

Rotary

Thailand

โรตารีประเทศไทย

No. 218 May - June 2025

2025 Photo awards:
A moment in time

The Rotary responded
Disaster in Mandalay

Rotary Council on
Legislation 2025

Rotary Youth Projects:
50 Years of Service in
Thailand



I AM RAISING FOR
**PEACE-
BUILDING
& CONFLICT
PREVENTION**



I AM RAISING FOR THE
**WORLD
FUND**



I AM RAISING FOR
**MATERNAL
AND
CHILD
HEALTH**



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**WATER,
SANITATION,
AND
HYGIENE**



I AM RAISING FOR
**DISEASE
PREVENTION
AND
TREATMENT**



I AM RAISING TO
**END
POLIO**



I AM RAISING FOR
**COMMUNITY
ECONOMIC
DEVELOPMENT**



I AM RAISING FOR
**BASIC
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AND
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I AM RAISING FOR
**DISASTER
RESPONSE**



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Rotary's young people of action

No matter how long we've been with Rotary, we all benefit from the energy and fresh perspectives of our young leaders. It is my privilege to place this month's presidential message in the capable hands of one young leader, Vitor Joventino. In his column, Vitor reminds us how teamwork and inclusivity can spark transformative change. As you read his message, I encourage you to reflect on its insights, share in his excitement, and embrace new opportunities to learn.

— Stephanie Urchick

I remember the exact moment when I realized the power of Rotary's youth programs. It was a Saturday morning in Australia during my year as a Rotary Youth Exchange student. I stood among a group of young leaders at a Rotary Youth Leadership Awards event. The organizers challenged us to stand on a large tarp spread across the floor and, without stepping off, find a way to fold it in half.

At first, the task seemed simple. But as we moved, strategized, and adjusted, the reality set in — it required teamwork, agility, and constant communication.

Rotaractors and Rotarians guided us, but no one dictated how to succeed. The decisions were ours to make. And then something remarkable happened. Without being instructed, we collectively decided that no one would be left behind as our space on the tarp shrank.

One of our teammates was a person who uses a wheelchair, giving us an opportunity to adapt, ensuring that he was fully part of the experience. We shifted, lifted the tarp, and reconfigured our positions, using our time to think, plan, and act as a team. In the end, we successfully completed the challenge together.



As we celebrated our success, one participant said, "Society works the same way — challenges will come, but instead of leaving people behind, we must find ways to include everyone." It was such a profound thought for someone so young, yet it perfectly captured the essence of our experience.

Interact empowers young people to create service projects with real and lasting impact. Youth Exchange builds global citizens who return home with broader perspectives and stronger leadership skills. RYLA develops young leaders equipped to inspire and mobilize others. All of this is The Magic of Rotary, emerging through the actions of youth. These programs are the heart of Rotary's ability to grow and adapt in a changing world.

But the success of these programs depends on more than young leaders — it requires Rotary members who believe in their potential. I encourage you to sponsor an Interact club, host an exchange student, and support a RYLA participant. Your involvement does more than sustain these programs; it multiplies their impact and ensures that young leaders are not just beneficiaries of Rotary but active contributors.

To those already supporting youth programs, thank you. Your mentorship and commitment make all the difference. And to those considering getting involved, now is the time! Because youth leadership isn't just Rotary's future, it's Rotary's present.

VITOR JOVENTINO
Rotaract Club of Penápolis, Brazil

RI PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

June 2025



1. RI President Stephanie Urchick gets up close with Florida's wildlife while preparing for the International Assembly. 2. Urchick hitches a ride on a float at the 2025 Rose Parade in Pasadena, California. 3. While in London to attend events for Commonwealth Day, Urchick greets King Charles III. 4. In Alabama for a Rotary institute, Urchick prepares for liftoff at the U.S. Space & Rocket Center. 5. During a tour of Africa, she celebrates with participants at a Rotary Youth Leadership Awards event in Uganda. 6. Under snow in Istanbul, Urchick helps dedicate a peace pole during the 2025 Rotary Presidential Peace Conference. 7. In her hometown, Urchick prepares to throw out



The best is yet to come

I have had so many wonderful experiences over the past year, but as comforting as it might be to dwell on the past, we must look toward the future.

We are closer than ever to ending polio, but that does not mean we can relax. We still have a promise to keep to the children of the world and their families, and we will only fulfill that promise through fundraising, advocacy, and the power of our collective action.

I was amazed at the capability and commitment of the peacebuilders at the Presidential Peace Conference earlier this year. Our Peace Fellowship program and our many other peace initiatives bring healing to a divided world, but they need our support to remain effective and relevant.

Amid a worldwide loneliness epidemic, Rotary offers friendship, purpose, and belonging. If we hold true to our ideals — to The Four-Way Test and our spirit of inclusivity — we will remain a beacon of light even in the darkest times.

The Action Plan can serve as a guide to make our clubs and districts simply irresistible, but it is up to us to take that advice and put it to use.

Family of Rotary, there is nothing we cannot achieve when we come together and work toward a common goal.

You are The Magic of Rotary, and I can't wait to see the lasting change you bring to the world.

STEPHANIE A. URCHICK
President, Rotary International

the first pitch at a Pittsburgh Pirates game. **8.** On a visit to Peru, she explores Machu Picchu. **9.** Urchick meets with Željko Komšić, the Croat member of Bosnia-Herzegovina's presidency. **10.** While exploring the pyramids of Giza, Urchick indulges in some photographic fun.

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Editorial

Before It Reaches the Readers



The editorial team spends several months preparing before each issue of Rotary Thailand Magazine reaches your hands. More than 20 dedicated Rotarian volunteers and staff members of the Rotary Centre in Thailand work together with strong determination to search, collect, verify, and deliver informative and inspiring content that connects members and ensures they gain the greatest benefit from being Rotarians, ultimately strengthening our Rotary organization.

Rotary International conducted a global survey to gather opinions from Rotarians about the Rotary magazine, including over 30 regional editions worldwide—Rotary Thailand Magazine included. The evaluation results for the Thai edition were above average; however, the number of Thai respondents was relatively low. Therefore, we conducted an additional survey during the district conferences (DC) of all four districts in March, as well as through an online survey, totaling 818 samples. The results provided us with valuable insights for further improvements. Feedback included suggestions to add more Rotary-related knowledge and content, inspiring images and activities, and enhanced online formats. All of these will help make each issue more engaging and valuable for readers. We sincerely thank everyone for their input, suggestions, and critiques.

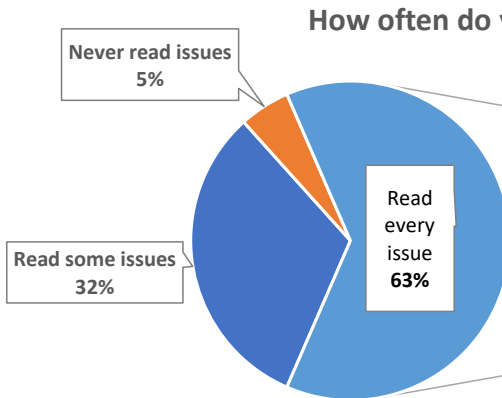
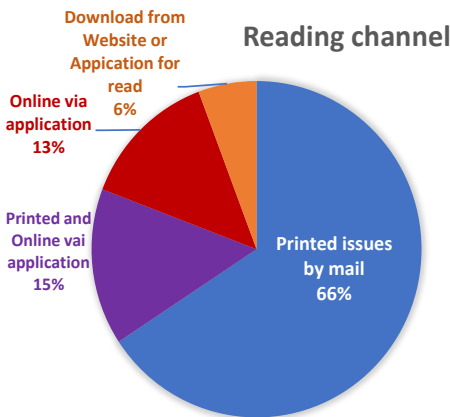
Reader engagement is something the editorial team always values. We are delighted to receive letters or messages from readers, whether to ask questions or share opinions about Rotary or any other topics of interest. If the content is compelling, we may feature it in the magazine and offer a token of appreciation in return. Of course, Rotary Thailand Magazine also welcomes article and photo submissions from all readers.

