

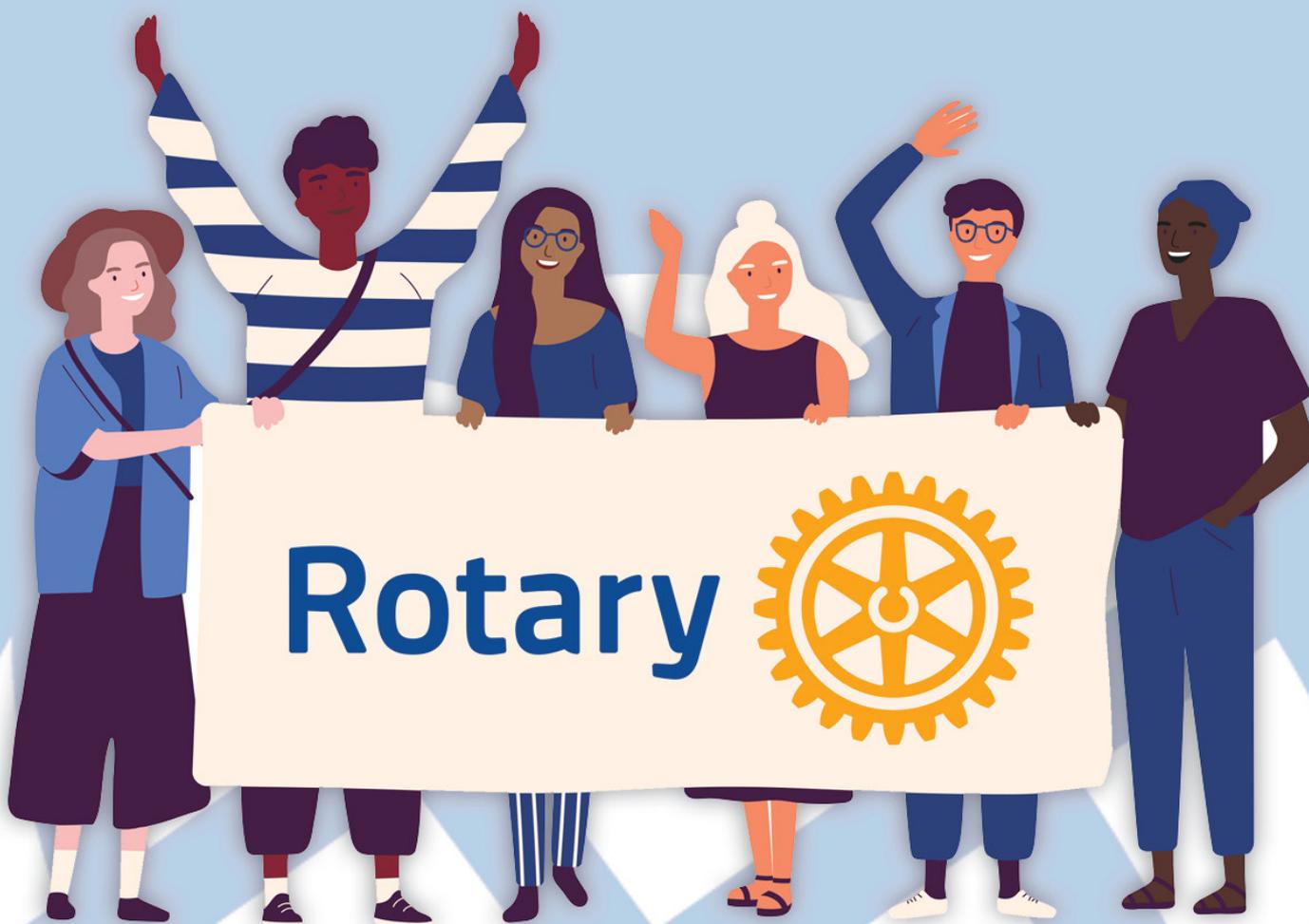
# THAILAND Rotary

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

English issue



Magazine 2 Monthly  
Vol.38 No.198  
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Rotary



PEOPLE OF ACTION

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## 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 behaviour 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

## President's message

Shekhar Mehta, January 2022



GREETINGS, DEAR CHANGE-MAKERS OF ROTARY,

One of Rotary's founding principles was to use your vocation — whether as a doctor, lawyer, engineer, or another profession — to do good in the world. As we attempt to overcome and recover from the pandemic, this principle is vital in retraining people who have lost their jobs. In response, the Rotary E-Club of Tamar Hong Kong organized seminars for young people, with the aim of preparing them for the changing world of work.

This type of training must happen on a large scale. According to the United Nations, global unemployment is expected to exceed 200 million people in 2022. Women and youths are likely to be disproportionately affected.

This is why I've placed such a strong emphasis this year on projects that empower girls, and I've been delighted to see some of these projects in action. Of course, access to education and the path to employment can be blocked by a lack of water and sanitation infrastructure.

A project in Pune, India, focuses on providing girls and women with an affordable, reusable sanitary pad. The project provides employment for production and distribution of the pads, and it will reduce the pollution caused by the disposal of 12.3 billion sanitary napkins in the country annually, many of which end up in India's landfills.

Others have used vocational service to advance the empowerment of women. The Rotary Club of Poona, India, conducted workshops to teach martial arts to young women, for self-defense against the threat of abuse or human trafficking.

I've also been fortunate to use my vocation to do good through Rotary. The Indian Ocean tsunami in 2004 devastated the Andaman and Nicobar Islands, which are

part of my district. Thousands of homes were destroyed, and many areas lost electricity and running water. On my visit to Little Andaman Island, the builder in me immediately wanted to build homes for the homeless islanders there. We decided to construct 500 homes on Little Andaman.

On the last of my seven trips to the island, I could see something glimmering below as my helicopter was about to land. I realized that what I was seeing were the roofs of new homes. I was overjoyed by the sight, and soon a realization dawned upon me. As a builder I had built many beautiful buildings. In comparison, these 500 homes were the most ordinary buildings I had ever built, and they were in a place I likely will never visit again, for people I will never meet again. And yet the satisfaction I had in handing over these houses was greater than from anything I had previously built. Probably because for once I was using my vocation to *Serve to Change Lives*.

You, too, may have had opportunities to use your vocation to *Serve to Change Lives*. I welcome your stories of performing vocational service through Rotary. Also, I want to close by congratulating every club that has engaged with the Each One, Bring One initiative, which asks every member to introduce one person to Rotary. Increasing our membership gives people from all walks of life the opportunity to share their knowledge and skills in transformational service.

Shekhar Mehta  
President, Rotary International

## President's message

Shekhar Mehta, February 2022



GREETINGS, DEAR CHANGE-MAKERS OF ROTARY,

At the start of the Rotary year, I challenged every club to plan and host at least one practical and action-oriented Rotary Day of Service. The event should address a challenge your community is facing that fits into one or more of Rotary's areas of focus and should bring together volunteers from within and outside of Rotary.

Rotary Days of Service can motivate Rotary, Rotaract, and Interact clubs to plan innovative and impactful projects. They can showcase your work as people of action and introduce prospective members to your club. I've been inspired by your response so far, and I want to share with you just one project that has captured my imagination.

India is home to an estimated 74 million people with diabetes, a disease that is a leading cause of death. Furthermore, about 50 percent of those people remain undiagnosed.

Rotary, together with the Research Society for the Study of Diabetes in India, saw the urgent need to diagnose, track, and treat people who have diabetes. Working together and with other organizations, we hosted a nationwide blood glucose testing camp on 29 September, which is World Heart Day.

The camp was spread across more than 10,000 sites in India, with more than 2,000 Rotary and Rotaract clubs participating in the effort. More than 1 million blood-sugar tests were conducted in a day, an accomplishment recognized by the Asia Book of Records. But more important than breaking a record is the fact that tens of thousands of people learned that they may be living with diabetes. They can now be treated for the condition, and they also have been made aware that they should take extra measures to shield themselves from COVID-19 and scores of other diseases that are caused or worsened by diabetes.

This month, on 23 February, the anniversary of Rotary, let us celebrate with more service days, showcasing Rotary's work in our areas of focus. I look forward to hearing about your Rotary Days of Service. Please share your projects on Rotary Showcase, or browse that webpage to find inspiration and project partners. In particular, I encourage you to execute projects that focus on empowering girls, as they have been disproportionately affected by the pandemic. The Empowering Girls initiative is resonating very well with members of Rotary as well as with non-Rotarians. The governments and NGOs in various countries are appreciating this meaningful effort. Let us keep focusing on it.

I am also happy that the Each One, Bring One ethos is bringing fruitful results. Let us ensure that all club members introduce at least one person to Rotary, and that we then all work to engage new members and keep them in our clubs.

In whatever we do, remember that we must push ourselves to grow more, do more as we Serve to Change Lives.

Shekhar Mehta  
President, Rotary International

John Germ, January 2022



### The value of partnerships

We all came into Rotary because we wanted to join with others in service and make a difference. Similarly, when Rotary teams up with like-minded organizations to work toward our shared goals, there is nothing that we can't accomplish. Partnerships amplify our impact.

Leading through partnerships is nothing new for Rotary: We helped spearhead the formation of the Global Polio Eradication Initiative. Later, when the Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation joined the cause, we gained a long-term fundraising and technical partner in the fight against polio. Through our partnership and the 2-to-1 fundraising match agreement with the Gates Foundation, Rotary generates \$150 million annually to end polio. We are proud that they are a part of the effort to end this disease.

Many people may not know that our work with the Gates Foundation and our other partners doesn't end with polio but includes other disease-prevention efforts. The Rotary Foundation has joined with the Gates Foundation and World Vision U.S. to co-fund a Rotary member-led program to help eliminate malaria in Zambia. Based on past partnership and future collaboration around this effort, each co-funder is contributing \$2 million for the Partners for a Malaria-Free Zambia program, the first recipient of The Rotary Foundation's Programs of Scale grant.

This level of impact can also be seen in collaborations across our other areas of focus. Rotary partners with the United States Agency for International Development (USAID) on major initiatives at a national scale. The Rotary-USAID WASH partnership has helped communities and governments in countries such as Uganda and Ghana provide safe water, sanitation, and hygiene, impacting hundreds of thousands of lives. We are also teaming up with USAID to help fight COVID-19 and its long-term financial and social impact in Italy. Meanwhile, the Hearts of Europe program, which is funded jointly by USAID and Rotary, assists communities in Eastern Europe through global grants. Proving our value as a trusted partner often spurs multiple mutual projects. Through the Power of Nutrition initiative, we are partnering with our polio eradication partner UNICEF and the Eleanor Crook Foundation to tackle undernutrition during early childhood.

The Rotary Foundation is far too great to keep to ourselves. Let's make sure to let the Foundation's light shine bright. In doing so, we will find new partners, gain new supporters, and increase the good we're all doing in the world.

John Germ  
Foundation trustee chair

John Germ, February 2022



Rotary builds peace by creating the next generation of peacebuilders

I always look forward to February, the month of Rotary’s anniversary, as a time to remember our history. What began as a small gathering in a Chicago office in 1905 soon transformed into a global movement — one that you and I are a part of today.

February is also Peacebuilding and Conflict Prevention Month, when we celebrate a core Rotary concept: the pursuit of global peace and understanding.

Through our global and district grants, The Rotary Foundation is a force for peace — as are all of you who use those funds for projects. A grant that promotes literacy can lead to greater understanding and economic security in that community and beyond. This lays the foundation for peace. When communities aren’t fighting over scarce water resources, because they have a working pump system, they can instead pursue education. Promoting peace is interwoven in all that Rotary does.

The work of actively building peace and understanding has been a hallmark of Rotary since its earliest days. But with the creation in 1999 of the Rotary Peace Centers we began a bold new chapter in this story. This year marks the 20th anniversary of the inaugural class of peace fellows; the innovative program continues to merge a strong, academic understanding of the roots of conflict with practical tactics for solving real-world problems.

Despite the impacts of the COVID-19 pandemic, the Rotary Peace Centers were able to adapt, ensuring minimal disruptions to the program. Now, students at our seven centers are resuming their normal activities. This includes young peacebuilders at our newest center at Makerere University in Kampala, Uganda, who are preparing to apply their new knowledge and skills in a region that’s in need of peaceful solutions.

The peace center program keeps growing. Our search committee is researching potential locations in the Middle East or North Africa to establish our eighth center, with plans for its launch as soon as 2024. This is a significant step for Rotary’s efforts in global peace education, as we lay the groundwork for the next generation of fellows to pursue peacebuilding in that region. And we aren’t stopping there: Our goal is to open a Rotary Peace Center in Latin America by 2030.

In the last 117 years, Rotary has grown to become a global force for good — promoting peace and understanding in all of our endeavors. The staying power of Rotary, the Foundation, and our decades-long commitment to peace are things that are worth celebrating, supporting, and sustaining for the generations that will follow us.

