "wildest, orneriest, out-of-line" horses. The organizers advise, "Pull down that hat brim and hold on tight."

[Learn more and register at convention.rotary.org.](https://convention.rotary.org)



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