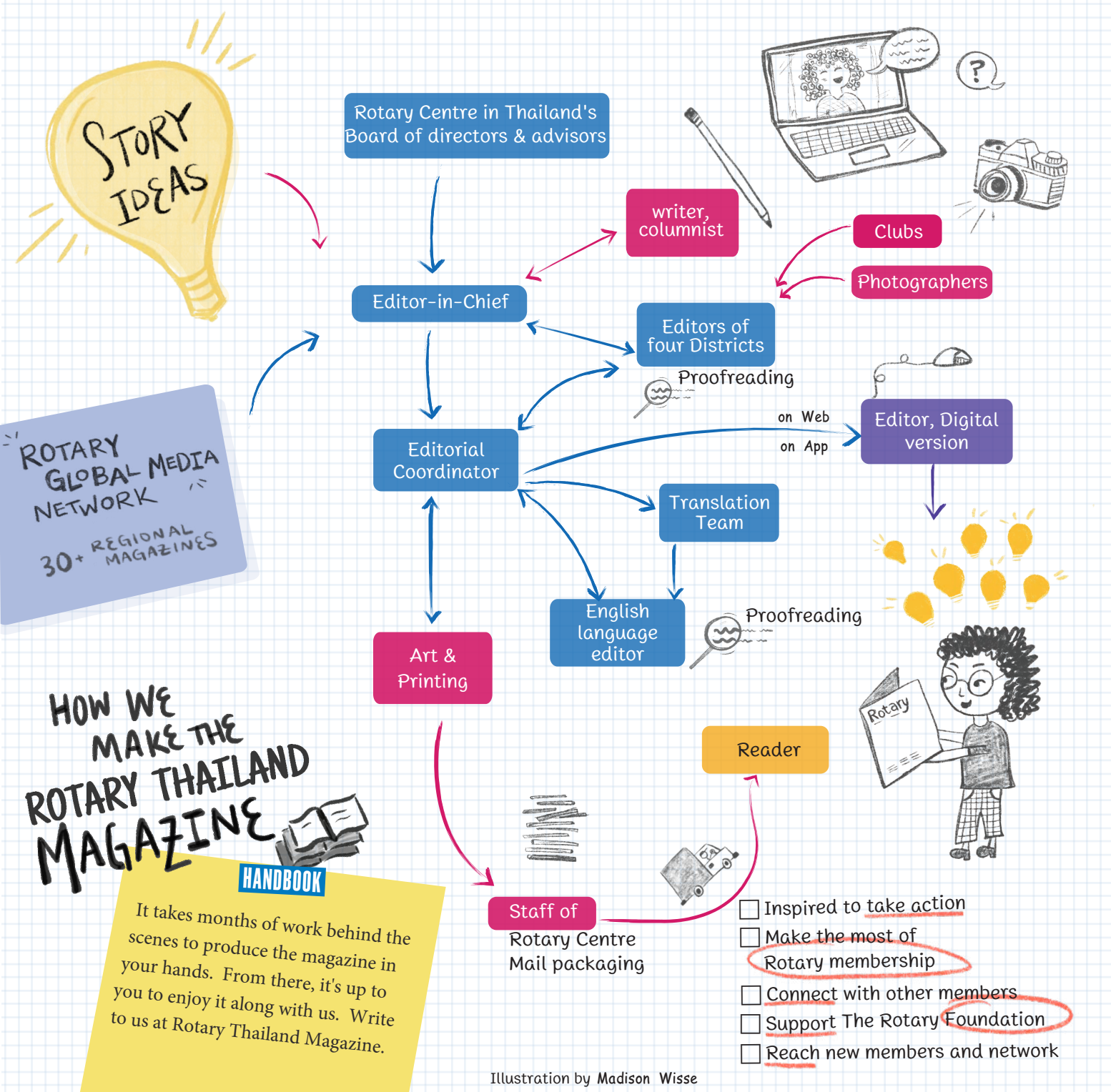
This issue features several noteworthy stories, including: The swift response of Rotarians in aiding earthquake victims in Myanmar after a devastating quake in late March; Major policy changes resulting from the April Council on Legislation; The 50th anniversary of Thailand’s participation in the Rotary Youth Exchange Program; And the winners of the 2025 Rotary Photo Contest.

Now that this magazine is in your hands, the rest is up to you.

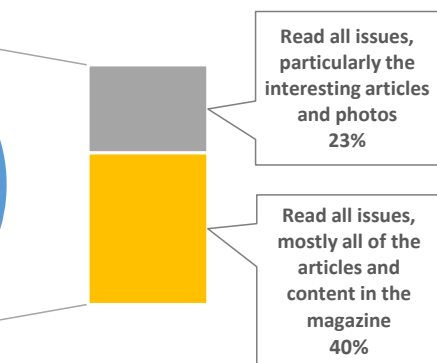
Anurak Napawan
Editor-in-Chief, Rotary Thailand Magazine

Rotary Thailand Magazine Readers Survey 2025

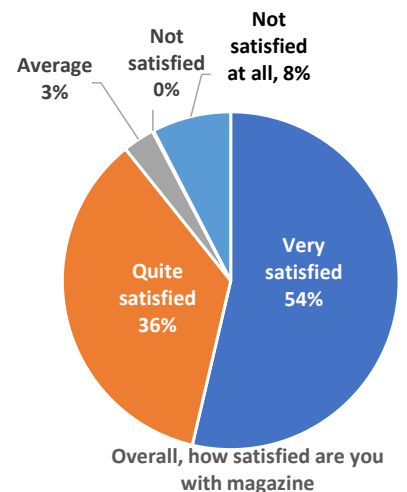
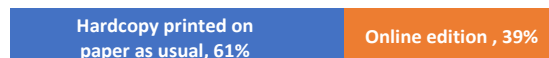




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than Words: Mark Maloney and
his mission to carry forward the
power of The Rotary Foundation

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Cover: "Ship shape" On 24 July 2024, Typhoon Gaemi hit Taiwan with winds exceeding 125 miles per hour. The storm drove this Cameroonian freighter aground on Dapeng Bay, on Taiwan's southwestern coast, where it sat for almost two months before resuming its journey. During that time it became a local tourist attraction, though on this murky evening, its sole visitor is a solitary child.

Keyman Hsieh, Rotary Club of Tainan Chenn-Ta, Taiwan

Read the story behind
the 2025 Rotary Photo
Contest and five other
photographs that
captured a moment
in time

Contents

Rotary clubs in Myanmar and Thailand responded promptly to the major earthquake that struck Mandalay at the end of March, offering support and assistance to those affected. The clubs continue to work closely with their partners on long-term recovery efforts.

18



Homes in Mandalay's slum areas that were destroyed by the earthquake and then ravaged by fire.

Photo by PDG Suchada Itthijarukul,
District 3350



2025 Photo awards

A moment in time

Sparks fly as Rotary members focus their cameras and freeze-frame the wonders of the world



Winner

Blaze of glory

In the little town of Rollag, a few miles southeast of Fargo, North Dakota, folks gather every Labor Day weekend for the Western Minnesota Steam Threshers Reunion. At the nocturnal “spark show,” sawdust and wood chips are fed into the firebox of an antique steam-powered tractor, and the fiery explosion that follows etches cascades of gold into the night sky.

Eric Strand Rotary Club of Fergus Falls Sunrise, Minnesota

It is one of photography’s most memorable images. In Paris, behind the Gare Saint-Lazare, a man leaps across a large puddle. He’ll never make it all the way across, but in that split second before splashdown, he hangs in midair, his scissored legs reflected in the water beneath him. The man who captured the image called that split second the “decisive moment.” Except that he didn’t.

In 1952, the French photographer Henri Cartier-Bresson published a collection of his work under the title *Images à la Sauvette*: images on the run. His U.S. publisher didn’t like that title; instead, it turned to the epigraph, from the 17th-century memoirist Cardinal de Retz, that preceded the book’s introductory essay: *Il n’y a rien en ce monde qui n’ait un moment décisif*. There is nothing in this world that does not have a decisive moment.

Cartier-Bresson didn’t care for the English title *The Decisive Moment*, especially after the phrase came to define him. Yet it did accurately reflect what he’d said elsewhere — “photography can fix eternity in a moment” — and it has become a touchstone for generations of photographers.

That might include the Rotarians featured this year in the magazine’s annual Photo Awards. A waterspout swirls above a red-roofed Adriatic town; a shower of sparks explodes over a Midwestern festival; a white-tusked warthog makes its own leap across a water-filled trench in Botswana. Each of them un moment décisif.

Cartier-Bresson also asked, “What is more fleeting than the expression on a human face?” For the answer, see this year’s winning People of Action photo: two Rotarians fixed in sublime rapport — life preserved in the act of living, as the French photographer so decisively described such moments.



Winner

People Of Action

Hands across the water

Twenty-five years ago, the Rotary Club of Dublin-Worthington, Ohio, established a partnership with the Rotary Club of Santiago de los Caballeros in the Dominican Republic. Together the clubs worked to help families and students from impoverished neighborhoods in Santiago. Last October, a delegation from the Ohio club traveled to Santiago. There, Dave Hansen (left) visited with 102-year-old Moris Tallaj, a past governor of District 4060 and longtime member of the Santiago club. The two men, who had helped initiate the partnership, held hands for most of the emotional 30-minute reunion.

John Butterfield Rotary Club of Dublin-Worthington, Ohio



A little child shall lead them

In Nepal's Gandaki province, a young student takes her turn affixing a screw into one of the panels adorning the peace pole donated to the Shree Barahi Primary School by the Rotary Club of Hall, Australia. Working with the Reach for Nepal Foundation, the Hall club helped rebuild several schools in central Nepal, constructing earthquake-resistant classrooms and installing water and sanitation upgrades.

Chris Edwards Rotary Club of Hall, Australia

Twist and spout

As blue skies battle with black clouds, a waterspout rises up in the channel of water that separates the island of Korčula and Croatia's Pelješac Peninsula. As water temperatures increase, the Adriatic Sea is rising and experiencing more frequent extreme weather events, including droughts and heavy rainfalls.

Elizabeth Cruft-Anderson

Rotary Club of Lake Oswego, Oregon



Pigasus

In Botswana's Okavango Delta, a warthog leaps over a water-filled trench. The delta's marshlands and flooded plains provide a haven for some of the world's most threatened species, including cheetahs, black rhinoceroses, lions, and African wild dogs. Though not currently endangered, warthog populations are diminishing due to habitat loss, droughts, and poaching.

David Burke *Rotary Club of Keller, Texas*



Cooking for a cause

Australian Rotarian Terri Taylor is using her chef skills for good



French-trained chef Terri Taylor, a member of the Rotary Club of Burleigh Heads in Queensland, Australia, was an early adopter of the no-waste movement.

“One of my first jobs as an apprentice chef was trimming strawberries,” says Taylor. “The chef wasn’t happy with me as I had thrown out the equivalent of one punnet (container) of strawberries for every four I had trimmed. It was money thrown in the bin.”

“Early lessons like this gave me a no-wastage mentality.”

Following a successful career as a chef, which included opening and running her own cooking school in the Gold Coast hinterland, Taylor moved to the Gold Coast’s glitter strip and discovered OzHarvest.

Founded by social entrepreneur Ronni Kahn in 2004 after she noticed the huge volume of food going to waste, OzHarvest quickly grew to become Australia’s leading food rescue organization. In 2019, Kahn was awarded the Officer of the Order for her high degree of distinguished service to Australia and humanity at large.

A dedicated team of nearly 300 staff and more than 3,000 volunteers share Kahn’s devotion to the cause: They are on a mission to stop food waste, feed people in need, and protect our planet by championing the value of food and driving change at all levels of society.