John Germ  
Foundation trustee chair

## Editorial

PP.Vanit Yotharvit, D.3360

Dear my fellow Rotarians

Mỹ Sơn (Mhee-Cern) World Heritage @ Vietnam

“Please walk on the paths provided”, a prominent sign for visitors at Mỹ Sơn World Heritage site. The word Mỹ Sơn (pronounced “Mhee-Cern) literally means “Beautiful Mountain”, which is nowhere near “My Son” in both pronunciation and meaning.

This 1500-year old historic and world heritage was once a sacred city of Cham or Champa Kingdom, and now, is considered to be the most complete and oldest Hinduism ancient site in Indochina region.

Because of its ideal location, deep inside tropical forest and surrounded by mountains, the two sq.km. ancient city was used as the headquarter of Vietcong during Vietnam war. For that reason, the place was the main target of B-52 bombardment. Sadly, out of 77 buildings, only 22 have survived the heavy shelling.

Presently, there are many unexploded bombs in the area. No need to say that political conflicts has caused not only the loss of lives or the innocents, but also caused extensive damages to archaeological evidences, and obviously, has left numerous unexploded bombs on and under the ground.

After the country having been battered for decades by the conflicts and wars, now Vietnam becomes the latest country in Indochina Peninsula to re-establish Rotary clubs.

Stories of the American soldiers’ withdrawal and Vietnamese exodus, so-called “Boat People”, had been recorded in many forms of documents for generations to study.

As a matter of facts, we are still having great sympathy for war refugees across the globe in these recent days. One may wonder, “Does peace that we wish to see really exist?”

Anyhow, the Rotary International has prioritised peace and conflict resolution as one of the main focuses, founded peace centres across the planet, and also been funding the Rotary Peace Fellowship program in order to foster the scholars, advocates and networks, so that they can promote peace and prevent conflicts around the world. This commitment still lives and strives no matter how long it will take to achieve the goal.

Yours in Rotary  
PP.Vanit Yotharvit  
Editor-in-Chief



Champa Kingdom



Mỹ Sơn documentary

# THAILAND Rotary

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



Rotary  
Club of Yannawa

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## Contents

President's Message	1-2
Trustee's Message	3-4
Editorial	5
Contents	6-7
Rotary Information	8
Article	9
Special Scoop	
“THE SEVEN CENTERS OF PEACE”	10-17
“WHAT IT'S LIKE TO...”	18-21
“STICK WITH IT”	22

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Rotary Thailand One mind wearing  
the same People of Action shirt,  
our whole country is Thailand Team.

Public Image and Communications Committee  
Region 3350 Campaign to build the image of the  
Rotary organization by inviting them to the Rotary.  
“People of Action” on 12-12-2021 and selfie!! on the  
same day across the country Let's record the world  
record together

(photo from Rotary Club of Yannawa, District 3350)

## Rotary Information

Rtn. Seksit Limjaroen  
Rotary Club of Chaing Mai



### Super Hero of Rotary

Fellow Rotarians, When you were young, how much did a stick of grilled pork cost? As I remember, it was 20 baht for 7 sticks, but at present a stick of grilled pork costs 20 baht!

Everything is so expensive nowadays, but don't worry. Even though the cost of living is high, Rotary never lacks kindness. We are ready to encounter the problem together, aren't we? (Big applause)

Right now, no matter where we turn to, we are faced with higher expenses. It's a challenging time for us to help those in need. Amidst this worrying situation, I feel that it's a good opportunity for us, Rotarians all over Thailand, to demonstrate our ability to change the lives of those less privileged so that they will be motivated and inspired to live on with hope.

If we look back to the past, many crises including floods, fires, cold and draught occurred on the Thai soil. However, Rotarians were always there in the background offering help and moral support to the victims of every crisis.

And what can we do in today's situation? Let's us think and do for our community so that we can all move forward together. If you are ready, let's do it.

I'd like to give an example of a simple method which every club can implement without having to use a lot of budget but will bring real benefits to those in need. Do you still remember the "Too Pan Suk" or "Happiness Sharing Cabinet"? It's similar to a kitchen cabinet but it's moved from your kitchen to the front of your house, your

**Rotary** all over Thailand will together implement fruitful service activities, and this will reflect that we **truly serve to change** people's lives.

shop, your office or your company. The cabinet is stocked with various foods and drinks necessary for the less privileged to come and take what they need when they really need them for their living.

On the other side, those who have more can help stock the cabinet with foods and drinks as a way to share their happiness with others who have less.

This is only one example from many. You and your club members can find suitable ways to help your community.

Imagine if all Rotary clubs in Thailand implement this "Too Pan Suk" or "Happiness Sharing Cabinet", we will be able to help our society in every district and province at the same time. It's considered activities implemented by People of Action in a new way. If it happens, it will be a beautiful picture for Rotary in Thailand which will help create values for Rotary International and the world community.

Fellow Rotarians, in this world there are still a lot of missions for us as a Super Hero of Rotary to do for our society. It's time for all of us to transform our Service Above Self heart into a real Super Hero for our community, our society and our province. And most important, we will jointly work together for our country to overcome any crisis for the happiness of the Thai community, the world community and Rotary International.

# Article

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



denial, anger, bargain,  
depression, and finally  
acceptance. It is called  
**Stages of Grief Model.**

## The World after COVID (Pandemic)

An American psychiatrist by the name of Elisabeth Kübler-Ross explains that, there are 5 stages of psychological change, when an individual is affected by the severe grief situation such as: denial, anger, bargain, depression, and finally acceptance. It is called Stages of Grief Model. Each one has the ability to accept each stage in different ways.

In the past few years millions of people have been infected and died from COVID pandemic. Many people still refuse to believe they immune against the virus and do not follow the advice on distancing; and in turn spreading the disease to others. People have become unemployed, in debt, and suffering, psychologically affecting lives, causing sadness and stress around the world. Some many have been assisted but need more. All are in grief. How long it takes to learn and accept the truth depends on each individual. The problems continue to exist.

The business sector has been severely affected, especially tourism, severe and the first. Restaurants, hotels, and travel agents have closed. Many activities were canceled. Many businesses have closed while others were in a chaotic condition. Later everyone recognized to adapt to the situation and resolving it. Whatever rules and regulations used to be strictly followed are now resilient; such as working from home, working in rotation, and changing working hours. It means to do whatever can be done, and later to take into consideration in details. No matter who you are, employer or employee; all are in trouble. One cannot do the same as usual, but needs to be changed, postponed or discontinued. Some need to rethink, redo or reimagine. Others had to change the business type or the business structure.

Organizations have been continuously affected by COVID crisis no less than Rotary. Each must try to be resilient, adapt, and rethink. Rotary is a service organization, established more than 100 years ago. RI set up Disaster Response Fund with 32 million US\$. Rotary clubs can provide necessary supplies and equipment when needed. Rotary also supports Global Grant projects to help alleviate COVID situation, by providing priority in the consideration of applications, decreasing the international contribution ratio from 30% to 15%, and allowing for more international contribution for COVID related projects. There have been more than 1,359 projects with the budget of 95.6 million US\$. And this year, there are up to 1,900 projects. Rotarians have faced with the changes during the past year, and there will be more changes.

“The world after COVID-19” will not be the same as before. People, business and organizations need to rethink and redo. Things change. However, the communities must be developed and we need to rely on new skills.

December is Vocational Service month, and vocational service is very important. And it will be more important in the world after COVID-19.



# THE SEVEN CENTERS OF PEACE

Situated in different parts of the world, the Rotary Peace Centers offer tailor-made curricula to train individuals devoted to peacebuilding and conflict resolution — no matter where they land

Chulalongkorn University  
Bangkok

University of Bradford  
Bradford, England

University of Queensland  
Brisbane, Australia

Uppsala University  
Uppsala, Sweden

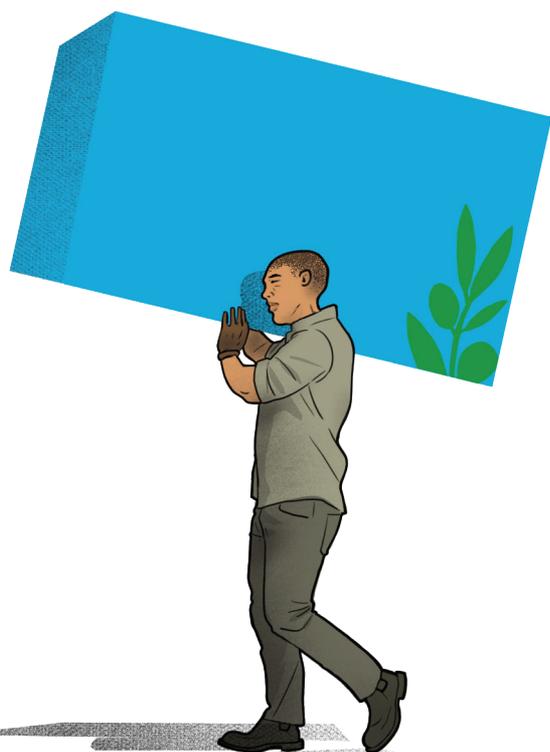
Duke University/  
University of North Carolina  
Durham and Chapel Hill,  
North Carolina

International Christian  
University  
Tokyo

Makerere University  
Kampala, Uganda

by Jeff Ruby

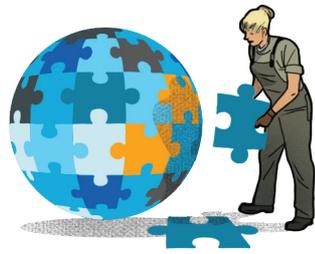
Illustrations by Jason Schneider



Development and started engaging the South Sudanese refugees in Uganda and their host communities. Through my organization, we were able to mobilize South Sudanese women to participate in the South Sudan peace process promoted by eastern Africa's Intergovernmental Authority for Development — and that led to the signing of the Revitalised Agreement on the Resolution of the Conflict in the Republic of South Sudan in 2018.” (You can read more about Lopidia and three other peace fellows in the following pages.)

Lopidia is just one of the 1,500-plus peace fellows from more than 115 countries who have graduated from a Rotary Peace Center since the program was created in 1999; the first peace centers began classes three years later. Currently, Rotary has seven peace centers in various locations around the world; the newest, at

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began classes three years later. Currently, Rotary has seven peace centers in various locations around the world; the newest, at Makerere University in Kampala, Uganda — the first in Africa — welcomed its inaugural cohort of peace fellows in 2021. Next, Rotary plans to establish a peace center in the Middle East or North Africa, perhaps as soon as 2024, and has set its sights on opening one in Latin America by 2030.

As you will discover, the curriculum

at each peace center has been carefully crafted to address specific aspects of the peacebuilding process — and train the next generation of global change-makers. To learn more about the Rotary Peace Centers and how to nominate a peace fellow or apply for a fellowship, go to [rotary.org/peace-fellowships](http://rotary.org/peace-fellowships).

## ROTARY PEACE CENTERS IMPACT

<h3 style="margin: 0;">ROTARY PEACE FELLOWS ARE GIVING BACK BY SUPPORTING PEACE AND DEVELOPMENT INITIATIVES IN COMMUNITIES AFFECTED BY CONFLICT</h3>	<h3 style="margin: 0;">CAREER PATH</h3> <div style="display: flex; align-items: center;"> <div> <h1 style="font-size: 2em; margin: 0;">93%</h1> <p style="margin: 0;">Working alumni who have a job connected to peace and development</p> </div> </div>	<h3 style="margin: 0;">TOP 5 SKILLS ACQUIRED</h3> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li style="margin-bottom: 10px;"> Research and conflict analysis</li> <li style="margin-bottom: 10px;"> Conflict resolution</li> <li style="margin-bottom: 10px;"> Communication and presentation skills</li> <li style="margin-bottom: 10px;"> Project planning</li> <li style="margin-bottom: 10px;"> Leadership</li> </ul>
<h3 style="margin: 0;">KEY BENEFICIARIES</h3> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Refugees and displaced persons</li> <li>• Young people</li> <li>• Conflict-affected areas</li> <li>• Women and children</li> <li>• Impoverished communities</li> </ul>	<h3 style="margin: 0;">PROGRAM ALUMNI</h3> <div style="display: flex; align-items: center;"> <div style="margin-right: 20px;"> <h1 style="font-size: 3em; margin: 0;">572</h1> <p style="margin: 0;">Certificate program</p> </div> <div style="margin-right: 20px;"> <h1 style="font-size: 3em; margin: 0;">904</h1> <p style="margin: 0;">Master's program</p> </div> </div>	
<h3 style="margin: 0;">ENGAGEMENT WITH ROTARY</h3> <div style="display: flex; align-items: center;"> <div style="margin-right: 20px;"> <h1 style="font-size: 3em; margin: 0;">90%</h1> <p style="margin: 0;">Alumni who say they have opportunities to connect and collaborate with Rotary networks and partners</p> </div> </div>	<h3 style="margin: 0;">PROGRAM DONATIONS</h3> <div style="display: flex; align-items: center;"> <div style="margin-right: 20px;"> <h1 style="font-size: 2em; margin: 0;">\$188M</h1> <p style="margin: 0;">Contributed by 9,484 donors (since 2002)</p> </div> </div>	

Sources: August 2019 Rotary Peace Fellow surveys and alumni database

# Chulalongkorn University

Bangkok

**W**hen a coup took place in Myanmar in February 2021, the peace and development studies program at Chulalongkorn University worked to recruit and support peace-makers there. Six months later, during the evacuations in Afghanistan that followed the resumption of Taliban control, the program created an entire network to get people, including more than one Chula alumnus, out of the country. “We are looking for fellows who are sitting on the front lines of conflict,” says Martine Miller, deputy director of the Rotary Peace Center at the university. Those can include a peace fellow who works with young people in prison systems in California or one focusing on at-risk youth in Kenya.

The nontraditional lecturers of the interdisciplinary one-year program have been embedded in conflict areas themselves. They include Gary Mason, a Methodist minister who has been involved in Northern Ireland’s peace process, and Jerry White, co-founder of Landmine Survivors Network, who lost part of a leg to a land mine in Israel. “It’s not the typical classroom,” says Miller. “The instructors are not professors. They’re writing articles and books. They’re out there in the field doing it. And they’re certainly not bashful.”

Since the peace center was established 17 years ago, the curriculum has evolved to include discussions of gender identity and a session on psychological well-being and trauma meant to tackle head-on the inherent stress of the conflict resolution field. Chula’s long history of innovation has paid off: Seventy-five percent of the more than 500 alumni work for United Nations and government agencies, for nongovernmental organizations, or in academia and research.

//

My colleagues  
and the lecturers  
at the university  
have expanded  
my knowledge  
with their shared  
experiences.”



Salam M. Khanjar, Syria

CHULALONGKORN UNIVERSITY, 2021-22

• Professional development certificate in peace and development studies, with a focus on conflict analysis, negotiation strategies, and peacebuilding

“As a Syrian refugee now living in the Kurdistan region of Iraq, everything covered during my time at the Rotary Peace Center is interesting and life touching for me. I have acquired skills that I am using in my current work to reduce gender-based violence among my Syrian refugee community and internally displaced people in Iraq. My colleagues and the lecturers at the university have expanded my knowledge with their shared experiences from different cultures and contexts. You can feel the enthusiasm they have to work on peace and save lives around the world. And it’s helpful to know that we will continue to communicate and that I can always seek support from them if I need it.”



I look at things differently, analyze nuanced issues, and back my analysis with evidence from research.”



Rita Martin Lopidia,  
South Sudan

UNIVERSITY OF BRADFORD, 2015-16

- Master of Arts, with a focus on international politics and security studies
- Co-founder and executive director of EVE Organization for Women Development, which focuses on women’s issues in South Sudan and Uganda, as well as peace and security issues
- Winner of the inaugural Women Building Peace Award from the U.S. Institute of Peace (2020)

“As an activist for peace and women’s rights, my experience at the Rotary Peace Center at the University of Bradford immensely improved my advocacy skills and my confidence in raising and arguing key concerns around those issues. I look at things differently, analyze nuanced issues, and back my analysis with evidence from research. Overall, my experience at the peace center contributed to my growth professionally and has motivated me to push boundaries.”

## University of Bradford

Bradford, England

Home to the largest program in the world devoted to peace studies, conflict resolution, and development, this diverse public research university in northern England offers seven different master’s degrees in peace and conflict studies and has educated students from more than 50 countries. The sheer breadth of the program means Rotary Peace Fellows can focus on anything from sustainable development to contemporary security issues. “We don’t simply look at conceptual issues,” says Behrooz Morvaridi, the peace center director. “The program prepares the students to go and implement what they learn at the practical level!”

During their 15 months at Bradford, peace fellows can participate in field studies in Africa, Northern Ireland, and other locations, where they talk to political leaders and immerse themselves in the regions’ institutions and issues. The trips become real-life opportunities to see how contemporary trends involving the environment, social division, climate change, and resource scarcity can affect peace — and the ways in which communities show resilience in the face of conflict. Then there’s the trip to Oslo, Norway, to visit the Nobel Peace Center and some of the world’s preeminent peace-building institutions or to The Hague to learn about the International Criminal Court system in action.

The fellowship’s most popular activity, though, is the “Crisis Game,” an off-site simulated conflict management scenario of an international situation in which each student plays a role, such as ambassador, journalist, or world leader. “Students come up with great ideas to solve the problems, but [students representing] other countries come with ideas that disrupt them,” says Morvaridi. “They learn specifically what the challenges are, how politics play a role, and how difficult problems are to solve.”

# University of Queensland

Brisbane, Australia

**A**s one of Australia's largest universities, UQ has long been known as a research innovator in the social sciences, a strength reflected in the 18-month Master of Peace and Conflict Studies curriculum, which, for peace fellows, includes seminars on topics such as "embracing emotions."

Members of the school's renowned political science department focus on the role of images and emotions in shaping global politics, examining, for example, the worldwide concern for Syria's refugee crisis prompted by the heart-rending 2015 photo of a Syrian toddler washed up on the Mediterranean shore. "We all know those iconic images, and we are emotional beings," says Morgan Brigg, director of the peace center. "We can't just try to suppress that. So we embrace it."

A course in gender, peace, and security also challenges students to deconstruct "masculine" and "feminine" roles in peacemaking that traditionally equate violence with men and victimhood with women. And the program's administrators have put various systems in place to smooth each fellow's transition from their home country to life in Australia, such as a buddy system, where first-year fellows are matched with other fellows in their final semester.

The thoughtful approach to Queensland's curriculum draws a wide range of fellows — everyone from a documentary filmmaker to a former U.S. Marine — who explore and contribute to the world from a range of innovative angles, including through dance, cultural tourism, sexual education, and the prevention of online crimes. "The range of ways that fellows engage with peace and conflict is really quite diverse," says Brigg. "We want them to have the potential to be excellent professionals and innovators."

//

I needed to not only unpack my personal perceptions and biases gently, but also let myself adapt."



## Emily Nabakooza, Uganda

UNIVERSITY OF QUEENSLAND, 2018-19

- Master of Peace and Conflict Studies, with a focus on peacebuilding through education
- Founder and executive director of the Assisi Centre for Social Justice and Peace, a youth-centered nonprofit focusing on issues related to gender inequality, social inclusion, illiteracy, and the nonviolent resolution of conflicts in Ugandan schools and communities

"My introductory course units in peace and conflict resolution confirmed to me that my professional experience could not be processed in isolation of my academic training. I understood that to make the most of my fellowship, I needed to not only unpack my personal perceptions and biases gently, but also let myself adapt, learn, and unlearn through the process. Beyond learning, my fellowship has been a steppingstone upon which I developed social and professional networks. These networks have been an excellent source of support in ways I never imagined."



It's a truism that to be an effective humanitarian you must possess a strong degree of cultural awareness."



**Jamie LeSueur, Alberta**

UPPSALA UNIVERSITY, 2013-15

- Master of Social Science, with a focus on peace and conflict studies
- Head of emergency operations at the International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies (IFRC), leading humanitarian relief and disaster management efforts in disaster and conflict situations in Africa and elsewhere
- Alumnus of the Year, Uppsala University, 2020

"My Rotary Peace Fellowship provided the opportunity to learn and study in a foreign context — and the applied field experience offered me a first entry point as a delegate in the international humanitarian space. Less tangibly than the courses offered, the fellowship offered a unique exposure to a diverse cultural context that helped prepare me for international work. It's a truism that to be an effective humanitarian you must possess a strong degree of cultural awareness."

## Uppsala University

Uppsala, Sweden

The peace center at Uppsala University is known for its conflict data program, a comprehensive database of organized violence and mortality. Around the world, policymakers and practitioners from the European Union to the United Nations look to the Uppsala program as the global standard for evidence-based records — and the peace center's fellows draw upon the same scientific approach toward social issues. "There's a deep expertise here," says Kristine Eck, the director. "Our fellows want to understand cause and effect, and that's a skill set we train them in."

Highlights of the 20-month program include a joint trip with Bradford fellows to Oslo to visit the Nobel Peace Center; there are also extended opportunities for fellows to continue self-designed field work and research. For example, in Zambia they might focus on water and sanitation, or in Korea they could learn about nuclear nonproliferation (designed to prevent the spread of nuclear weapons and weapons technology while promoting nuclear disarmament and the peaceful use of nuclear energy). One student assisted in a quantitative research project that explored the relationship between a society's level of gender equality and its military effectiveness.

Sweden is proud of its history of pacifism, which enables fellows to take advantage of local events such as "Philosophy Teas," a series of discussions about peace practitioners and philosophers led by Uppsala professor Peter Wallensteen at a century-old theater — a tradition that began as a celebration of Sweden's 200 consecutive years of peace. "There's an increased interest among our fellows in the skill set of peacebuilding," says Eck. "A lot more people used to come to us wanting to learn about conflict."

# Duke University and University of North Carolina Durham and Chapel Hill, North Carolina

The Duke/UNC fellowship program is an anomaly among Rotary Peace Centers. For starters, the 21-month curriculum offers core courses in peacebuilding and brings together fellows from two college campuses 10 miles apart, which doubles students' resources and flexibility. It's also the only master's program that doesn't offer a degree in peace studies, instead focusing on international development policy at Duke and, depending on a student's interest, various academic specialties at UNC.

The holistic approach gives peace fellows the tools to enter pertinent development sectors such as public health and education, where they can prevent conflicts and promote peacebuilding through, say, improving sustainable development and human security. The program's willingness to think outside the box leads to unusual instruction, with courses in water and sanitation and a peace- and development-related film series.

The classes offered are chosen for their direct utility in the field: Because monitoring and evaluation have become key job skills in the peacebuilding and humanitarian sectors, Duke/UNC offers a class in the evaluation of peacebuilding programs. "At the end of the day, employers don't care if you understand all the theories about diplomacy," says Susan Carroll, the center's managing director. "They want to know that you can incorporate it into projects you work on and manage projects and budgets."

# International Christian University Tokyo

Founded in the wake of World War II, ICU embraces the mission of the United Nations and has a strong focus on the promise of international diplomacy. Osamu Arakaki, the program's director, was a legal officer of a UN humanitarian agency in Canberra, Australia, and associate director Herman Salton worked at the UN Headquarters in New York. The school's emphasis on intergovernmental peacekeeping organizations is underscored in classes such as "The United Nations and Sustainable Development" and "Multilateral Diplomacy."

"ICU holds a mission to foster international citizens contributing to the establishment of lasting peace," says Arakaki. "And it has formed countless UN and international organization staff members and diplomats."

The ICU Graduate School of Arts and Sciences is known for its interdisciplinary program and liberal arts approach. Fellows pursue a master's degree in peace studies within the public policy and social research program.

The 22-month peace studies program prides itself on the open

dialogue between students and instructors. Classes at the graduate level are offered in English, and the student-to-faculty ratio of 18-to-1 enables ICU to realize its mission of small-group education. A field trip to Hiroshima enables students, including some who have come from war-torn countries, to hear the voices of survivors of the nuclear bomb and witness firsthand how Japan attempts to overcome genocide through reconciliation. "The horror of Hiroshima is not simply in the past," Arakaki says. "It is a real fear that the tragedy may be repeated in parts or even the whole of the globe in the future unless we make a concerted effort to avoid that situation."

# Makerere University Kampala, Uganda

The newest peace center, and the first in Africa, Makerere is located in the continent's Great Lakes region, an area with a long history of conflict. This gives fellows, a large percentage of whom are from or live in Africa, a chance to interact in the direct aftermath of conflicts — or as clashes unfold in real time. But rather than pinpointing the causes of war, Makerere's curriculum teaches fellows to expand their notion of "peace" beyond a simple absence of violence and into measures of personal safety and growth.

One of the highlights of the yearlong program is an intense weeklong trip to Rwanda, where fellows see how media and ethnicity directly fed into the country's mass atrocities in 1994. To learn how spirituality influences behavior in war situations, students also visit Kibeho, a small Rwandan village where Catholic schoolgirls said they experienced apparitions of the Virgin Mary that foretold the bloodshed. "Our fellows either interface with the people who have experienced the strife, or they are able to interact with the actual situations through our field excursions," says Helen Nambalirwa Nkabalala, the

peace center's director.