With its recognizable yellow food rescue vans, the company saves more than 250 metric tons of good food every week from more than 2,600 food donors and delivers it directly to more than 1,500 charities that feed people in need. The company’s values of generosity and inclusiveness instantly appealed to Taylor, who now runs the OzHarvest Cooking for a Cause program on the Gold Coast.

“OzHarvest was easy for me to identify with,” Taylor says. “There was perfectly good food going to waste; almost half of the fruit and vegetables grown end up in the landfill and one quarter of the world’s water is

↑
*Burleigh Heads
Rotarian chef
Terri Taylor
volunteers at
OzHarvest,
heading up
its Cooking
for a Cause
program on the
Gold Coast of
Australia.*

wasted on food that won't be eaten." And yet people are going hungry. OzHarvest provided a solution.

"When I closed the cooking school, I had plenty of spare time, so I volunteered straight away."

The Cooking for a Cause program is a unique hands-on team building activity open to corporate groups. Led by OzHarvest chefs like Taylor, teams get busy in the kitchen over a three-hour period, transforming rescued food into restaurant quality meals that are then delivered directly to local disadvantaged communities.

"You get to see the results of your efforts straight away. The food that is rescued and prepared is distributed, and clients are enjoying a nutritious meal straight away," says Taylor.

"The program is tax-deductible, fits in with companies' corporate responsibility requirements, and is fun and educational, with participants receiving some great cooking tips on how to save money and prepare delicious meals.

The revenue from this program keeps our vans on the road, picking up the produce and delivering it to charities."

A number of Rotary clubs and business owners from Rotary have taken part in Cooking for a Cause, including the Rotary Club of Gold Coast Passport. Members with yellow aprons and chef's knives delved into the world of zero-waste cooking last year, learning valuable skills while transforming rescued ingredients into gourmet meals.

"Rotarians have become regular volunteers, assisting with the van runs and community gardens," says Taylor. "Equipment has also been shared for catering events, and Rotary Youth Exchange students have enthusiastically helped cook meals for the charities." ■

Members of the Rotary Club of Gold Coast Passport take part in Taylor's Cooking for a Cause program and get a lesson in zero-waste cooking.

For more information, visit ozharvest.org/cooking-for-a-cause.



Tips to reduce household food waste

One in 5 grocery bags of food that Australians purchase is thrown out, which equates to AU\$1,500 to AU\$3,500 per household annually or \$36.6 billion countrywide (US\$23 billion). Taylor recommends addressing household food waste by adopting the motto of look, cook, plan, shop:

- Look at what's in your cupboard and fridge first.
 - Cook what you have.
 - Plan some meals.
 - Then, shop for only what you need.
- Food waste is generated at every stage of the supply chain, with a third in primary production, a third from manufacturing, and a third from households.
- Check that the fridge temperature is under 4 degrees Celsius (about 40 Fahrenheit) to prevent spoilage. Bring older produce to the front.
 - Purchase smaller quantities and make an effort to use everything.
 - Understand "use by" and "best before" dates. Under Australian guidelines, "use by" is from a spoilage point of view. The "best before" date relates to quality, and you can use the item after that day.
 - If you find yourself throwing out spoiled food that you bought fresh, use more long-lasting tinned, frozen, and dry pantry items.
 - Use the freezer for leftovers and bread.
 - Put a value on food — that lettuce may have cost only \$3, but use it, don't trash it.

SERVICE ABOVE SELF

THE OBJECT OF ROTARY

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

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

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

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

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

THE FOUR-WAY TEST

Of the things we think, say or do:

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

ROTARIAN CODE OF CONDUCT

As a Rotarian, I will:

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



Trustee's message

May 2025

Meet the moment

There are moments in our journey to end polio when doubt and uncertainty may take hold, yet we must remain steadfast and, above all, hopeful as we keep our eyes on the goal. As Winston Churchill once said in a moment of crisis: "We cannot afford — we have no right — to look back. We must look forward."

In Rotary, we always rise to meet the moment. No challenge is too great. In 1988, when we partnered with the World Health Organization to form the Global Polio Eradication Initiative, an estimated 350,000 polio cases occurred annually across 125 countries. Since then, the GPEI — which also includes UNICEF, the U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, the Gates Foundation, and GAVI, the Vaccine Alliance — has worked tirelessly with governments worldwide. Together, we have reduced wild poliovirus cases by 99.9 percent.

The journey has not been without challenges. Today in Afghanistan, vaccinators are prohibited from conducting house-to-house immunization campaigns, while in Pakistan, conflict, terrorism, and migration hinder access to children in certain regions.

Earlier this year, the United States announced its intention to withdraw from the WHO, froze USAID funding, and restricted interactions with the CDC. These developments present obstacles for our polio eradication efforts and other Rotary global partnerships and programs.

Yet we rise to meet the moment, just as we have done before. We did so in India when we faced spikes in cases before the country



was declared free of wild poliovirus in 2014. In Nigeria, we also encountered obstacles, but in 2020, WHO certified the country — and by extension, all 47 countries in the WHO Africa region — wild polio-free.

We are meeting the moment once again in 2025. Know that Rotary is working behind the scenes, collaborating with governments, international agencies, and partners to address challenges, manage disruptions, and explore alternative funding. As a nonpolitical organization, we remain focused on

operational solutions while serving communities and protecting public health.

My wife, Gay, and I have witnessed firsthand the urgent need of the moment in India, Nigeria, and Pakistan, where we administered vaccines to children. Looking into their eyes, I saw the future we are fighting for — and the responsibility we carry to finish the job.

The winds of change may shift, but with your help, Rotary's commitment to eradicating polio will stand strong until our mission is complete.

June 2025

What you make possible

This past year, my wife, Gay, and I have been privileged to witness the impact of The Rotary Foundation. From dialysis centers in India to environmental projects in Taiwan and educational initiatives worldwide, we have had a front-row seat to the life-changing results of your generosity. To see the work of our Foundation firsthand gives one a deeper understanding of Rotary's power to transform lives by spreading peace, hope, and health.

In Bangkok, we saw a specialized life support machine for critically ill patients with lung and heart problems at a public hospital — only the second machine of its kind available to the city's 11 million residents outside of private care. Funded through a global grant, this technology is saving lives because Rotary members saw a need and responded.

Everything Rotary accomplishes through the Foundation — Rotary Peace Centers, Programs of Scale, global and district grants — relies on a strong and growing endowment. This is The Magic of Rotary that you make possible through your generosity.

That is the reason I am so passionate about our goal to build the net assets and commitments of The Rotary Foundation Endowment to \$2.025 billion by 30 June 2025. The Trustees set this goal in 2016, after exceeding earlier targets and recognizing the growing interest in endowed giving. Thanks to your extraordinary support — including gifts from the estates of members — the net assets and commitments of the Endowment have grown substantially and are within reach of our goal.

To contribute to the Endowment, talk with your endowment/major gifts adviser or your major gifts officer, or visit rotary.org/donate. Your generosity can help us reach our goal, which we will celebrate at the Rotary International Convention in Calgary this month.

The fruits of these gifts may not be seen for several years. We are planting trees — trees that will grow to fund Rotary Peace Fellows and scholarships, put an end to polio, support high-impact Programs of Scale and global grants, and allow our Annual Fund to spread more hope.

During my 40-year journey in Rotary leadership, The Rotary Foundation has always been at the core. From leading a Group Study Exchange team in 1986 to serving as district Foundation chair, trustee, RI president, and now as trustee chair, it has been the honor of a lifetime.

I am fortunate to have experienced and been inspired by the magic that you have created through your dedication, service, and action. Let us together continue planting trees that will provide fruit for generations.

MARK DANIEL MALONEY
Foundation trustee chair



Interview with the Rotary Foundation trustee chair

PP Supan Wiboonma
Rotary Club of Phra Nakhon

When “Giveing’ id more than words: Mark Maloney and His mission to sustain Rotary Foundation’s impact

Amidst the relentless stream of global economic and political turmoil, many might ask, “How can we create meaningful change?” This question has brought Mark Maloney, Past Rotary International President and the Rotary Foundation’s Chair of Trustees, to Thailand to share his perspectives and inspiration on sustainable giving.

How to “Give” in an Uncertain World?

“Even with the current situation, financial support for The Rotary Foundation is strong,” Maloney begins with a smile. “Nevertheless, we must remain vigilant, especially for critical initiatives like polio eradication, which still requires continuous support.”

He emphasizes that “giving” today is not just about donating money but investing in the future. “We need to demonstrate to donors how every dollar they contribute creates meaningful change.” He believes transparency and credibility are the cornerstones of fundraising in this era.

Maloney places significant importance on building financial sustainability through the Endowment Fund, encouraging districts to organize events that promote consistent giving. “This year there are probably many more, but The Rotary Foundation staff is aware of 56 such events occurring this year, 52 of them are in North America. That far exceeds the number of such events that have occurred in any prior year.”

He envisions a long-term approach: “It’s got to be a long-term prospect to establish those major events, those million-dollar dinners, those legacy events to support our endowment.” The goal is ambitious but clear – reaching an endowment of US\$2.25 billion by 2025.



How to “Give” When Disasters Strike?

“Rotary is not a disaster relief organization. However, Rotary members want to provide immediate assistance to those affected by disasters,” Maloney explains Rotary’s role in responding to natural disasters. “We have a Disaster Response Fund within the Rotary Foundation that is funded solely by contributions from Rotarians.”

This fund provides immediate responses not exceeding US\$25,000 to assist in ways appropriate for Rotarians in the affected area. For larger catastrophes, “We’ve also established recently a disasters-of-magnitude program where if there’s a disaster that is of such magnitude that it’s known throughout the world and affects at least a million people.”

More importantly, creating long-term sustainability is key. “We need to work with communities so they can recover and prepare for disasters themselves,” Maloney states. “For sustainability, the grant programs that The Rotary Foundation already has, specifically the Global Grant Program, addresses exactly that sort of recovery. It’s a long-term recovery effort.”