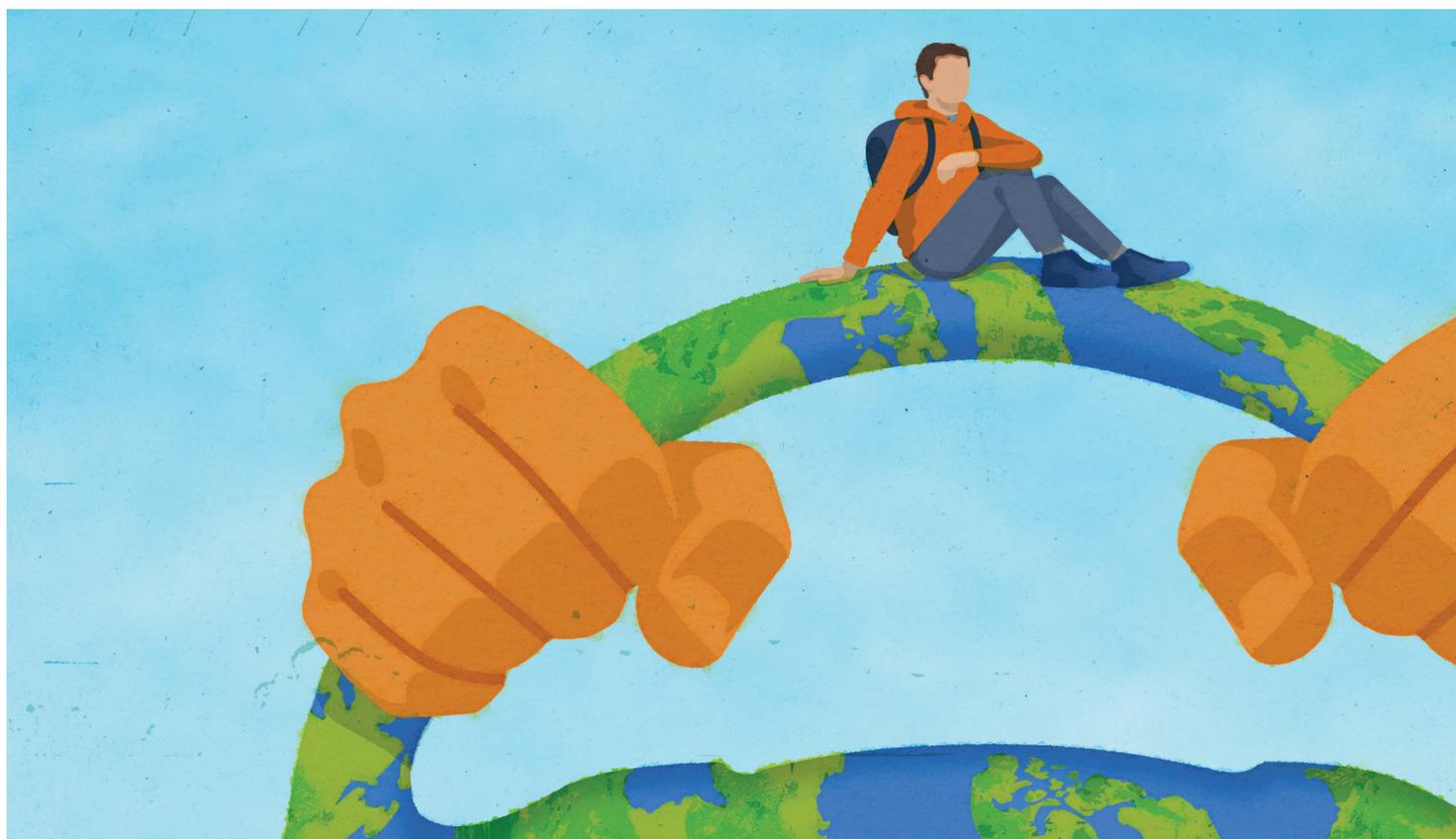
Makerere's curriculum, which emphasizes human rights and refugee and migration issues, encourages students to use what Nambalirwa Nkabalala calls the "no-method" approach to peacebuilding — a fluid approach that, with its emphasis on indigenous participation, allows communities to engage with the peace fellows' social change initiatives rather than merely accepting predetermined solutions.

Learn more about the Rotary Peace Center in Kampala and meet six peace fellows who are members of the center's first cohort, at [rotary.org/africas-agents-change](http://rotary.org/africas-agents-change).

# Hitchhike around the

LUDOVIC HUBLER

Rotary Club of Beaulieu Côte d'Azur, France



**M**y father thought I was a mama's boy. To help me become more autonomous, he encouraged me to hitchhike, which I began doing when I was 16. If possible, I avoid standing on the side of the road and sticking out my thumb. My rationale is that it is better to choose the drivers than to let them choose me. Gas stations are my preferred locations to pick my rides.

Traveling around the world was a dream I'd had since I was about 8 years old, when I spent much of my time looking at maps. After graduating from business school and before looking for my first job, I thought the time was ripe to make that dream real

— and I wanted to fulfill it as a hitchhiker.

This feat took me 1,827 days, from 1 January 2003 to 1 January 2008. I traveled 105,000 miles, visited 59 countries, rode with 1,300 drivers and on 10 ships, waited a total of 10,000 hours, and was flatly turned down 20,000 times — with a few middle fingers for good measure. My rides were sometimes eventful: drunk drivers, people who believed they were NASCAR racers, drivers with drugs stashed in the backseat. In Costa Rica, when I frantically stopped a car because I was out in the pouring rain, the driver pointed a gun at me — but eventually gave me a ride.

I had not planned to be gone for five years. But as I traveled, I realized that if you live to be 100, five years is only 5 percent of your lifetime. The total cost of the trip was €25,000, which is the equivalent of about

\$29,000 — not that much, all things considered. I was almost always able to find free accommodations or sleep in my tent, and food is really cheap in many countries. I left with €12,000 of my own money; the remaining €13,000 I earned by giving presentations — 350 in total, including at Rotary clubs — writing articles, and doing small jobs, which included working as a waiter and as a housekeeper.

Seas and oceans were my biggest challenge. It often took weeks to find a boat. My most amazing experience was crossing the Pacific Ocean on a 40-foot sailboat, helping the skipper the best I could: washing dishes, peeling potatoes, or hoisting the sails. We had two nerve-wracking accidents, first in the Galápagos Islands, where we hit a rock, and then, 4,800 miles later, in the Cook Islands, where the ship was damaged after plowing



Afghanistan. I steered clear of areas controlled by the Taliban. To avoid hitchhiking in the countryside, I wanted to find a ride that would take me from Peshawar, Pakistan, to Kabul. Truck drivers kept telling me that there were two things they would not take: drugs and Westerners. I ended up riding with a dentist who was driving between the two cities to buy and sell dental prostheses.

I had quite a few memorable experiences in the United States. In Florida, an employee at a gas station asked me to leave, saying that hitchhiking was illegal. Nonetheless, I was able to catch a lift to the next town, where I had to stand by the side of the road to get my next ride. It didn't take long before I was surrounded by three police cars with their sirens howling and lights flashing. After I explained my endeavor, the officers calmed down and even took a picture with me. Another initially tense encounter with the police, this time in Alabama, ended with me actually getting a ride from them.

A more positive encounter occurred on my way to Miami. In Key West, a driver made a six-hour detour to drop me at my destination. He was a mechanic, and he needed to talk about his personal problems. When I got ready to get out of the car, he told me he'd recently had suicidal thoughts and that hearing about my experience had given him the strength to continue living.

The World by Hitchhiking, the book I wrote about my experiences, is subtitled Five Years at the University of Life. I like to call hitchhiking a school of life because on my journey I met a wide spectrum of people of various backgrounds, from that local mechanic in Florida to the Dalai Lama in India. Yes, the Dalai Lama. At the end of a presentation I made in a school in Dharamshala, where the Dalai Lama lives, the principal told me I should meet him to talk about my adventure. After an extended back-and-forth, I was able to spend several minutes with the great man. I was surprised to see how down to earth and curious he was. We enjoyed a few laughs as he suggested that it would be fun to hitchhike with me. By the way, I had hitchhiked through Tibet, which is rare and even unlawful.

The main conclusion I drew from my travels is that most people are honest and friendly. While you should keep your eyes peeled to avoid any bad surprises, you need to trust your fellow humans.

— AS TOLD TO ALAIN DROUOT

into some reefs. We had to be rescued the next day, and I was stranded on the island of Aitutaki for a couple of weeks. Altogether, the crossing took four months.

Another scare was being chased by a Komodo dragon in Indonesia. I was too busy trying to take a cool picture to realize that the animal was fairly close — so close that it decided to run after me.

Getting sick is another worry when you travel to so many places. At the beginning, I experienced some digestive issues because of the different foods I was eating. I had a case of dysentery that lasted three weeks. Little by little, however, my digestive system adapted, and by the time I reached India, I could drink juices made with tap water.

Some of the areas I traveled through weren't considered safe. In 2007, I was in



# SHARE YOUR STORY

Since it was first introduced in January 2016, What It's Like has been a favorite with readers. Now, beginning with our February issue, What It's Like will become a monthly feature. If you're a member of Rotary with a great story — or if you know someone connected with Rotary who's got a fantastic tale to tell — we want to hear it.

Share your story with us at [magazine@rotary.org](mailto:magazine@rotary.org). Include "What It's Like" in the subject line of your email.

And look for the best stories in future issues of Rotary magazine.

# Learn you've won the Nobel

BENJAMIN LIST

Rotary Club of Mülheim-Ruhr-Schloss Broich, Germany



**L**ast fall, in early October when the Nobel Prizes are traditionally announced, I was on a trip to Amsterdam with my wife — an indication that I really didn't expect to win the award. We had attended a concert the previous night, and that morning we had picked out a nice café for our breakfast. Just before we could place our order, my cellphone rang. My wife immediately said, "That's the call." But that was meant as a joke. We really hadn't expected it, although we knew that the Nobel Prize in chemistry would be announced in less than an hour. You always hear jokes like that when you're being considered as a candidate. Not that I saw myself as a candidate, but in recent years it had been brought up to me from time to time that my work in developing a better way to build molecules might warrant the prize.

In any case, I saw an unknown number on the cellphone display, and underneath, it said Sweden. I looked at my wife in shock, ran out of the café, and took the call. It was actually the call. It was unbelievable. My wife was still sitting in the café, looking at me through a pane of glass, and I had to pantomime to her that I was really being told that I was going to receive the Nobel Prize. She was shocked too, of course. I got down on my knees a bit to show that I was almost fainting from joy. That was a moment I will never forget.

When the call ended, I returned to the restaurant. Unfortunately, the quality of the breakfast was not what we had hoped for. It didn't matter. I couldn't eat anything; it just did not work. It's nice of them to inform you three quarters of an hour before the announcement, so that you can prepare yourself for what's about to hit you. But what are you supposed to do in that three quarters of an hour? How can you prepare for it? Actually, not at all. We

quickly paid our bill and wandered around Amsterdam a bit more before going back to the hotel.

I told the news to the hotel staff right away. They were very pleased and thankfully made a separate room available to me. I sat there and gave interviews, beginning with the Nobel Foundation itself.

Eventually we returned home to Germany, and they held a reception for me at the Max Planck Institute for Coal Research, where I do my work. It was one of the most beautiful moments in my life. We have a courtyard in the institute, and staff members were standing on the balconies that overlook it. Everybody was clapping, and the press was there and the TV cameras were pointed at me. But I didn't notice the media at all. I only saw all my colleagues applauding me. The feeling that the whole institute was standing there, rejoicing and applauding — that was indescribable. I could really feel the joy. The craftsmen, the colleagues from the administration, the analysts, the chemists from the laboratories, everyone was there and clapped for five minutes. Then there was a short silence because I was answering a few questions for reporters, and then there was another five minutes of applause. Time seemed endless at that moment. It was overwhelmingly beautiful.

And of course I've been in contact with my Rotary club. There will certainly be a small celebration, but I can't say yet when that will be. But we will definitely do that. We'll see if I give a lecture then, too. I've already been allowed to give two talks, one about my life as a researcher and one about catalysis as a whole. Either way, we will celebrate in style.

— AS TOLD TO FLORIAN QUANZ,  
days after Professor List received the news

# Be in Rotary for 70 years

JIM SIMMERMON  
Rotary Club of Oakmont Verona,  
Pennsylvania



I joined Rotary in 1950 when I was 24 years old. At the time, I was the youngest member of what's now the Rotary Club of Burrell-New Kensington, Pennsylvania. Now at 95, I'm the oldest member of the Rotary Club of Oakmont Verona. After 70 years, I still have perfect attendance. In the old days, attendance was a big deal. Rotary has become more flexible, but I've kept my perfect attendance because I like Rotary meetings. I enjoy seeing my friends and learning what's going on with projects.

At the start of the COVID-19 pandemic, my club's Rotary meetings moved online right away. Zoom is quite popular among seniors, so I was comfortable with that platform — and after a few months, it occurred to me that I could start attending more than just my own club's meeting. My son Bill lives in Colorado. He's in the Rotary Club of Highlands Ranch (Littleton), so I started attending his club's meeting each week. I also logged on to a meeting of one of my former clubs, the Rotary Club of Fox Chapel Area, to see some of my old friends. It was great fun to speak with people I hadn't talked to in years. It gave me a lift.

You don't meet many people who've had the experiences that I've had in Rotary. There are just not very many people who have been in Rotary for seven decades!

Over the years, I've seen Rotary grow and change a lot, but I think the most significant turning point for the organization came when women began to join during the 1980s. That was a watershed moment — and now we're going to have Jennifer Jones as the first female Rotary International president. I think that's a great step forward.

When I joined Rotary as a young man, I was working for someone else. Meeting successful people through my club helped me to develop more confidence, and I ended up starting several businesses. One of them was a telephone answering service, which I founded in 1958 and ran for 35 years.

I think my club is actually more important to me now because I'm doing fewer things. My wife, Lois, has passed away, and my five children are adults. My Rotary meetings are what I look forward to each week.

When I talk to younger people about Rotary, I always encourage them to join. It's enriched my life and given me a way to help others. Yes, you have to balance your membership with other things in your life, but there's no such thing as not enough time. You make time for things that are important to you.

When I reflect on my 70 years in Rotary, I think the best part of it has been the friends that I've met — and the difference we've made together.

— AS TOLD TO VANESSA GLAVINSKAS



# Stick with it

Pins can tell the story of your Rotary experiences

**PIN, THE TALE:** The array of Rotary pins is vast — representing service projects, annual themes, club offices, district conferences, and other events. The pins typically have some identifying information on them, such as a club name, district, or event date. You can use that information to search the internet to find out more about them. There are also people ready to help you out on Rotary on Pins' Facebook page.

**TRADE VALUE:** If fellowship members are interested in trading Rotary pins, they can join our trading group on Facebook. Trading is also really popular at in-person events — especially among Youth Exchange students, Rotaractors, and other younger members. I'll put some pins out on the table at conventions, and people will immediately start taking pins off their own jackets to trade — it's like nothing I've ever seen.

**ALL TOGETHER:** A good pin collection is in the eye of the beholder. If you're happy with it, you're good. If you like to look at your pin collection, talk about it, and engage with Rotary members and others by wearing your pins, then it's valuable. It's not about the number of pins you have or the monetary value; it's about representing what Rotary does for the community.

— MIYOKI WALKER

Ed Book  
Rotary Club of  
Downtown Gainesville,  
Florida  
Chair, Rotary on Pins  
Fellowship

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## Contents

### Special Scoop

“Virtual Activities” Page 22-23

“Empoweing Girls” Page 24-25

Our District 3330 Page 26-29

Our District 3340 Page 30-33

Our District 3350 Page 34-37

Our District 3360 Page 38-41

Our Centre Page 42-44



Sending  
“All my Loving”  
to YOU.



## Interview

### Rotary Peace Fellow

#### Rotary and Peace

Peace is one of Rotary's main Areas of Focus. Many sustainable and successful projects and activities fall into this important area.

Rotary Peace Centers were established to provide academic and practical training for those who will drive peace and conflict prevention/resolution work in their community and in the world. Many graduates have used the knowledge and experience gained from this program to support their peace work.

Rotary Peace Center at Chulalongkorn University With the cooperation of Chulalongkorn University, Rotary Peace Center at Chulalongkorn University was founded in 2004. The Center receives fund to organize a 3-month peace program twice a year with 25 participants per group, or a total of 50 per year. Once completed, peace fellows will receive a Professional Certificate.

Currently, the Center is conducting the peace program for Group 32. Due to the COVID-19 pandemic which has prevented participants from traveling to Thailand, the last 2 groups attend Virtual Training.



PP Jantane Tienvijit,  
Rotary Club of Lanna

Rotary Newsletter Thailand's team interviewed those involved with the operation of this peace center, and here are the results.



#### Professor Surichai Wankaew, Director of Rotary Peace Center at Chulalongkorn University

At present, six staff work at Rotary Peace Center at Chulalongkorn University. The Center plays a big part in screening participants for the program. Once a year, Prof. Surichai himself will travel to Rotary International Peace Center in Illinois, USA, to do this same job of selecting participants as his predecessors – PRID Noraseth Pattmanan and PRID Prof. Dr. Saowalak Ratanavich. The application and selection happen once a year, but participants have to specify which of the two groups during the year they want to join. For program facilitators, the Center selects those who are experts and experienced in research and peace building in the world's major problem areas. The method of training used is more interactive than lecture as participants have diverse background and experiences from different continents, religions and occupations. Thus, they can learn from one another very well. In the past, we used to look at peace as something beyond our reach, but today peace and serenity are matters closer to us. As Rotary focuses on peace, and Rotarians give their cooperation in expanding the Center's role, peace in Thailand and overseas are promoted. The COVID-19 pandemic during the past two years have affected everyone and every country. The Center has, therefore, adjusted its method of screening participants and the program contents to be broader and deeper. More online method has also been used. In this regard, Rotary is a bridge for us to realize that health is a matter of serenity and peace at the same time.

#### Rotary Peace Fellows

The current group of Rotary peace fellows is Group 32. While they are attending the program, Rotary Newsletter Thailand Editorial Team interviewed both past and current fellows. The Team wanted to find out why the past fellows joined the program and how they applied what they learned to their work, and what the current fellows expect from the course.



#### Academicians and Peace Researchers and Builders Asst. Prof. Dr. Duanghathai Buranacharoenkij, Lecturer and Deputy Director of the Research and Academic Service Department, Institute of Human Rights and Peace, Mahidol University

Asst. Prof. Dr. Duanghathai has been responsible for teaching conflict transformation, doing research and organizing seminars to promote peace building process and conflict resolution in a peaceful way in the southern part of Thailand since 2004.

She explained that she was interested in Rotary's peace training program. It would provide an opportunity for her to learn more about peace and conflict resolution, as well as to exchange ideas with other peace fellows from many countries. Besides, the period of three months was not too long and she could take leave from work during the school holiday. In addition, Chulalongkorn University is located in Bangkok, so it's very convenient. Meeting the facilitators and peace fellows from 19 countries around the world with different cultural background and occupational experience but with the same interest in conflict and peace made the conversations very colorful and filled with information. All these were motivating and she did not want to miss any class at all.

Moreover, the field trip to learn about the fishing problems in Songkhla Province helped broaden her vision, and the field trip to Aceh Province in Indonesia made her realize the peace process limitations after reaching the agreement. All these knowledge is very useful for her work in the south of Thailand.

The contents and the presentation techniques used by the course facilitators were also useful for her in teaching her own classes at the graduate and post graduate levels. And the final target is for people to live in peace.

### **Permanent peace must be based on the principles of fairness both in politics and society**



**Michele Bravos, Co-Founder and Deputy Director of Aurora Institute for Human Rights Education, Brazil**

The mission of the Institute is to disseminate knowledge on human rights to people with different educational background and to invite them to participate in the activities that will help create equality in their society and to get rid of violence. These people are from various institutions including both the public and private sectors, universities, non-profit organizations and others.

Michele explained that she's a Latin American woman from one of the five countries with the highest violence crimes in this region. When she learned about Rotary Peace Program, she was interested as she saw an opportunity to strengthen the skills of the leaders and people in general like her. After the course, she will apply what she has learned to develop peace and serenity in her community. She said, "The current circumstance is full of equal power and the recognition of individual and community values. I believe that sustainable development will not only benefit our economy, but will also help our overall society. Likewise, I believe that permanent peace must be based on the principles of fairness in both politics and society, as said by the Nobel Prize Winner Sirin Ebadi, 'Permanent peace and sustainable development must be created by humans only.'"

Michele joined Group 32, the latest group. When she was interviewed, she had joined the class for only 3 weeks in January 2022. As for her opinion on learning via Zoom, she said that it's another efficient method during the time when peace fellows cannot travel to Thailand. Rotary Peace Center Team has tried very hard to organize activities by not allowing the distance to be an obstacle so that fellows can enjoy connecting with one another. "I hope that I will have an opportunity to travel to Chulalongkorn University to meet all the facilitators and other peace fellows while learning more about Thailand."

### **The Roles of Rotarians in Thailand and Training at Rotary Peace Center**

Rotarians in each area play a big part in supporting this training program by acting as host counselors with Host Area Coordinator or HAC coordinating with Rotary Peace Center and host counselors. We interviewed PP Andrew McPherson from RC Bangkok South as follows:



**PP Andrew McPherson**

He was appointed by Rotary Foundation Chair with a 3-year term. Before the start of each training program, he would receive a list of host counselors who were ready to give counsel to the peace fellows. Once he knew the number of peace fellows, he would contact those Rotarians and also the Rotarians who acted as counselors for the previous group for continuity. When he had all the host counselors he needed, he would match them with the peace fellows based on various factors. As soon as the peace fellows arrived in Thailand, he would ask the host counselors to meet and welcome them at the airport. However, if they could not make it, he would ask other host counselors to do the job instead. Finally, if there was no-one who could meet the fellows, he would go to the airport himself and take them to Chulalongkorn University's international student dormitory provided by the Center.

PP Andrew said, "We received full support from PRIP Bichai Rattakul, PRID Noraseth Pattamanan, PRID Dr. Saowalak Rattanavich and all the Center's staff in organizing the orientations for the peace fellows. We also invited the host counsellors to join the event for half a day at Rotary Center Thailand. However, when the situation did not allow us to do so, we organized the orientations via Zoom, and once the 3-month training was completed, we would hold a certificate presentation ceremony for all peace fellows. Previously, PRIP Bichai Rattakul gave a keynote speech at the event, and our two PRIDs presented the certificates and the peace pins to the fellows."

The writer of this article has acted as Host Counselor for Peace Fellows from many countries since Group 15. It allowed for cultural exchange and relationship building with 18 fellows. While they were here in Thailand for 3 months, the writer would welcome them at the airport, take them to their dormitory, introduce them to Thailand and Thai culture, take them to various interesting places during the holiday and most important involve them in Rotary Club's weekly meetings. There, the Peace Fellows would give a special lecture about their mission or their country. For the past two years in 2021 and 2022, the writer acted as Host Counselor via Zoom.

As we can all see, Rotary plays a major role in promoting peace in every corner of the world. We all can help build peace and serenity in our family, community, country and the world.

D.3330

## Editorial of District 3330, RI



PDG. Juthatip Thamsiripong  
Rotary Club of Pra Pathom Chedi

Greetings to every Rotarian,

Fellow Rotarians like us have friends from student days – from the nursery, primary and secondary school. Then when we are in business, we have business related friends. All these friendships make up a network of happiness and hope and now extend all over the country and abroad.

In 2019 when Covid became pandemic, people look to their own survival and for family members. They also look to the survival of their business because it affects many more lives of their workers and families. What Rotarians really miss is the loss of fellowship when clubs cease to meet physically, where even district functions are no longer held. We have to work from home and go outside only when necessary like shopping for household necessities. Functions have ceased while social activities have been drastically reduced. These past 2 years have made Rotarians accustomed to living in seclusion, doing new activities in the family circle, while joining other activities were at much reduced levels.

After two years of this changed lifestyle it became difficult to go back to the old ways again. We only want to know activities through Facebook, LINE and other social media. Telephone conversations are at a minimum. Everyone say the same thing that they had to change to adapt to the situation, we have to survive. We don't know when we will have fellowship activities like before, hold club meetings or have joint activities. We hope to resume activities like before. Or is that time really in the past? "If that is so, I will truly miss the time that has past." What do new Rotarians think about this?

## Wearing the Rotary Pin



### Wearing the Rotary Pin

Rotarians are used to wearing the Rotary Pin on the left side of the suit coat to demonstrate that we are proud to be a Rotarian and that Rotary is the world's oldest service organization and has a long record of providing service to the society and developing the community.

The main objective of wearing the Rotary emblem apart from demonstrating that we belong to that organization and are proud to show the world that we belong, it is a form of publicity for the organization. The annual theme pin shows the annual change in the year's objective, Rotarians collect these theme pins. The District pins or the club pins also show the highlight of the District or the club, and impresses the recipient and the wearer of the pins.



There are other types of Rotary pins. For those who have received Avenue of Service pins which is RI Recognition of their achievement, wearing these pins make the wearer proud of the recognition of their service and the honour of being given the pin. Donations to Rotary Foundation lead to several different pins such as Arch Klumph Society, Major Donor, Paul Harris Fellow (PHF) which show different levels of donations. Rotarians proudly display these pins.

Long-time Rotarians have a collection of these pins and when they travel to Rotary functions abroad they bring the district or the club pins to these functions and exchange with other district or club pins. If in future you have opportunity to have joint projects with that district then you wear the pin and impress Rotarians in those districts.

Rotarians wear Rotary pins in appropriate amount, which is not too many. The pins will attract attention of others. You may see YE (Youth Exchange Students) wearing a large number of pins on their suite coat. This is the YE identity for their group. It demonstrates having many friends. For Rotarians we wear the pins at appropriate amount, and will create good impression with the viewers.

Thus wearing Rotary pins will create pride in the wearer, and publicize the organization. Rotarians are invited to wear the Rotary pins to show your affiliation and pride in Rotary.

# Activities



## 12 December 2021, RC Hat Yai Nakarin

President Cholthorn Yaopankul led club members to collect rubbish that floated on water at the Baan Kokemuang Community. This is a project initiated by RC Koh Hong. RC Hat Yai Nakarin also donated 2000 baht to the Baan Kokemuang Community for their biomass waste incinerator.



## 12 December 2021 RC Phang-Nga

Protecting the Andaman coastline, change life with service by collecting rubbish at Khao Pillai, Phang-Nga province.