“Giving” to Build Sustainable Peace

“In these troubling times, Rotary is in a great position as a peacebuilding organization,” Maloney believes that true peace begins with understanding and cooperation at the individual level.

“We are not going to sit down at the negotiating table in Geneva, Switzerland and work out differences between Russia and Ukraine or any two other warring parties, but what we do is we are a grassroots organization.” He emphasizes the role of Rotary Peace Centers in creating leaders and promoting peaceful conflict resolution.

“Through our peace building and conflict resolution area of focus, and through our Rotary Peace Centers, we make a difference locally to prevent conflict. We will never know how many conflicts we’ve prevented because you don’t know that a conflict will happen if it never happens.”

He proudly mentioned the presidential peace conference convened by Rotary International President Stephanie Urchick in Istanbul just a few weeks prior to his visit to Thailand.

Inspiration from “Giving” in Thailand

“I am most grateful for the financial support of Rotarians around the world, particularly here in Thailand,” Maloney says. “The wonderful Global Grant projects being undertaken — we saw one today, the dialysis unit, and we’ll see another one tomorrow — we are most grateful for the work that Rotarians and Rotaractors are doing.”

He believes Thailand exemplifies the model of “giving” that creates tangible positive change.

Conclusion: “Giving” from the Heart Creates a Sustainable World

Mark Maloney’s visit to Thailand confirms that the “power of giving” remains at the heart of Rotary. In a world full of challenges, we continue to believe that “giving” from the heart will create a more sustainable and livable world for everyone.

Foundation Night

Past Rotary International President Mark Maloney, who currently serves as Chair of the Trustees of The Rotary Foundation, and his wife, Gay Maloney, visited Thailand and graciously participated in The Rotary Foundation Night held on 10 March 2025, at the Inter Continental Hotel, Bangkok. The event was chairman by PDG Nakarin Rattanakitsunthorn, District 3350 Foundation Chair. More than 300 Rotarians from four Rotary districts attended the evening.

Mr. Maloney delivered an inspiring keynote address, honoring donors who have generously contributed to The Rotary Foundation in support of humanitarian efforts worldwide. The event also featured presentations highlighting successful service projects from all four districts. It was truly a memorable and magical evening celebrating the spirit of giving and the meaningful contributions of Rotarians.





Disaster in Mandalay

Rotarians sprang into action to help victims immediately after the deadliest earthquake in a century.

This mission is part of Rotary's "3R" service initiative:

- **Rescue** – Provide immediate support and aid for disaster-affected victims
- **Recovery** – Restore normalcy to living conditions and mental well-being
- **Rebuild** – Reconstruct infrastructure, communities, and sustainable economies

Rotarians responded instantly

On 28 March 2025, while members of Rotary District 3350 were attending the district conference in Pattaya City, Thailand, a massive 7.7 magnitude earthquake struck with its epicenter near Mandalay, Myanmar. Thousands were reported dead or missing, and tens of thousands were left homeless. Members of the Rotary Club of Shwe Bangkok (RCSB), led by President Alex Kaung who was present at the conference, met immediately and resolved to devote all their efforts to disaster relief. That very night, they began raising funds by collecting donations. Within a few days, THB 1 million worth of cash and supplies were raised.

RCSB collaborated closely with other Rotary clubs in Thailand and Myanmar to organize, package, and deliver relief kits and donated goods to the affected areas. They collaborated with local Rotary clubs and volunteers to set up temporary hospitals, where medical teams worked tirelessly to treat the injured.

Funding was also directed toward areas with limited access to clean water and electricity, providing essential medicines including fever reducers, antibiotics, children's medication, tetanus vaccines,



and antivenom. These supplies were flown from Bangkok to Yangon free of charge by Myanmar National Airlines, which transported over 1,000 kg of relief materials and pledged continued logistical support.

Thailand's Thousand Stars Foundation donated

THB 200,000 to supply food and clean water to affected regions. Funds were quickly utilized to provide urgent relief in areas such as Mandalay, Sagaing, Inle, Amarapura, and Tada-U.





Local Rotary clubs working hard on the ground

Rotary clubs in Myanmar and particularly in Mandalay – such as RC Mandalay and RC Yadanabon Mandalay – joined forces with partner organizations, volunteers, and international donors to provide food, drinking water, tents, medicine, and sanitary products. Three water filtration systems were deployed for the victims. Even local Rotarians who were affected received support.

Surveys showed an ardent desire among children to return to school. The next mission was to support their return through an initiative providing 5,000 Rotary schoolbags, books, stationery, and lunch boxes.

Rotarians continued to work relentlessly, seeking additional support from international organizations to ensure a continuous flow of aid.



The clubs began coordinating long-term assistance plans focused on constructing proper water filtration systems and hygienic toilets for affected communities. Committed to ongoing recovery efforts, field teams were deployed to ensure that no one was left behind. Rotary has made a significant difference in the lives of those impacted and continues to collaborate with partners to restore communities and build a better future for the people of Myanmar.



District leadership visits Mandalay

District Governor Patsri Suwimol of District 3350 led a delegation, including Myanmar Rotarians, to the disaster-stricken areas in Mandalay to assess the situation and visit shelters and damaged sites.



"When we saw the collapsed buildings, homeless families, and the lack of food and water, we were deeply moved and realized the urgency of our mission. The slums were flattened, and fires following the quake made things worse. The

poorest had nowhere to go except temples and schoolyards, which were also damaged. Local Rotarians have worked tirelessly to provide bamboo and tarpaulin shelters, toilets, solar power, water systems, medicine, food, and more," said DG Patsri.

The team distributed 1,000 relief bags, meals, drinking water, and clothing, and the distribution took place in an orderly and heartwarming atmosphere.

Recovery and Rebuilding

Following the field visit, the District 3350 Disaster Relief Fund Committee convened and approved three urgent projects submitted by Rotary clubs in Myanmar:

1. Healthcare Center Project in Aing Daung Gyi Village, Inle Lake

Proposed by RC Metro Yangon – valued at USD 24,998

2. Hope Restoration Project in Kyee Myin Dine Village, Amarapura, Mandalay

Proposed by RC Yangon and RC Yadanabon Mandalay – valued at THB 1,888,500

3. Emergency Education Support for 10,000 Affected Students in Mandalay

Proposed by RC Mandalay – initial support for 1,000 schoolbags and supplies valued at THB 420,000

The committee will consider further support as more information becomes available. The District 3350 Disaster

Relief Fund has so far received THB 6 million in donations.

Furthermore, a Memorandum of Understanding has been signed between District 3350 and the Disaster Network of Assistance - Rotary Action Group for future collaboration.

In Crisis... We Find Opportunity

The earthquake crisis in Myanmar, despite its devastating impact, has revealed the admirable kindness and cooperation of Myanmar Rotarians. For Rotary, this crisis is an opportunity to showcase the power of giving and build a positive image that will attract more people to join Rotary.

After the earthquake, three new clubs have been successfully established in Myanmar and two more are in the pipeline...

Rotarians in Myanmar are already making a remarkable change.

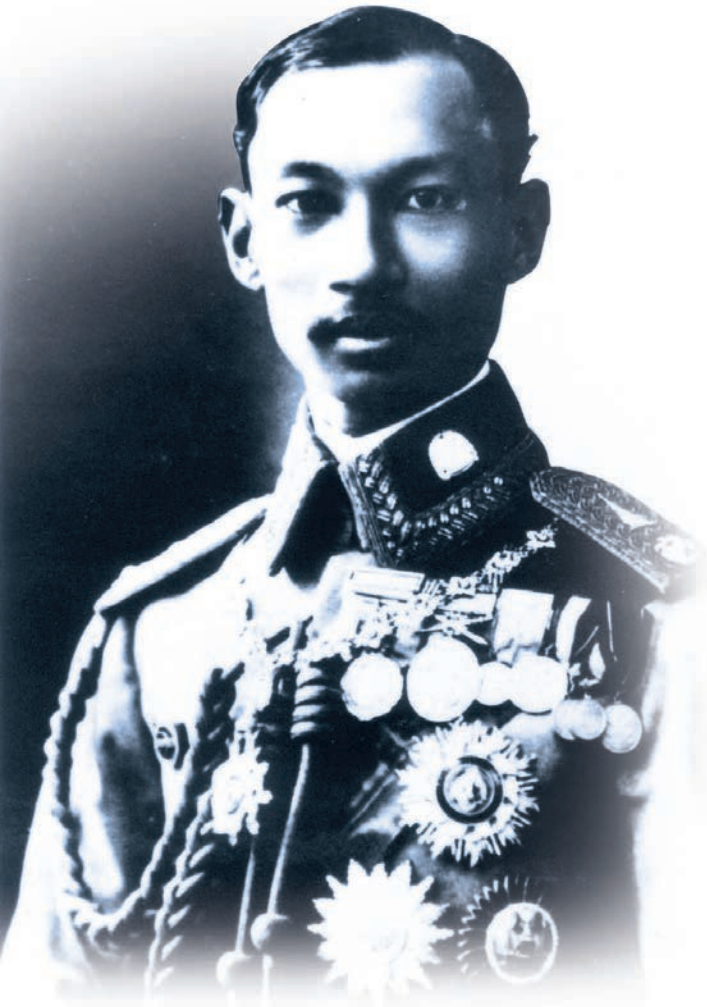
Donors and Contributors

- Rotary Club of Shwe Bangkok
- Rotary clubs in Myanmar: RC Yangon, RC Metro Yangon, RC Greater Yangon, RC Central Yangon, RC Mandalay, RC Yadanabon Mandalay, RAC Greater Yangon
- Rotary District 3350 Disaster Relief Fund and District 3350 Rotarians
- Donors from Districts 3330, 3340, and 3360 (Thailand)
- Donors from Districts 3300, 3310, 3420, 3450, 3482 (Southeast Asia)
- RC Hsintien in District 3481 (Taiwan)
- Rotarians and Youth Exchange students from District 2700 (Japan)
- Disaster Network of Assistance Rotary Action Group
- Thousand Stars Foundation
- Bangkok Community Foundation
- Huaqiao Foundation
- BNMC (local network group in Myanmar)
- Ko Thurein (Trust Link team)
- Mr. Aung Myo Win (Inle), Ms. Shwe Su (Founder of Shin Mon Foundation)
- Volunteers in Myanmar and friends in Mandalay, Sagaing, Amarapura, and Tada-U
- Dr. Giovanni Botti and his daughter, an Italian plastic surgeon in Thailand
- Rotary clubs, partner organizations, and friends from around the world