## 15 December 2021 RC Nakhon Hadyai

President Thanyaras Rittheva took club members and friends for a handover ceremony of 12 “Computer for kids” at Ban Nong Muang school, Mae Thom subdistrict, Bang Klum district, Songkhla province.



**Global Grant No.2118447 Joint activities of eight clubs: Rotary Club of Thavaravadi, Nakornchaisri, Photharam, Bang Len, Pra Pathom Chedi, Dontoom, Rai King Sampran and Kampaengsan**

Training offered on the topic of “Strengthening prevention of infection to safety standards with 2P Safety Goals for personnel of Kampaengsan Hospital and its networks” on 22 December 2021. PDG Chalermchat Chun-In and PDG Wichai Maneewacharakiet joined this activity.



**7 January 2022, RC Sanamchan**

President Pirichira Siripassra, with Rtn Penchit Suwan-sri, Youth Services Director, past presidents and club members together with their Interact club of Wat Huay Chorakae Vidhayakom school presented scholarships and gifts to students on the occasion of National Children’s day at Wat Huay Chorakae Vidhayakom school in Nakhon Pathom.

**8 January 2022, RC Nakhonchaisri**

President Plinpat Atthapornsiripaisal and PE Chathisa Piamsuk, members and potential members joined the project to give love with a million smiles to children of Ban Nong Hin, Doem Bang Nang Buad district, of Supan Buri.



**14 January 2022, RC Koke Samedchun**

President Patcharawadi-porn Atthapornsiripaisal thanks Rotarians of RC Koke Samedchun who gave their valuable time to present wheelchairs to the disabled at the Wat Pluckkrimnok Community, and she thanks President Chawadol Chakkaiworakul of RC Krathumbaen who sponsored the wheelchairs, and

**7 January 2022, RC Proud Nakhon**

Sweets, desserts and gifts were given to children in Baan Srithammarat Emergency Home on the occasion of National Children’s day for 2022. ‘May the children be happy on that day.’

also thank community health volunteer Mayuree Chutaso who produced the name list of disabled in need of wheelchair so that Rotary can do this project.

D.3340

Editorial of District 3340, RI



Rtn. Dearra Pibulwattanawong  
Rotary Club of Magkang

### Happy New Year my fellow Rotarians

Half the Rotary year has passed by so fast. It's now time to promote the primary activities of each club president.

Thailand has relaxed many Covid related restrictions. Many clubs have resumed weekly meetings as before, building happiness, and reducing the longing to meet with friends. Friendships are renewed and strengthened. Project decisions are made more quickly at face to face meetings.

Of activities in District 3340: After completing the large projects, many clubs have turned to helping the more vulnerable groups. We have completed many large projects offering medical instruments and supplies to hospitals, and field hospitals. But we have not neglected the vulnerable, be it looking after the elderly, the disabled, and children who have intellectual disabilities and even provided employment opportunities to people who have lost their jobs. All these are reflected in the activities reported in District 3340.

## ROTARY Pin



### Badges of impression

Rtn. Dearra Pibulwattanawong

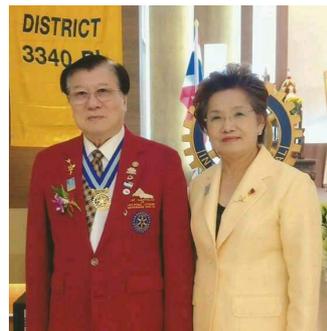
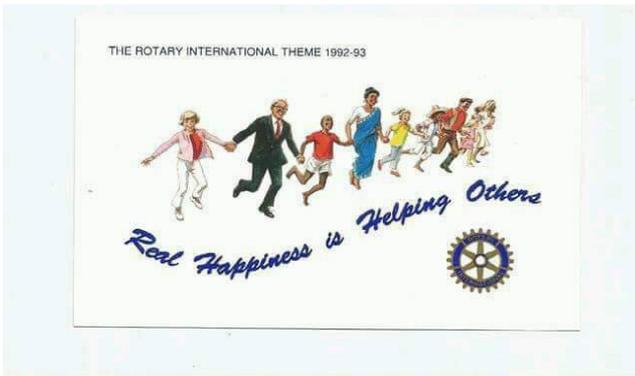
When I was a new Rotarian and had an opportunity to attend the Rotary Youth Exchange meeting in preparation of outbound students for the departures to the counties of their choices, I noticed that they had exchanged pins then pinned them onto their jackets. At the particular moment, I felt that the pins were their fond memory and lasting impression.

The following year, I was assigned a very important task to design the 30th year commemorative pin of the Rotary Club of Magkang for the use as gifts in various occasions. The design was simply based on "simplicity". PP Hobin Imm (Rotary theme, "Rotary Serving Humanity") would closely oversee the pins' production; and be certain that the pins would be produced very much the same way as how engagement rings were carefully crafted. The recipients of the pins were really impressed and could probably sense PP Hobin Imm's meticulous care and strong intention. The pin is definitely the pride.

Another much of the pride is a Paul Harris society pins. Actually, there are three in all that were given by the Rotary Club of Magkang in three different years for the efforts in organizing a club event that is literally known across the nation. At a provincial level, the activity has become the annual event that has been generating enough revenues for the club to support many successful projects the last four years. This has also motivated the members for their 100% EREY donations for those many years, as well.

Both the 30th year commemorative pin of our club and the Paul Harris society pins are the badges of memory and impression of a Rotarian, who wholeheartedly puts belief and fate in Rotary for the past six years.

# “WHAT It’s LIKE”



An Honor to be Proud Of  
Past District Governor Niwes Khunavisarut  
Governor of Rotary International District 3340, 1992-1993

Fifty years ago, I became a charter member of the Rotary Club of Chanthaburi. I continually learned and gained an understanding of the Rotary ideal of service to local communities in Chanthaburi province until I was elected president of my club from 1980 to 1981. At that time, it was still District 330, which had clubs in four countries – Thailand, Malaysia, Singapore, and Brunei. Later the district was divided to make new districts that have existed until today. In 1992-1993, Thailand was divided into four districts – Districts 3330, 3340, 3350, and 3360. The Rotary Club of Chanthaburi was in District 3340, which was in the eastern and northeastern part of Thailand. In that same year, I became the first district governor of Rotary International District 3340.

As district governor at that time, I was proud that I proved my determination to be the leader of the district through adapting, by facing problems and various obstacles, and being patient about many issues. I had the opportunity to visit every club in District 3340, which took many months to finish. I had the opportunity to do community service together with Rotarian friends both in Thailand and around the world. I was friends with the leaders of more than 500 districts and with more than a million Rotarians. As the first elected district leader of District 3340, I had to go to a training meeting in the United States of America. I learned a lot about Rotary International, and I met with leaders at the level of president and the executive committee of Rotary International. It was the best experience and made me proud to hold the position of District 3340 Governor until the end of the term.

The pride that I mentioned came from being able, over a long period, to help disadvantaged and impoverished people through “Service above Self,” and it is truly part of Rotary today. Apart from the regular club meetings and visiting clubs in the district, I had the opportunity to exchange views with the members of various clubs, which helped make Rotary a source of members who had the same ideals and were partners who encouraged each other and our communities to develop in good ways. This is “the real happiness in helping others.”





**Without Rotary Youth Exchange opportunity, I would never have experienced good things in my life.**  
*Miss Rachel Trakarndee, YE from D 3340*

From my experience as Rotary Youth Exchange to Minnesota, USA: The town I stayed was bitterly cold with temperature plunging way below the freezing point (-30 to -40 degrees Celsius). But I adjusted well and was very lucky to have four cosy and lovely host families. They all had children about the same age as mine and all went to the very same school. Therefore, we were very close like brothers and sisters, who also helped me with my school works and introduced me to the school choir and the ice skating team; and that made me really happy and very excited. My English was also improved, which was important for my further education.

I had learned Western cultures and traditions at home, school, and Rotary Clubs. As a matter of facts, it is what the Rotary Youth Exchange is for. The experiences and benefits gained as YE were as follows:

1.Improving and understanding of English: My English skills are significantly improved, especially my verbal communication. Sometimes, my sentences are not grammatically perfect, but good enough for my study and daily use. And it is much better than that prior to my YE experiences.

2. Understanding of Western cultures and traditions: As mentioned before, host families' homes, my school, and Rotary clubs were the places, where I quickly

absorbed the western cultures, traditions, norms, socializations and manners; and also where I developed an ability to understand the differences that could be adapted for my everyday life.

3. Adjusting of myself to a new society: Self-adjustment to the new family members and classmates was then my challenge. Without the courage to face and adjust myself to the new society, I would have got homesick very easily. For that reason, I would certainly share this experience with my friends as I returned to Thailand.

4.Presenting of my potential: Being a member of the school choir and the ice skating team had enhanced my self-confidence a great deal and actually given me the guts to join other activities with friends, even though I had never done those things before.

5. Affirming of my self-confidence: My life experience as a youth exchange this time was my self-confidence and being able to self-adjust accordingly, and to improvise solutions to problems for either myself, others, host family members, or friends at school.

Those are all of my unforgettable experiences because they comprise prides, challenges, and new good things in my life. Literally, it is a once in a lifetime opportunity that one would never have experienced if he or she had not been selected as a Rotary Youth Exchange student. I therefore would like to extend my gratitude to all of the Rotary Youth Exchange Program committees for their kind support and opportunities for new generations to explore and discover to the world.



**Rotary Club of Sriubon** organised vocational trainings to the public by joining with NFE and the public library. They organized additional vocational training for the general public so that the people of Ubon can pick up a lifelong learning. They taught making cloth dolls, a variety of Thai sweets and desserts and decorative key rings. They sent teachers to teach interested members of the public and provided trainers, trainees and library visitors with Rotary Sriubon branded drinking water. The result was the interested people of Ubon can pick up new ideas for making things.



**Rotary Club of Roi-et** provided training for the elderly on use of mobile phones with various popular applications. The training included advice on protection from fake news on the social media which can cause harm to user. In this they were assisted by AIS trainers, while Thirarat Co., Ltd. joined the project donating 100 bottles of alcohol gel to the head of the Elderly group, at the Suan Phayom Health Promotion Center, Roi-et.



**Rotary Club of Korat** offered containers filled with consumer items to 12 members of the public who are needy under the project “Namjai containers from RC Korat”, Serngsang District, Nakhon Ratchasima. The container is filled with consumer items including drinking water and hygiene mask.



**Rotary club of Silpakom-Udon Thani** organized Empowering Girls for Quality of Life Development for children with Intellectual Disability with the objective of improving skills and providing knowledge to the intellectually challenged children in areas of basic hygiene care in daily life so that they can look after themselves up to a point. They also gave essential daily necessities to the children.



**Rotary Club of Moonriver** offered children’s games and sports equipment ie. Football goal netting, volley balls, water paint, toys, soap and sweets and drinking water for students and teachers of Ban Khamhaiyai school in Donmoddaeng District of Ubon Rachathani.



**Rotary club of Dolphin Pattaya** offered happiness to the visually affected children of Father Ray at his ‘School for the Blind’. The kids enjoyed the games and rooted for the prize money which the club provided.

D.3350

Editorial of District 3350, RI



PP. Trong Sangswangwatana  
Rotary Club of Bangkok Suwanabhum

Dear Rotarians and Readers, Happy New Year 2022

We meet again in the first issue of the second half of Rotary year 2021-2022. Did you travel upcountry during the holiday season? Many Rotarians of District 3350 attended the District events in Singburi and Lopburi. This means you got to do Rotary activities and relax upcountry. Many of us spent the night upcountry before attending the event. I show pictures of our activities in both events here. I am also showing the prize winning posters under People of Action for all three clubs from our District here so that you can admire them before we send them on for competition at the Zone level.

One article in this issue is about the Rotary Pin which all Rotarians display on their blouse or suit jacket. We also bring you stories of two Rotary Peacefellows sponsored by District 3350 who studied at Chula Peace Center. They are so different in age, ethnicity, and gender. Find out what they think in the Rotary Peacefellow articles.

We will meet again in the next issue.

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email : trong3350@gmail.com

# ROTARY Pin



PP. Trong Sangswangwatana

Just cannot choose which 'pin' impresses me more

The 'Pin' I am referring to is the Rotary pin that we Rotarians attach to our suit coats or apply for adornment to show the public that we are members of the world's oldest service organization. We are promoting Rotary and introducing ourselves to Rotarians that we have not been introduced to before becoming the prelude to introduction, and fellowship. For some it can lead to assistance in foreign lands as has been experienced already.

The pins that Rotarians use are the annual theme pins as presented by RI President of the year and the PHF (Paul Harris Fellow) pins according to level of donation to Rotary Convention, End Polio, RYLA, or even Pin of the Rotary Club.

Some Rotary pins are surrounded by diamonds, looking especially stunning. My own acquisition tended to come from the District Governor, bought when attending meetings in foreign countries. You may see many pins from Japan since that is a common destination for clubs in D 3350. Even my club has a Japanese sister club.

I am a charter member of RC Bangkok Suwanabhum joining the club in 2001-2002. When I got my first pin I did not see its importance. I am a collector by habit, and now I have a board full of pins. Today I am a PHF level 6, I have kept all my Paul Harris pins.