This article was compiled by Anurak Napawan

The Father of Rotary in Thailand

Rotary Knowledge



A young lawyer named Paul P. Harris, who wanted to foster friendships among business associates, joined forces with three other male friends - a mining engineer, a coal merchant, and a gentleman tailor - eventually resulted in the first international service and friendship organization called "Rotary Club" in Chicago, USA on 23 February 1905. It is an organization that works to help the destitute, the disabled, and the underprivileged. The motto of the organization is "Service Above Self," which means "giving without expecting anything in return." It is not easy to say it out loud, though. Rotarians are actually pleased and glad to see the "smiles" of the destitute, the disabled, and the underprivileged,

In the Golden Peninsula, Rotary's roots marked the beginning in Kuala Lumpur, the capital of the Federation of Malaya (now Malaysia). In 1928, Rotarian James W. Davidson of the Rotary Club of Calgary, Alberta, Canada, was appointed as Rotary International's special representative plenipotentiary to establish Rotary clubs in the Eastern Region. The establishment of seven Rotary clubs were successfully implemented in the Federation of Malaya in just two years.

Rotary and its mark of the beginning in Thailand in 1930. Rotarian James W. Davidson traveled to Thailand and repeatedly requested an audience with royalty for three times with His Royal Highness Prince Purachatra, Minister of Commerce and Transport. His Royal Highness Prince Purachatra, approval of Rotary's philosophy led to the founding of Thailand's first club, the "Rotary

Club of Bangkok," on 17 September 1930. It has been 95 years now and he was elected as "the first president of the club". All club meetings are held in English since the club had 69 founding members of 15 different nations (a world record of Rotary). Phraya Manopakorn Nitithada, the first Prime Minister of Thailand, was one of the founding members.

Rotary International granted the Bangkok Rotary Club its charter on 28 November 1930. King Prajadhipok or King Rama VII, kindly attended the charter celebration on 23 December 1930, at Phaya Thai Palace (now Phramongkutklao Hospital), as requested. The club's founders were extremely appreciative of his kindness. In later years, His Royal Highness Prince Purachatra, served as the club's "charter president," earning him the title of "The Father of Rotary in Thailand."

On 1 July 1935, His Royal Highness Prince Parachas're, was elected as the first "District Governor of Rotary International District 80" and served for two consecutive terms, 1935-36 and 1936-37.

Rotary, which is the pride of Rotarians, suffered a profound loss on 14 September 1936, the day the father of Rotary in Thailand passed away.

In 1955, Rotarians in Thailand were in deepest remembrance of His Majesty's boundless grace and kindness. On the occasion of the 25th anniversary of the founding of the Rotary Club of Bangkok, His Majesty King Bhumibol Adulyadej The Great graciously accepted to be the patron of Rotary in Thailand.

This year marks Rotary's 95th anniversary in Thailand. Throughout the period, Rotarians across the country have joined forces to serve the public in a variety of ways. The purpose remains the same — serving by service-minded hearts and giving without anticipating anything in return to create a sustainable society.



PDG Yongvudhi Jongkittipong
District 3350

Reference: Special Rotary issue to commemorate Rotary's 70th anniversary in Thailand

Rotary Council on Legislation 2025

By COL Representatives from 4 districts:
District 3330 PDG Chalermchat Chun-In
District 3340 PDG Thirayud Watanathirawoot
District 3350 PDG Nakarin Ratanakitsunthorn
District 3360 PDG Suparie Chatkunyarat

Rotary International operates constitution and bylaws, which over 1.2 M Rotarians worldwide uphold and follow. Every three years, representatives from all Rotary districts gather at the Council on Legislation (COL) to review and vote on proposed legislation that governs Rotary. In 2025, Rotary International has 515 districts, with 492 representatives attended COL to participate in voting and all four representatives from Thailand did as well.



The Rotary Council on Legislation or COL was first established in 1934, and held annually until 1954, when it became a biennial event. By 1974, the meetings transitioned into three years' term and proceeded till nowadays. For decades, when COL convened in various cities globally, such as Montecarlo, Monaco up to Caracas, Venezuela. However, it was discontinued in 2001 when representatives voted to hold Rotary Legislation in Chicago where Rotary International's headquarters is nearby.



Valuable Moments of COL

Rotary International has introduced numerous improvements, changes and created innovations for the world through the Council on Legislation, i.e. in 1950 "Service Above Self" became the Rotary's official motto. In 1980, COL approved the resolution, supported by the board, to the Polio Eradication Strategy. Six years later, PolioPlus became the official program and supported global Polio vaccinations for children worldwide.

Over decades of efforts, until 1989 the COL finally voted to admit women into Rotary clubs. In 2019, COL's decision to elevate Rotaract as another RI membership which is equivalent to Rotary Club. As a result, Rotaract is no longer just a program participant, but becomes a type of Rotary member as well. From the examples mentioned above, there are many other important resolutions that continuously shaped the future of Rotary, which we have gradually been aware of and practiced it.

The Council on Legislation 2025

The assembly session of Rotary Council on Legislation covering 2023-26 took place in Chicago, USA during 13-17 April 2025, at Hyatt Regency Chicago Hotel. Each district nominates its COL representatives through club meeting to certify the principal and alternate representatives performing their duties as a COL representative. During the first two years, the representatives must study the details of the Rotary Council on Legislation and participate in submitting resolutions and voting online on proposed resolutions and urgent legislation (Council on Resolutions - COR). These resolutions are requests for the Rotary International Board or The Rotary Foundation Trustees to operate beyond the scope of the Rotary International Constitution. They would have an impact on the Rotary world rather than solve local issues. An example of this would be an urgent administrative or legislative proposal put forward by the Rotary International Board, when the Board concludes that it cannot afford to wait for a vote until the next triennial Council



on Legislation. For the 2025 COL, the 122 initial resolutions were proposed. Subsequently, the Rotary Council on Legislation will consider and vote on 86 resolutions for the Rotary Council on Legislation representative to vote on.

The four Thai representatives have been in constant communication, exchanging information with each other. Rotary International mandates that COL representatives complete online learning through My Rotary under the “Rotary Council

on Legislation” section and pass self- assessment. Following this, they must attend the training session at the Rotary Zone Institute in Taipei, Taiwan, during 28-30 November 2024. If a representative is unable to attend the obligatory training, he will be responsible for his own travel expenses of traveling to Chicago meeting. However, it is necessary for all representatives to be thoroughly prepared, including understanding the resolutions to be considered and making travel arrangements, which will be planned and managed by Rotary International’s staff.

All four Thai representatives together departed on 12 April 2025. All

representatives from all countries attended the first-day meeting on Sunday, 13 April at 3.00 PM, and continued meeting daily from 9.00 AM to 5.00 PM until the final day, Thursday, 17 April at 12.30 PM. Each day, representatives gradually considered resolutions until 86 were addressed.



Consideration of Resolutions by the Rotary Council on Legislation

The council chair will invite the resolutions proposer to present the details and rationale of their proposal for consideration and approval by the Representatives. They are allotted 3 minutes for the presentation (a large clock on stage displays the time remaining) and an additional 2 minutes for a concluding summary before the vote. The meeting provides headsets for translation into eight languages: English, French, Portuguese, Spanish, Japanese, Korean, Mandarin, and Italian. Following the presentation, proponents holding green signs

and opponents holding red signs will queue at the four microphones positioned between the rows. The council chair will select speakers in order. Occasionally, Representatives holding yellow signs, referred to as "Motion" signs, may also join the queue. These individuals can express other opinions or propose changes to the resolution. The council chair will decide whether to allow such interventions, and if permitted, the representatives will vote on whether to approve the motion first.

Each Representative can speak for no more than 2 minutes. After a period of discussion, Representatives in their seats may

raise blue and yellow striped signs to propose closing the debate and moving to a vote on the resolution. For voting, each representative will have an electronic device to cast a "Yes" or "No" vote. The chair will then ask if the assembly collectively agrees to close the debate, and if representatives raise their blue and yellow striped signs, the chair will declare the debate closed. The chair will then announce the



commencement of voting via electronic devices and, once voting is complete, they will announce the results and display them on the screen at the front of the stage. This process of proposing, discussing, and voting on resolutions continues daily until all 86 resolutions have been considered.

Results of the Rotary Council on Legislation 2025 Vote

The consideration of resolutions at the 2025 Rotary Council on Legislation has concluded. The official results of the voting are pending announcement from Rotary International. We believe many resolutions will undoubtedly impact the present and future of Rotary. However, we are confident in our shared ideals and our acceptance of the changes that will occur. Several matters will directly affect all members, such as:

- The passing of the resolution to increase member dues.
- The passing of the resolution to reduce the minimum number of charter members for a club from 20 to 15.
- The passing of the resolution to approve and support the piloting of new governance models (Regionalization Pilot and other governance models besides the Governor-led system) 26 in districts beyond Zone 8 (Australia and New Zealand) and Rotary GE&I, which were approved by the Council on Legislation three years ago.
- Districts may or may not hold a District Conference (DC), at the discretion of the district governor and with majority support from club presidents. If a DC is held, a Rotary International president's representative can still be requested.

- The passing of the resolution to change the names of PETS (Presidents-elect Training Seminar) to PELS (Presidents-elect Learning Seminar) and DTA (District Training Assembly) to CLLS (Club Leadership Learning Seminar).

These are initial examples of the passed resolutions. The full details of all voting results are awaiting the official announcement from Rotary International. You can track this information directly on My Rotary and through presentations from each district's representatives in their upcoming district meetings. Upon their return, the four representatives will continue their work for another year (2025-26), as they will still need to vote on COR and may need to consider other matters within their purview until their term concludes in 2026.

As the four representatives to the Rotary Council on Legislation, we extend our gratitude to our districts and the club representatives who approved our service as COL 2025 Representatives. We have gained extensive knowledge and fostered wonderful friendships, both among the Thai representatives and with representatives from around the world. We are confident that our actions will benefit members in Thailand and worldwide.



Rotary Youth Exchange Program 50 Years of Service in Thailand

PP Dr. Pornchai Samuang
Chair, Youth Exchange Program, District 3350

At present, every year Rotary clubs around the world organize high-school-level youth exchanges for thousands of students, with the primary objective of fostering mutual understanding through cultural exchange. There are two types:

Long-term exchanges, lasting one academic year in the host country, during which students live with more than one host family (usually three families) and attend school.

Short-term exchanges, ranging from about 10 days to several weeks (4–6 weeks) during school holidays, without formal schooling. These short-term programs focus on friendship-building and living with a host family in the host country, although some are structured as international youth camps where students from multiple countries come together.

Program Objectives

The Rotary Youth Exchange Program aims to give young people opportunities to learn about cultural differences in order to promote mutual understanding, ultimately contributing to world peace. This program is unique in several



ways. For instance, there must be a sponsoring Rotary club and three volunteer host families to care for the student, providing a chance to experience different family lifestyles. The sponsoring Rotary club ensures close supervision of the exchange student, working with host parents to maintain the program's objectives. It also promotes a spirit of community service among youth through their involvement in various club and district activities. All of this is carried out by Rotary's global volunteer network, without financial compensation, under Rotary International regulations that prioritize student safety.

Beyond fostering understanding, this program develops life skills, leadership, language proficiency, and communication skills among participants, shaping them into quality global citizens. In Thailand, the program has now been running for over 50 years.

Participation in the Program

Each year, the Youth Exchange Program Committee of each district announces applications through their respective communication channels, typically from mid-year to October. Candidates then undergo testing to assess both their communication skills and emotional readiness. After passing the tests, each district organizes training and seminars to prepare students, their families, and sponsoring clubs so they are ready to send and receive exchange students between July and August of the following year. Inquiries about testing fees and participation costs can be made through your nearest Rotary club or the district committee.



“Learn and Exchange”: The Success of District 3360’s Youth Exchange Program

PP Dr. John Schorr

Chair, Youth Exchange Program, District 3360

This year, District 3360 welcomed seven inbound youth exchange students from four countries: France, Germany, Taiwan, and the United States. At first, they all admitted that Thailand was not their first choice for exchange. Some even confessed they barely knew where Thailand was, only that it was somewhere in Asia. Therefore, an orientation was held to help them adjust to an unfamiliar country. As of this April, around nine months have passed, and everyone has enjoyed themselves immensely. Some students are even waiting for their parents to come and visit Thailand, and they have prepared sightseeing programs for them, similar to the trips the district organized for the students. All of them love Thai food, despite some dishes being a bit spicy, and they have learned many things at school that they plan to share with their sponsoring clubs. This alone is already a success, fulfilling the program’s goal of learning and exchange.

This year, there were also seven outbound students. Before their departure, they participated in various program activities, including orientation, travel training, and attending sponsoring club meetings to familiarize themselves with Rotary procedures. I once asked a returning exchange student why they had wanted to go abroad, and the student replied, “I saw my seniors succeed, returning with strong language skills and memorable international experiences, and that inspired me to become a Youth Exchange student too.” That answer alone sums up how Rotary truly provides young people with opportunities and valuable experiences.

District 3360 began operating its Youth Exchange Program in 2001 with eight outbound students. As of today, 616 outbound students from 63 clubs have participated, and the district has hosted 513 inbound students from over 15 countries.



Tremendous Benefits for Global Peace

PDG Siri Eiamchamroonlarp
Chair, Youth Exchange Program, District 3340

It is truly remarkable that sending youth abroad can foster genuine friendships across nationalities, cultures, and religions. District 3340 has run this program for over 40 years. Students who return show clear personal growth and development in many areas, becoming quality members of their families and society. Students and their host families in both countries often form strong bonds, visiting each other later as if they were a second family. Rotary clubs and districts maintain strong relationships, and communities involved become more caring, understanding, and less prone to conflict.

Therefore, the program brings tremendous benefits to humanity and aligns perfectly with its most important goal — peace.

For the 2024–25 Rotary year, District 3340 held its selection exam in November 2024 and organized a preparation camp in February 2025. Eleven students were selected from eight clubs to participate in exchanges with five countries: the United States, France, Belgium, Germany, and Japan.

Currently, District 3340 has 21 outbound students in eight countries — the United States, Mexico, Spain, France, Germany, Taiwan, Japan, and Belgium — and is hosting 20 inbound students from nine countries — the United States, Mexico, Spain, France, Germany, Taiwan, Japan, Belgium, and Canada.



Changing the World Through Youth – District 3330's Youth Exchange Program

PDG Dr. Chatchawal Telavanich
Chair, Youth Exchange Program, District 3330

As chair of the program, I believe wholeheartedly that youth are a powerful force for building peace and international understanding. This program does not merely provide opportunities to learn about culture, language, and life abroad, but also nurtures open-minded thinking, appreciation of diversity, and skills for peaceful coexistence.

Participating youth gain invaluable life experiences that cannot be found in a classroom. They practice leadership, adaptability,



and problem-solving. At the same time, host families gain new perspectives, build bonds with foreign cultures, and take part in shaping the future leaders of our world.

The Youth Exchange Program thus serves as a bridge of friendship, transforming individuals and creating sustainable global change.

This program has thrived thanks to the support of Rotarians, host families, and organizations that recognize the power of youth. I would like to thank everyone who has helped make this program a success, and I encourage all Rotarians to continue supporting this invaluable opportunity for our youth — because they are the future of our world.



Introducing the newest Rotary Club in District 3330

Rotary Club of Mueang Khondee Srivichai is the newest club chartered in District 3330, No. 105, Area 13, Surat Thani Province during the year of DG Jakchai Visutthakul. The charter president is Manita Sutanirat. There are 30 charter members. The New Club Advisor is PP Banharn Wongcharoen, and the sponsor club is Rotary Club of Suratthani.

CP Manita used to be a member of the Rotary Club of Sritapee, so she had some knowledge about Rotary. She is a businesswoman in Surat Thani province. She always does good deeds for the community. The inspiration for chartering a new club was that she wanted to do something in line with her ideals, such as helping underprivileged people to have sustainable and progressive careers. She also wanted to publicize Rotary to the community, because most people and government officials do not know Rotary. They only know the Lions clubs.

All charter members are new members. 98% are young people who do not know much about Rotary. Therefore, providing knowledge is important so that members understand what Rotary is all about. Most of them are young people aged between 40-50 years old, the youngest is 30 years old. The club organized charter celebration and club officers installation ceremony, having the governor of the province, Mr. Thiratham Suphawibulphol, as guest of honor. DG Jakchai presented the Charter certificate and Medal to CP Manita. At the same time, CP Manita donated THB 350,000 to The Rotary Foundation through the district on April 8, 2025 at the Wang Tai Hotel, Surat Thani province.



Congratulations to **Nakornpathom Rotary Club** led by President Thitipong Wattanaanankul which was presented with two trophies. 1) HRH Prince Purachatra Trophy, awarded to the Rotary club with the highest average monthly club meeting attendance score throughout the Rotary year. 2) Honorable Trophy of PRIP Bhichai Rattakul, awarded to the Rotary club in District 3330 with the highest net member increase. All honors stem from the club's camaraderie and cohesion.



District Governor Jakchai Visutthakul and Rotary Ann Pornchit Yimpagorn participated in the Songkran Festival of 10 Rotary clubs in Samut Prakan province to carry on the Thai custom. The event was organized by the **Rotary Club of Erawan** at Ruen Petch Suki and Restaurant 2, Srinagarindra Road, Samut Prakan province on 5 April 2025.



"Three clubs, one heart" Led by P Purita Pewngam, the **Rotary Club of Ladluang** and its members participated in the water pouring ritual and Songkran celebration alongside three other Rotary clubs in Area 21: the **Rotary Club of Phrapradaeng** and the **Rotary Club of Phrasamutjadee**. This activity will not only preserve Thai culture, but also fill the air with songs, laughter, and camaraderie from all three groups since bonding is what propels us ahead as a team.



Phrasamutjadee Rotary Club, District 3330 (Host Club), together with **Masan-East Rotary Club**, District 3722 (Korea), and District 3510 (Taiwan), (International Partner), are conducting the Global Grant Project GG#2568687, valued at 53,450 US\$ or THB 1,817,300. It is a project to increase the potential in caring for the health of pregnant women, newborns and physical therapy by donating one Canon ultrasound machine, model Aplio go. For use in hearing screening in newborns and physical therapy braces at Phra Samut Chedi Sawatyanon Hospital, Samut Prakan province, on May 24, 2025.



The Rotary Club of Maneekan organized the “Rotary Maneekan Family Day” to continue the Thai traditions during the Songkran festival. Members poured water to be wished for blessings by the elders and celebrated the birthdays of members born in April at the Kanokan Hotel on 23 April 2025.