In summary, this is the reason why I cannot choose the only one pin. Every pin has its unique attraction in different ways and for different reasons.

# ROTARY Peace Fellow



## Pol. Col. Siriphon Kusonsinwut

I entered Rotary's Peace Center Certificate course in the name of Rotary Club of Bangkok Suwanabhum, under District 3350. At that time my rank was Police Lieutenant Colonel. My position was Police Criminal Division Inspector.

Today I have risen to the rank of Police Colonel, and I am Commander Deputy of Interrogation and Investigation Affairs Division, Royal Thai Police.

### *Why were you interested in joining this study?*

When ideas change from era to era, it can be seen that each generation has differing ideas between generations and between political ideologies. Their ideas tend to be quite far apart. People in each era have different ideas about respecting rights in freedom and in human dignity but they are not at the same level. Some era give rights to human dignity for self, lower than for other humans. This is certainly not right. Modern age youth give equal rights to human being, so respect is dependent on behavior which commands respect.

I intended to study the history of managing conflict in a peaceful manner which can be applied to the Thai society. But in fact, I was quite disappointed. This is because Thai society has a culture that heavily oppresses people of different class and generation. Adults will pressure a person to think they are still a child, even when they are 50-60 years of age. They make the other person think they are still a child. So it is not possible to hold discussions, however much you know the theory. So we need time to get to know each other before we can hold discussions.

### *What was your impression while studying?*

Studying with foreign colleagues gave me a platform to exchange ideas, and to practice tolerance for different ideals and can help each other in the future including future joint projects. I learnt theories of peace in mediation to resolve conflicts in a peaceful manner as we saw in Nepal, and learnt theories of conflicts in different countries. In practice, applying peaceful solutions may have limitations. If you have not used force to win in the first place you cannot apply peaceful solutions to resolve conflicts.

### *Application of learning gained, post study period*

I tend to apply this to my writing promoting the theory of Conflict Resolution on Facebook and other online media programs. I write academic articles to promote ideas on resolving problems or on winning with a peaceful solution, because I believe if you want to win, it should be by idea or ideology. Thus promoting ideas are of prime importance. I also apply this knowledge to conflicts in the place of work or in the family.

One's life goal is to perform one's duty in both areas. If the government official works with firm intension, the public will receive the highest benefit. I therefore emphasize conveying ideas and ideology about democracy, liberalism and resolving conflicts with peaceful solutions through respect for the people.



## Pao Hom

Rotary Peace Fellowship,  
Chulalongkorn University Bangkok  
Class 27, 2019

Applied the Rotary Peace Fellowship  
through District 3350

I was working as a technical assistance to Myanmar peace process since 2013. My education background and the work I was doing was in the different areas. I graduated my master of educational administration from Ramkhamhang University. After graduation, the peace negotiation in Myanmar was started. I was so admired that the peace talks were happened and negotiation for peace building and political transformation in Myanmar was rolling out. I approached one of my old friends who was working in the organization which provided technical assistant and advise to the Ethnic leaders for ceasefire negotiation. I was offered a job from that organization to be part of the technical assistant team. I was so happy and took that job quickly though I have very limited knowledge on peace building but have a big heart and hope for peace in Myanmar. I learned a lot from my work but still needed to upgrade my knowledge and networking with international. I found the rotary peace fellowship announcement and took a chance to apply for that by hoping to meet the peace builders from all around the world and learned the theory and experiences from experts.

I was selected and join the Rotary peace fellowship program at Chulalongkorn University in June 2019. As expected, I met with fellows from 19 different countries with various backgrounds and experiences. The course arrangement and the instructors were very interesting. I learned 9 topics and took 2 field trips; one to Songkla Thailand to learn about how local negotiate with their government and another one in Aceh, Indonesia where minority group negotiated for peace with their government. I got so excited every week as I could meet with an issue expert every week to learned from their experiences as well as their expertise. Actually, 1 week to learn 1 issue was not enough. The course only laid down the basic knowledge and need to continue learning after the course. I did that and still doing in my everyday life as I continue my technical assistance to peace actors work in Myanmar after I completed the course.

# Activities



**2020 - 2021 Governor's Salute**  
At Paiboon Kaiyang, Singburi Province  
On Saturday, December 25, 2021  
by bass saluting and thanks from  
PDG.Somsri Mekthon, that postponed the  
event from June regarded as the end of the  
year event and Celebrate the New Year



**District governor meets prime minister  
for the 2nd time**  
at Lopburi Inn Resort Hotel, Lopburi Province  
On Saturday, January 15, 2022  
It is an open-hearted meeting of the Prime  
Minister and Assistant Governor and  
Provincial Governor Dr. Wirun Bunnuch for  
the first time Onsite



**Congratulations**  
with the People of Action poster  
that have been selected to be forwarded to  
the contest at the zone level is  
Picture from Rotary Club of Bangkok-  
Nawamin, Rotary Club of Bangkokhen and  
Rotary Club of Bangrak



**โรตารีประเทศไทย** Rotary District 3350

**หนึ่งใจเดียวกัน**

สวมเสื้อ **PEOPLE OF ACTION**  
เหมือนกันทั้งประเทศ  
เราคือ **Thailand Team**

เชิญชวนสวมใส่เสื้อ  
โรตารี **"คนทำจริง"**  
ในวันที่ **12 12 2021**

**แล้วเซลฟี่!!**  
ในวันเดียวกันทั่วประเทศ  
เพื่อบันทึกสถิติไปพร้อมกัน



D.3360

## Editorial of District 3360, RI



PP. Dr. Natthanin Sestawanich  
Rotary Club of Phrae

Dear Rotarians,

February has entered the month of love. After the end of 2021, District 3360 has held an Inter-City Meeting which is considered the first on-site meeting after a long absence due to the COVID-19 situation. This makes the warm atmosphere come back again to welcome the coldness of the North although the epidemic situation has not subsided yet. Everyone in District 3360 have adapted to become part of our livelihood.

In this issue, I present the warm atmosphere of the past intercity meetings of District 3360, as well as the winners of the Rotary Information Contest in this event, providing a special scoop of information for the District, collecting photos of various special project activities of the clubs and a special scoop of District 3360 Editorial Assistant on "Rotary Pin".

Finally, I wish everyone good health, happiness, and wealth in this Tiger Year.

# ROTARY Pin



PP.Dr.Natthanin Sestawanich

Before I got to know Rotary, I was once involved in a Rotary club project. Remembered that during the opening ceremony, I saw some Rotarians wearing club suits. And what caught my eyes the most was each suit is embellished with many glittering pins, especially if it's an exchange student. At that moment, I had a suspicion why these people were wearing beautiful pins, where did they come from? That doubt gradually began to dissipate since I came to the Rotary Club of Phrae.

I became a Rotarian in 2014 - 2015 "Light Up Rotary". The first pin I got was this year's motto brooch, which until today I've always adorned this pin on my club suit. This is to commemorate the first year of becoming a Rotarian, and I feel very honored. Since the Rotary Club of Phrae invited me to become a member, I have learned to be a leader, learned about volunteering, learned about good friendships both in the club and in different clubs. Therefore, another pin that I adorned with the club suit is the pin of Rotary Club of Phrae which was a club flag designed to keep up with the modern era by referring to the Rotary International style of putting the Masterbrand signature along with the name of the club. Because we are in Thailand, therefore, Thai language was used representing the name in our club flag along with Phra That Cho Hae, the sacred temple in Phrae.

For me, becoming a part of Rotary Club of Phrae was like living in a family. I've always been absorbed in leadership and service. 2017-18 marked as my third year as a Rotarian, After being a Rotarians for three years, I became a Club President of year 2017-18. The motto in that year was "Rotary Making a Difference". I was in the class of 113th Year Presidents. At that time, PDG Nithi Soongsawang was the District Governor of District 3360. Club Presidents in my class were very cohesive and helped each other very well. I was very proud to be the Club President. The last pins that I will keep as a good memory is the Club President Pin of year 2017 - 2018. Actually, I will get many more pins in the future, however, I will keep these 3 pins of good memories for the rest of my Rotarian life.

# Intercity Meeting



**PP Nanta Setavanich**  
**Rotary Club of Wiang Kosai**

The Rotary Club of Wiangkosai was delighted to have for the opportunity to host the Intercity Meeting of district 3360 with Rotary Club of Phrae on 18 - 19 December 2021 at Phrae Nakara Hotel,

Phrae Province

The meeting was organized in the form of Blue Indigo Night, new normal of Rotary. We have the following concepts:

1. It's a meeting with old friends, new friends after the Covid- 19 crisis has faded.
2. It is to promote local occupations in Phrae Province and brought to honor in this event of Indigo-dyed bonnet cloth (Blue Indigo).
3. It is a half-year sharing of service experiences for each club in District 3360.

By organizing activities into rooms separated according to each person's interests which is outstanding and interesting because it was honored by qualified speakers to convey their full knowledge of Rotary. There are also many lucky draws,

especially the Big Bonus prize from the host and the lucky winner was Past President from the Rotary Club of Chiang Kham. Another delight was we have the opportunity to welcome members from the Rotary Club of Chiang Rai. The oldest person in the event, Mr. Withan Sivasuwan, 92 years old, looked happy and enjoyed the night too.

The night event was held at the weaver plantation. The atmosphere was friendly and fun. Each of them was dressed beautifully. The full model was defined as a beautiful variety of Blue Indigo Night.

In the morning, food offerings were held according to the Buddhist way of Phrae people. 3 trams were used to bring everyone to do alms-giving activities. Then the trams took them back to see Phrae City in the morning, before returning to the accommodation for a meeting in the morning of the second day.

On behalf of the chairman and organizing committee, I would like to thank DG Jirayut Hiranyawat and PDG Anurak Napawan for their suggestion throughout the preparation of the event. Thank you to all speakers and thank you to all Rotarian friends who attended this event much more than expected. If there was an error in any case, I would like to apologize to all of you at this time.

# Activities

10 - 12 January 20220, Rotary Club of Chiang Mai Nawarat

CP Chalida Ekachaipattanakul and members organized Children's Day activities, distributed snacks, shoes and food to students, parents and teachers at Phi Pan Nuea School, Omkoi District, Chiang Mai Province, which was almost 200 kilometers from Chiang Mai city. The road path was very difficult to travel.



**7 January 2022, Rotary Club of Chiang Rai**

Club members together with family and spouses joined the Children’s Day activities by donating 75 school supplies. The supplies included 70 children’s sportswears, 40 sports equipment ,140 pairs of winter socks, snacks, 120 cups of bubble tea, donuts and more to Ban Pa Yaeng School, Muang District, Chiang Rai Province



**Rotary Club of Phayao Peafowl**

Phayao is the last stronghold of Thai peacocks. Pattaya Bunnag, together with Mr. Sakrit Salakkham, Phayao Provincial Governor, traveled to explore the habitat of the peacock, to prepare a bamboo tunnel in the Mayura courtyard. On the day of the celebration of the establishment of the Peacock Rotary Club at Mae Phong Reservoir, Ban Tham Subdistrict, Dok Kham Tai District, Phayao Province.



**16 January 2022, Rotary Club of Chiang Rai**

P.Dr.Yongyuth Chairattanawan, together with charter members of Chiang Rai-Mae Suai Rotary Club, a satellite club of Chiang Rai Rotary Club organized New Year’s merit-making activities by donating blankets 105 sets and 50 sets sports shirts to children in the villagers of Huai Sai Khao, Mae Suai District, Chiang Rai Province.



**Rotary Club of Fang**

P Kantana Sathiantayangkun of the Rotary Club of Fang led the members to join in making merit by donating masks, canned food, tea and oranges to the Rattana Chedi Meditation Center. (Doi Thep Neramit) Ban Mae Hang, Mae Sao Subdistrict, Mae Ai district, Chiang Mai province. After the mission, the club organized friendship activities, having lunch and birthday parties for members born in October-January. Club meeting had a special guest from Fang Hospital management team. The club considered the preparation of Global Grant Project for Fang Hospital which must be clarified, understood and discussed before proposing the next project.



## Rotary Centre in Thailand



Past District Governor  
Jason Lim

Rotary Club of Bangna

Currently, the Regional  
Rotary Fund Coordinator  
(RRFC) for Zone 12 and  
member of the Rotary  
ASEAN Intercountry  
Committee (ICC)



From our telephone interview with short questions, we received very clear information.

*RTM: How is your work as the RRFC during the years of the Covid epidemic going?*

I have the responsibility to help the Rotary Fund in six districts – 3300, 3310, 3330, 3340, 3350, and 3360 – in eight countries, but due to COVID, I was unable to travel at this time. I must use virtual means, and I am not able to establish goals to increase funding as we should because the economy is not good. Donors are also affected. Previously, we were part of Zone Six B. Now, that has changed to Zone 10B and Zone 10C or what we also call Region 12. In Rotary Year 2019-20, we received contributions of almost five million U.S. dollars, but in Rotary Year 2020-21, we could not set that goal. We had to decrease it to only four million dollars, which we were able to reach.