The Rotary Club of Ganchan organized a fellowship sports competition between four Rotary clubs in Area 19, District 3330. The goal of the competition was to foster unity and positive interactions. PDG Lt. Gen. Kanit Jamjuntra served as the chairman of the opening ceremony at the Soccer Zone artificial turf field in Ratchaburi province on 26 April 2025.



The Rotary Club of Meuang Rae Phuket, led by President Dr. Chanya Tansakul and its members, held an event to commemorate the club's 6th anniversary and mark the start of its 7th year. Meals, and snacks, donated items, and a picture booth were brought in to entertain the children with a lively vibe at the Baan Tawanchai Foundation in Phuket province.

The pride of receiving the "Sow the Seeds of Love" Award



P Wasana Apinyaphichan
Rotary Club of Silpakom

Receiving the "Sow the Seeds of Love" Award is one of the highest honors in my life because this award is not only a symbol of success, but also reflects the heart and true intention to work for society. The activities that I have had the opportunity to participate in all come from the true intention of wanting to see the world of kindness and love that we have for each other.

From this small idea, the **Bamboo Planting Project** was initiated. It is not only the community that benefits, the forest that was once dry has started to come back to life. The balance of nature is gradually restored. The bamboo that we planted not only creates shade, but also becomes a home for birds, squirrels, and many other creatures. We believe that "bamboo" is not just a tree, but it is an opportunity to restore the land, and to create jobs for villagers, and an opportunity to restore balance to nature because "bamboo" is not just an ordinary plant, but a living thing that can restore degraded land, help reduce carbon dioxide gas, and grow quickly without the need for chemicals. Most importantly, bamboo can truly generate income for the community.



Throughout the time that I have been doing activities, I only wished to help and share opportunities for those who truly in need. Every step of the activity, even if it is small, it can have a positive impact on society.

Receiving this award is a great encouragement beyond expectations. It makes me feel that my determination is not in vain. It is a confirmation that what we truly devote ourselves to doing with our hearts is seen as valuable. This award is not only for me, but also for the team. Above all, the "Sow the Seeds of Love" Award will be a reminder for me to continue to adhere to the way of giving and sharing because true happiness does not lie in receiving, but in being a giver and seeing the beautiful smiles of others from the small things that we intentionally give with our hearts. Finally, I would like to thank all the encouragement given throughout the year and would like to present this proud award to the Rotary Club of Silpakom. I believe that "Sow the Seeds of Love" Award is the greatest powers to change this world for the better. With heart... to the award of love, "Sow the Seeds of Love" Award



Wheelchairs for the disabled, creating happiness for the giver...encouraging the receiver



P Thanyarat Pramanun
Rotary Club Magkang



We cannot choose our birth because if we could, no one would want to be born imperfect. But when life has to face the word “disabled”...

Throughout my 7 years of being a Rotary member, there have been many impressive activities. However, there is one activity that has always been etched in my mind and my intention that if I am elected as the club president, I will bring this activity up in my year. That is the activity of making wheelchairs for the disabled, because I believe that there are so many disabled people who still lack equipment to help them survive and live their lives, and to make their lives better. I have traveled to many provinces in District 3340 and I firmly believe that doing wheelchair activities for the disabled is never enough, because the number of disabled people, according to the statistics, keeps increasing. That was the inspiration that made me want to push for this activity to actually happen, and it really happened. From the smiles and tears of joy, the Udon people who came to receive wheelchairs for themselves or for their relatives were all delighted. The Rotary Club of Magkang and I are glad to be a small part in making the lives of the disabled people better



and more comfortable. This project allows disabled people who only stay inside their homes to go out and see the world, and live their lives, earn a living without feeling like they are a burden to their families.

This project, the Rotary Club of Magkang, Udon Thani province, in collaboration with the Rajanagarindra Child Development Institute, Chiang Mai province, the Department of Mental Health, the Ministry of Public Health, donated wheelchairs to disabled people in Udon Thani province, along with equipment to assist with disabilities for children and mobility disabilities for specific disabled people. It is medical equipment bestowed by Her Royal Highness Princess Maha Chakri Sirindhorn to disabled people in Udon Thani province. Volunteers from the institute who have specialized expertise both domestically and internationally will select wheelchairs that are suitable for disabled people and install assistive devices for specific disabled people.



District Conference of District 3340 on 8-9 March 2025 at Sima Thani Hotel, Mueang district, Nakhon Ratchasima province, hosted by the Rotary Club of Nakorn Rajasima. In this event, there was representative of Rotary International President, RID Drew Kessler and his spouse, Vicki Kessler, who gave valuable speeches on the development of District and all Rotary clubs in District 3340 to be strong and effective clubs in accordance with Rotary International policies. In addition, the event was honored by the presence of DG Chikayo Demura, District 2510 (Japan), and DG Sangtiwa Thong-U-Chang, who shared their experiences in the LIVE TALK (MY MAGIC OF ROTARY) discussion. During the event, DG Sangtiwa presented awards to Rotary clubs that successfully achieved their goals in terms of volunteer work, Rotary image activities, People of Action photo contest, and the Empowering Girls project.





Rotary Club of Mittraparp Khon Kaen organized a public service activity by donating desktop computers and learning equipment to Ban Pa Sang Nong Hi School and donating consumer goods to the Baan Metta Foundation, which takes care of children whose parents are infected with HIV and are in need in Khon Kaen province on 27 February 2025.

Rotary Club of Amnat Charoen, together with Rotary Club of Prakanong, District 3350, organized a project to donate playgrounds, scholarships, school uniforms, and more to Ban Don Chat School, Huai sub-district, Pathum Ratchawongsa district, Amnat Charoen province, creating great joy for the children, teachers, school board members, and community leaders. This scholarship granting is in line with the club's monthly scholarship program on 12 March 2025.



Rotary Club of Sri-Ubon led by P Wilawan Sonsin and members organized the activity "Reading Encouragement Project" and "Reading Promotion Camp" at Tha Kok Hae Witthayaram School, Mueang district, Ubon Ratchathani province. The activity was organized in the form of organizing learning bases, divided by grade level: kindergarten, primary school, grade 5-6, and secondary school. In this activity, all students gained knowledge and fun. On this occasion, the club supported funds to organize the activity and provided 3 footballs and 3 volleyballs according to the school's needs on 14 March 2025.



Rotary Club of Khunying Mo-Korat, District 3340 and Rotary Club of Patumwan, District 3350, together with Rotary Club of Bangkok Pattanakarn, District 3350 and Rotary Club of Mito-Higashi, District 2820 (Japan), donated medical equipment (bone surgery equipment set) worth THB 1,231,200 (US\$ 34,200) to Luangpor Khoon Parisutho Hospital, Dan Khun Thot district, Nakhon Ratchasima province on 15 March 2025.

When Trustee Chair went to Donate Medical Equipment with Thai Rotarians

The Rotary Foundation Trustee Chair (and Past Rotary International President) Mark Maloney and his wife Gay Maloney, official visited Thailand from March 9–12, 2025.

After the Foundation Night Dinner on 10 March 2025 at the InterContinental Hotel Bangkok. The following afternoon, they visited a Rotary Global Grant project - a comprehensive kidney dialysis equipment initiative at Rajapracha Samasai Institute, Department of Disease Control in Samut Prakan province. The project was carried out by the Rotary Club of Samutprakarn (District 3330), led by DG Jakchai Visutthakul. Trustee Chair Maloney praised the compassionate efforts of Rotarians, experts, and staff, who made this humanitarian project a resounding success.

On the final day of the visit, the Chair and his wife participated in the handover of an ECMO machine (Extracorporeal Membrane Oxygenation), vital for critical patients with over 70% survival rate potential, at Vajira Hospital, led by DG Patsri Suwimol, District 3350. This was another Global Grant project by the Rotary Club of Bangrak, warmly welcomed by hospital executives, staff, medical students, and Rotarians.



They expressed sincere gratitude for the heartfelt welcome and unity shown by Thai Rotarians, district leaders, and all involved. They recognized Rotary Thailand's excellence in fulfilling The Rotary Foundation's mission to address and solve social issues - true to Rotary International's ideals. They wished everyone continued happiness and well-being.

By PRID Dr. Saowalak Rattanavich



The Chair praised the collaboration among clubs from Japan, Korea, Taiwan, and Thailand, whose joint effort led to this life-saving achievement.



2025 District Conference of District 3350 at Brighton Grand Resort Pattaya. Rotary International's Representative is PDG William Tseng accompanied by his partner - Melody, Rotary Club of Ping Tung East, ROC on 28-29 March 2025.



DG - AG - Committee meet Presidents 4th at Kensington English Resort Khao Yai on 26-27 April 2025.





District Team Learning Seminar For Assistance Governors and District Committees 2025-26 at Classic Kameo Ayutthaya Hotel, Pranakon Sri Ayutthaya province on 1-2 March 2025.



2025-26 PETS at Classic Kameo Ayutthaya Hotel, Pranakon Sri Ayutthaya province on 8-9 March 2025.



Run to End Polio, Mini-Half Marathon at Rama 8 Bridge on Sunday 6 April 2025.





Rotary Club of Niramit Ngam Ratchapruerk has donated paint to paint the old school building and fed more than 200 young children at Chulamani Suranari School, Nakhon Ratchasima province (free school) worth more than THB 50,000 on 27 February 2025.



Ratchathewi Rotary Club, together with the Rotary Club of Tokyo Central Park, District 2580 and the Rotary Club of Sumoto, District 2580, handed over The Rotary Foundation Contribution Project donated an automated digital retinal scanner to Gab Choeng Hospital, Surin province on 21 March 2025.



Rotary Club of Bangkok Ratchadaphisek, in collaboration with the Thai Siam School of Health Sciences and the Thai Traditional Medicine Clinic, organized a training program for 33 monks and novices at Wat Traimitr Withayaram. The program teaches them proper skills in traditional Thai massage for elderly monks. After completing the training, they can continue their education and pursue a career in Thai massage once they leave the monkhood.