The duty of the RRFC is to travel to every district, to help with training in order to update knowledge, but due to Covid, we used Zoom to replace trips, and in general, we have been able to reach our goals. We also organize an event like the 2019-20 Foundation Night in Bangkok, which was very successful. Right now we can't do that. Donations have dropped; we haven't really received large amounts from organizing events.

*RTM: In performing the duties of the coordinator, what are some of the direct benefits to Rotarians?*

I'm not able to coordinate directly with Rotarians in the different districts. I have to coordinate with the district governors or the chairs of the District Rotary Fund Committee (DRFC). Whether it is a question of training or solving problems, everything must be done through the district governor. The coordinator is unable to send orders. Some people understand incorrectly that the RRFC can order the DG or the DRFC, but in fact, we are only coordinators between TRF and the districts. If a district needs something, then the RRFC must step in to help. For example, a donor contributes, but there is no record even though the fiscal agent followed up with TRF. Our financial matters go through the South Asian Office in India, and if it doesn't answer, I then have to coordinate with the RRFC specialist to complete the work. Or, another example, if a Global Grant has problems, I help coordinate by contacting the Regional Grant Officer (RGO) who looks after the grant for Thailand. Or, if the grant that has been submitted encounters problems and is not approved, I also make suggestions or offer advice. In the area of donations, if we know that any donor has the capability to contribute significantly, we will then help the district by trying to give advice about securing the donation, but in the COVID situation, it is not really convenient to do a lot.

*RTM: Please suggest or give some ideas about donating to the Rotary Foundation.*

About contributions, we should not think that by donating \$1 we will get back \$10 to do a project. Donating is a duty of Rotarians. They can donate any amount according to their readiness, perhaps \$100 or \$1000, according to their resources. They can give in many areas for example, the Polio Fund. Don't think that our country does not have polio anymore. We donate to prevent polio from coming back to Thailand again. We have to help others around the world. As for the Annual Fund, every Rotarian should help out. Now, it is more difficult to find DDF from overseas. Using our DDF is better. Some people think that when they have given they can use the donation immediately, which is only partially true. That is, sometimes we have to donate money to keep it for a rainy day. For example, during the Covid pandemic, DDF is hard to find because every country



must do projects to help their country first. Another problem in our country is that many people do not donate at all. In other countries, there are districts where nearly 100 percent of members donate regardless of the amount.

*RTM: Last year, TRF announced a new condition that districts use DDF completely within five years. Will this affect foreign countries that give DDF to Thailand more or less?*

Before anything, I want you to understand that the TRF did not want to seize the money of any district. They wanted every district and every club to use the money that was previously donated to help communities, and they gave five years for it to be used. If in five years we haven't done any projects, it's strange. In these two years, the World Fund had certain periods when there was not enough money because during the Covid pandemic there were many more projects, especially for medical equipment. In Rotary Year 2019-20, TRF used up to \$8 million in disaster response for Covid, but now there are not any funds to help in this area. TRF, therefore, is motivating us to take our DDF to do these projects ourselves. As for the question of DDF from overseas, in the past, there had not been that many projects in their countries. These countries then poured DDF into Thailand, but currently the entire world is afflicted with Covid. Thus, they must use the money to develop their economies and communities to help unemployed people in their own countries first.

*RTM: This year, Jason, you are also a member of the Rotary ASEAN Intercountry Committee or ICC. Could you please explain to us about this committee?*

For Thailand, the former ICC was Thailand and France. The latest committee that we established is the ASEAN ICC. It is comprised of the 10 countries of ASEAN. The first goal is fellowship, for example, Family Exchange. Another goal is doing projects that will help each other. The ASEAN ICC is an international network that has not used Global Grants but is able to do projects that have the characteristics of World Community Service (WCS). In addition, there is also the goal of promoting Rotary in ASEAN, for example, in Vietnam. This is the first year that there is Rotary in Vietnam, and we have already been able to do three Global Grant projects. Two of these projects, Singapore helped pass through the ASEAN ICC itself. I use every channel as the Special Representative for establishing Rotary in Vietnam – RRFIC and ASEAN ICC. I use resources that have linked networks to enable local Rotarians to work.

ICC will have a structure of senior Rotarians, for example, the former president of Rotary International, or former or present members of the RI executive committee, and will include the district governors of 18 districts as advisors. The ASEAN Chair will rotate among the 10 countries beginning this

year. Past District Governor Mohan Munisamy from Singapore is the ASEAN Chair. Every country has a National Chair who can vote. The committee was formed last year. The signing ceremony has been scheduled for this year in Singapore. The committee will invite the district governors of every district and Rotarians to be witnesses if it does not have issues with Covid. As of now, the committee has met informally two times.

*RTM: What will be the future ASEAN ICC work plan for the benefit of Thailand and the region?*

Next year, that is from July 1, 2022, the rotation of the ASEAN Chair means that the Chair will come from Thailand. As the one who will have this position, I have already been in touch with the Thailand Convention and Exhibition Bureau (TCEB) and received proposals. If we arrange an event, we will invite all four districts to be joint hosts. This is a great opportunity because we are trying to get people to come to Thailand after Covid. TCEB also wants to support us. Because of this, we are waiting to see what our ASEAN ICC wants to do about this matter. I have the idea that if this year, Singapore is unable to arrange an event, we Thais will create WCS projects in Thailand for everyone to come to participate in. Perhaps we will have a fund raising event to which any country seeking funds can come and then give the funds to those countries. The event will build a platform for every district and every country searching for funds. Aside from that, there will probably be Golf Fellowship or a pleasure trip that could be arranged in any district of Thailand that is interested and ready. It's not necessary to organize it in Bangkok, and in the provinces, there will be more opportunities to do projects, too.

*RTM: Finally, share your thoughts with us, too.*

I want every Rotarian to see (the Covid) crisis as an opportunity. I know that every person is facing difficulties, but this is an opportunity for Rotary to be able to "Serve to Change Lives." Moreover, Rotary International President-elect Jennifer Jones said, "Imagine Rotary." We have to have dreams. Dreams must become reality. Rotarians will take action in a period like the Covid pandemic. At a time when the economic situation is like this, Rotarians are a force in each community, in each country, and I want Rotarians to do whatever they can in a way that is consistent with their available resources and capabilities – without overextending themselves. Another point is, don't think that if you are the district governor or the club president, you will be able to give orders. Every Rotarian is a volunteer. We must try to have Rotarians work wholeheartedly. Don't give orders to anyone. Leaders should "Lead, Motivate, Inspire, and Serve." These are the thoughts that I want to share with every Rotarian.



Dear Fellow Rotarians,

All of us would have known that “Imagine Rotary” is the theme of Rotary International for next year (2022-2023) by the RI President Elect Jennifer Jones (The first lady President of the Rotary International, ever). From now on, a preparation for readiness at all levels of leaders of the year of her presidency has begun.

From International Assembly and President Elect Training Seminar to District Team Training Seminar, Rotary has paid so much attention on improving and developing its leaders at all tiers and literally, in all aspects.

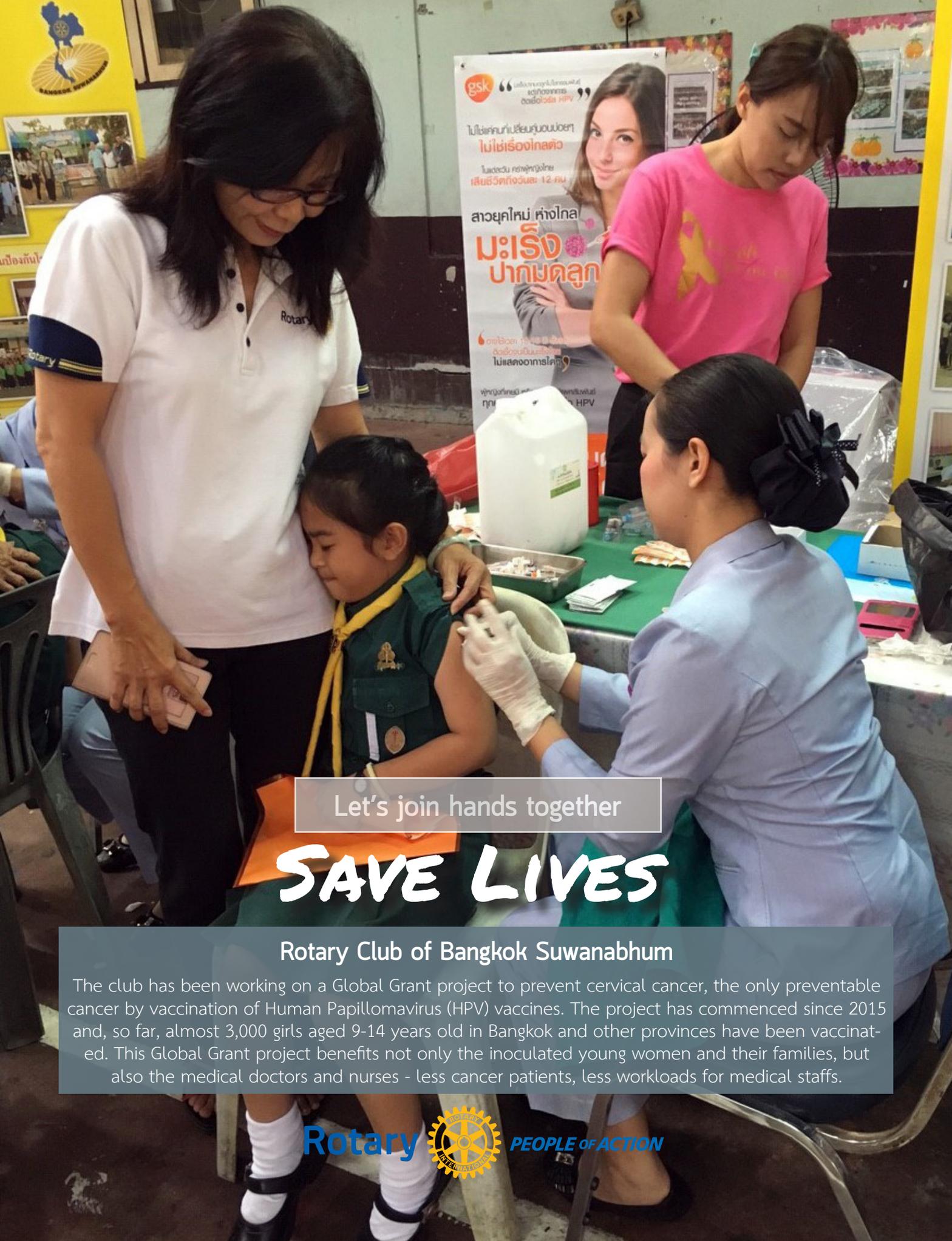
My fellow Rotarians, please be advised that your club officers will receive January 2022 club invoice from the Rotary International soon. In order to maintain a “Good Standing Club” status, please make a payment within 60 days. In the previous years, the mentioned payment in accordance with the Citation had to be done within the first month. But this year, the club has an option to pay either though “My Rotary” or directly to the financial representative of RI in Thailand (a submission of payment slip to Rotary Centre is suggested). If you have any inquiries regarding the afore mentioned payment, please contact the staffs of Rotary Centre in Thailand at any time.

Yours in Rotary,

(PDG.Vivat Sirijangkapattana)  
Chair, The Rotary Centre in Thailand

## Number's Rotary Data source: www.rotary.org As 1 February 2022 (1 July 2021)

District	3330				3340				3350			
	Rotary	Rotaract	Rotary	Rotaract	Rotary	Rotaract	Rotary	Rotaract	Rotary	Rotaract		
Members	<b>2,373</b> (2,348)	<b>360</b> (572)	<b>1,349</b> (1,352)	<b>55</b> (55)	<b>3,103</b> (3,041)	<b>280</b> (183)	<b>1,486</b> (1,422)	<b>398</b> (377)	<b>8,311</b> (8,163)	<b>1,093</b> (1,187)		
Clubs	<b>101</b> (101)	<b>28</b> (32)	<b>63</b> (63)	<b>5</b> (5)	<b>117</b> (119)	<b>27</b> (27)	<b>72</b> (70)	<b>13</b> (13)	<b>353</b> (353)	<b>73</b> (77)		



Let's join hands together

# SAVE LIVES

**Rotary Club of Bangkok Suwanabhum**  
The club has been working on a Global Grant project to prevent cervical cancer, the only preventable cancer by vaccination of Human Papillomavirus (HPV) vaccines. The project has commenced since 2015 and, so far, almost 3,000 girls aged 9-14 years old in Bangkok and other provinces have been vaccinated. This Global Grant project benefits not only the inoculated young women and their families, but also the medical doctors and nurses - less cancer patients, less workloads for medical staffs.



# ROTARY RESPONDS TO COVID-19

Visit Rotary's COVID-19 resource center to help your club  
take action in support of COVID-19 vaccination and prevention

cr: Rotary Club of Mae Sai  
[rotary.org/covid19](https://rotary.org/covid19)