Rotary Club of Pranakorn Sri-Ayuthaya, together with the Potek Tung Foundation and Hua Chiao Hospital, organized the Rotary One Day activity. Establish a community service unit project Mobile public health services at the Nakhon Luang District Office, Pranakorn Sri Ayuthaya province on 22 March 2025.

District Conference of District 3360: The Magic of Achievements and Moving Forward into the New Rotary Year



PP Thanijporn Khomson
Rotary Club of Doirabaht

Rotary D3360 District Conference is a significant gathering that brings together Rotarians from various clubs within the district to review the year's accomplishments, exchange ideas, and set the direction for the upcoming Rotary year. The primary objectives of the conference are to strengthen understanding of Rotary's initiatives such as those related to The Rotary foundation, membership, and to foster friendship among members. This year, the District Conference was held at the Chiangmai Grandview Hotel in Chiang Mai from 22-23 March 2025. The event was chaired by Charter President Yuttana Naruenatwongsakul, with the Rotary Club of Nakorping Chiang Mai serving as the host club. The conference was under the theme of "Summer Paradise" vibrant and floral design to create a lively atmosphere.

What made this year's conference truly special was the honor of welcoming Past Rotary International President Gary C.K. Huang, who attended as the "Rotary International President's Representative." His keynote speech on stage was both inspiring and energizing, igniting a renewed passion for Rotary service among fellow Rotarians. He began with the famous quote by Lao Tzu: "A journey of a thousand miles begins with a single step." This ancient Chinese wisdom reminds us that achieving great goals requires determination and effort. It also emphasizes that every step we take no matter how small is meaningful. If we move forward with confidence and purpose, we can create a profound and lasting impact on our communities and the world.

Looking back to the year 2014-15, when Gary C.K. Huang served as Rotary International President, he traveled to Thailand to preside over the opening of Rotary Day at Lumpini Park in Bangkok. At that time, he promoted the idea of bringing Rotary activities into local communities as a way to continue the mission of eradicating polio and increasing club membership.



Years later, Rotary in Thailand still holds firmly to those values and continues to make a positive impact in communities. There is no greater joy than doing meaningful work and contributing to positive change in the world.

Here's another speech from the conference that I really liked and want to share with fellow Rotarians is a Chinese proverb that goes,

**"If you want happiness for a moment, take a nap.
If you want happiness for a day, go fishing.
If you want happiness for a year, inherit a fortune.
If you want happiness for a lifetime, help others."**

This saying reflects the importance of service and the true happiness it brings. As Rotarians, we can apply this principle by focusing on community service using our skills, resources, and networks to create meaningful and lasting change.

Even more special on this year District Conference was the special meeting hosted by District 3360: the Joint Council Meeting of Past District Governors of Rotary in Thailand. It was held on 22 March 2025, at the Chiangmai Grandview Hotel. Forty past district governors from four Rotary districts in Thailand, attended the meeting which was chaired by PDG Somchai Chiaranaipanit from District 3340, and honored to have Past Rotary International President Gary C.K. Huang. joined this. Key agenda items included



the election of the National Section Representative for Thailand in the Rotary Intercountry Committee ASEAN (RICCA). The meeting approved PDG Jason Lim to continue as the Thailand Section Chair for another term, with PDG Chamnan Chanruang and PDG Dr. Sanguan Kunaporn appointed as vice chairs. Other important matters discussed were the boundary changes between Districts 3340 and 3360, with District 3340 now covering Laos instead of District 3360, updates on the Safe Roads Save Lives project, and the latest news and updates from Rotary International.

The district's summary of achievements across various areas, especially community services, highlighted this year's significant efforts to assist flood victims in multiple districts across several provinces. This community outreach has positively shaped Rotary's Public Image, increasing public awareness that Rotary truly embodies the spirit of being "People of Action," a core message emphasized over recent years. As more people learn about what Rotary does and how to get involved, membership growth naturally follows. District 3360 has placed greater focus on youth activities, including Youth Exchange (YE) programs, RYLA (Rotary Youth Leadership Awards), and notably, an English speech contest under the title of The Magic of Rotary. This contest attracted 72 participants ranging from elementary to high school students. The Rotary Club of Nakhon Hariphunchai initiated this project, and said this is the second year of the contest. Impressively, the three first-place winners from each age group presented their speeches at the district's conference. Their speeches were deeply impressive, demonstrating thorough research and clear understanding of Rotary's values and mission.

We can't talk about the event without mentioning the lively nighttime party, which truly focused on socializing and

friendship. The performances were packed with energy and mostly done by district members especially clubs in Chiangmai province, who designed their own shows. Several past district governors from Chiang Mai also took the stage, creating quite a buzz throughout the show. The highlight of the night show was a concert from the "Sweet Hours" band, who sang, played, and danced with so much fun that the atmosphere was filled with vibrant entertainment. Many who thought Rotary events were all about serious academic work had to rethink that impression after attending this event because Rotary is not static, it's always evolving and embracing change.

This conference was not just a platform to summarize accomplishments but also a space for Rotarians passionate about service to meet, learn, exchange ideas, and collaboratively plan to drive District 3360 toward a strong and sustainable future. Participants echoed the same sentiment that the atmosphere was filled with positive energy, friendship, and inspiration to bring back to their clubs and carry out Rotary's mission more effectively. Looking ahead to the upcoming Rotary year under the leadership of District Governor-Elect Dr. Jaruwat Techawut, he mentioned the three key management principles: Innovation, Continuity, and Partnership. These principles aim to revitalize Rotary and bring it back to life with the theme Unite for Good.

Finally, the Rotary D3360 District Conference reinforced the role of Rotarians as true "People of Action," ready to drive change through the endless power of giving. Next year's district conference will be held in Chiang Rai, rumored to come with the theme "Flowers in the Garden." Let's look forward to experiencing the charm of Chiang Rai; the northernmost part of Siam and the heart of Lanna culture.





Rotary Club of Chiang Mai Nawarat held a handover ceremony for a Shock Wave therapy device to Hang Dong Hospital under the Global Grant project (GG2568879). This initiative is a collaboration between multiple Rotary clubs from various countries, including the Rotary Club of Jinju-Daebong District 3590 (South Korea), Rotary District 3502 (Taiwan), Rotary District 3820 (Philippines), and the Rotary Club of Chiang Mai from District 3360 (Thailand). The Shock Wave therapy device plays a significant role in treating patients with chronic muscle pain by stimulating blood circulation, reducing pain, and minimizing the need for pain medication by ultimately improving the patients' quality of life. This project serves as a model of international collaboration that create the "Magic of Rotary" by providing impactful service to communities around the world.



Rotary Club of Phrae, led by CP Kreangsak Kampon and club members, joined hands with the volunteer medical team from Phrae Hospital to provide mobile medical services. They offered health check-ups and screenings for residents in the Sroi subdistrict, Wang Chin district, Phrae province, and nearby areas. A total of 189 people received medical services during this outreach. The club supported the initiative by providing medications and lunch for the medical staff and those receiving services. Additionally, they donated a wheelchair to a homebound patient with mobility issues.



The Rotary Club of Lanna Chiang Mai traveled to meet and hold a joint meeting with their sister club, the Rotary Club of Nakatsugawa, District 2630, Japan, with whom they have collaborated on a Global Grant project. The club received a warm welcome and held discussions to prepare for future joint service projects in the coming year. This visit, which took place in early April 2025, also provided an opportunity to deepen friendships and cultural understanding through travel and shared experiences in Japan.



The Rotaract Club of Maejo University Phrae - Chaloom Phrakiat carried out a community service volunteer activity by working together to paint and renovate the school building and playground for children at Ban Mae Ram School, located in Tao Poon subdistrict, Song district, Phrae province.

Award Results of Rotary Clubs in Districts 3330, 3340, 3350, and 3360 for the Year 2024–25



HRH Prince Purachatra Trophy

Awarded to the club with the highest average monthly attendance rate throughout the year.

Winner: **Nakornpathom Rotary Club, District 3330** – 100% attendance (4 meetings)



HRH Prince Wan Waithayakorn Trophy

Awarded to the club with the highest net membership growth.

Winners: **Khon Kaen Rotary Club (D3340), Nongkhaem Rotary Club (D3350), and Chiangmai Thin-Thai-Ngam Rotary Club (D3360)** – all with a net increase of 13 members



HRH Prince Dhani Nivat Trophy

Awarded to the club with the highest number of members attending the district conference.

Winner: **Poochaosamingprai Rotary Club, District 3330** – 100% (24 members)



Phya Srivisarnvacha Trophy

Awarded to the club with the most outstanding project of the year.

Winner: **Phitsanulok Rotary Club, District 3360** – “Blood Donation Project in Honor of Her Majesty Queen Sirikit, the Queen Mother”

Outstanding Service Project:

“Blood Donation in Honor of Her Majesty the Queen Mother”

This project is not merely a blood donation initiative but a long-standing and continuously evolving effort. The club has expanded the scope of the project to involve various sectors of the community. With effective planning and broad publicity, the club collaborated with many organizations including Buddhachinaraj Hospital, the Phitsanulok Red Cross Chapter, Pibulsongkram Rajabhat University, and local businesses. The project also incorporated Rotary education and incentives to encourage regular blood donation.

President Nonrat Khusakuntham of the Phitsanulok Rotary Club shared that the club organizes ongoing blood donation drives. Pibulsongkram Rajabhat University, which provided the venue, actively promoted the project within the university. As a result, many students who

had never donated blood before joined the initiative and continued to participate in subsequent events.

The club exceeded its donation target, collecting 1,451,830 cc of blood, which could also be distributed to other hospitals. Additionally, 896

people pledged to donate organs and 893 pledged to donate their eyes. Many Rotarians, their families, and Rotaract club members took part in the project.

This far-reaching and impactful humanitarian initiative earned the Phitsanulok Rotary Club the prestigious award.





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