



RI PRESIDENT **HOLGER KNAACK**

December 2020 - Message

s I look back on 2020, I reflect on how our lives have changed. The global COVID-19

pandemic brought pain and loss to many of us. And for almost all of us, our daily lives, family time, and work also changed this year. But we've made it to the end of this difficult year, not on our own but by reaching out to one another, as we always do in Rotary. With each passing year, I become prouder of our organization.

I will choose to remember 2020 as a year of great change and strength for us; Rotary didn't stop, despite the pandemic. We removed obstacles, found new ways to connect, and embraced new approaches to service, such as online projects and virtual fundraising. I have invited two Rotarians to share their stories about how Rotary grew stronger this year.

When the pandemic shut everything down, our emerging e-club was already providing digital including internationally. service, Fourteen U.S. women and I, members of multiple Rotary clubs, were using WhatsApp to mentor women entrepreneurs in rural Costa Rica, helping them to grow their ecotourism business, RETUS Tours [the subject of the magazine's May cover story, "Nature & Nurture"]. The project has grown, with 30 Rotarians now providing consulting and help with the RETUS website and social media. Most importantly, we continue building relationships and empowering these women to transform their own lives, and we are doing it online. I've even helped one of the women, Rosa, prepare a presentation in English for an online international conference. While our engagement with the Costa Rican women still requires some hands-on activity, the most transformative impacts haven't had to be in person.

 Liza Larson, Rotary E-Club Engage and Rotary Club of Plano East, Texas

I was president of my club when COVID-19 hit, and many members didn't yet have Zoom. Only 10 of our 53 members participated in the first Zoom meeting during the pandemic. I thought that reaching out and getting guest speakers from around the world to engage our members would help. Many Rotary leaders, a Rotary Peace Fellow, and even RI President Holger Knaack visited virtually and spoke to our club. Meeting attendance improved, while we reduced running costs by cutting out meals. Some members who worked outside our city and had missed our meetings even rejoined us. Registering our online meetings on My Rotary enhanced contacts with clubs across the world, and the joint meeting addressed by Holger attracted more than 300 visitors. We also raised more funds as members and visitors contributed to our projects. To continue being flexible for all, we are now offering hybrid meetings. For me, 2020 has been the best year in Rotary as I've made many new friends.

— Blessing Michael, Rotary Club of Port Harcourt North, Nigeria

These stories should give us all reasons to be optimistic about Rotary in the year ahead. We are not just surviving; we are gaining strength. We are discovering how resilient our organization truly is. We are seeing for ourselves how Rotary Opens Opportunities — even during pandemics — to grow, connect, and engage our members and the communities we serve.

From our home in Ratzeburg to yours, Susanne and I would like to bid you and your family the warmest of season's greetings. We can't wait to see the good things that 2021 will bring.

DISTRICT GOVERNOR MESSAGE

DG MAZEN ALUMRAN 2020-2021

Fellow Rotarians,

The month of November is delineated by Rotary International as the Rotary Foundation Month.

How does the Rotary Foundation Work?

It transforms our gifts or donations into service projects that change lives, both close to home in our communities and around the world.

Mahatma Gandhi once said: "the best way to find yourself is to lose yourself in the service of others"

As you know, the Mission of the Rotary Foundation of Rotary International is "to enable Rotarians to advance world understanding, goodwill and peace through the improvement of health, the support of education and the alleviation of poverty".

There are many ways to be involved and Rotary members can contribute their ideas, knowledge, expertise, skills, talents, proficiencies and resources to help solve some of the world's toughest problems and provide sustainable solutions. Rotary foundation Grants bring service project ideas to life.

In Fiscal year 2018, The Rotary Foundation provided more then \$86 million in grants.





\$10.9 million In grants given for education and literacy projects



\$35.6 million In grants given for disease prevention and treatment



\$10.5 million

In grants given for growing local economies



\$18.7 million

In grants given to water and sanitation projects

Since it was founded more than a hundred years ago, the Foundation has spent more than \$4 billion on life-changing sustainable projects.

We are now at a stage when we have to evaluate what we have been doing and plan what we can do further to achieve the Targets we have put for ourselves.

The Rotary International Areas of Focus are set as:



Peace and conflict prevention/resolution



Disease prevention and treatment



Water and sanitation



Maternal and child health

District Governor Message

Basic education and literacy



Economic and community development

added a Seventh one: Now they have -Supporting the Environment.

The situation with Covid-19 has restricted a lot of our outdoor activities that provided funding. However, we should be resourceful and concentrate on creative projects like Play Station, for example, to help us continue collecting funds in order to support the areas of focus that need attention. I am sure there are a lot of other ideas and we have to work on them We have to be imaginative and creative in planning what we can do.

It is important to reiterate that Covid-19 is a Worldwide disaster and it is going to stay with us for a while yet to come. We as Rotarians must be able to do something to be of assistance. Covid-19 not only effected people's "lives" but also their "livelihoods".

It mostly effected people of lower incomes like waiters, porters, cab drivers and those in the travel, services, entertainment, hospitality and small retail industry. The more they have to isolate and the longer they are in Lockdown, the more they are in financial difficulties.

Every country and community has been effected in different ways. One of the projects I would like you to do is to find out how it has effected your own community and whether you have any ideas of how Rotary can be of assistance. We will discuss these ideas and see if we can transform them into specific charity projects.

We will start with our own communities, then work outwards towards our District and then beyond into the World.

I quote Andrew Carnegie who said, "charity begins at home, but it should not end there." So let us start this process of developing creative ideas to build on the Foundation Funds, so we can continue our service to our communities and the world, working towards "A Better Tomorrow".

ANNOUNCEMENT:



District 2452 with utmost pride would like to announce and share the exciting news that David Gibson-Moore, **Deputy District Governor** and a member of Rotary Club of Dubai, is the newest member of the Arch klump

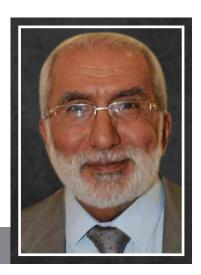
society and District 2452 recognize his generous conribution as the highest tier donor to Rotay Foundation.

Beside his contribution of US Dollers 250,000 to the Arch klumph society (AKS), DDG David Gibson-Moore increased his support with a direct Gift Donation of us Dollers 50,000 specifically to support the work of the DDF was our District 2452, as most of the DDF was exhausted last year, which reduced D2452 any chance of constructing Grants for current year.

On behalf of the nine countries of District 2452, we would like to immensely thank DDG David Gilson-Moore for his unfailing support.

> Thank you **DG Mazen Alumran**

DECEMBER WORDS OF WISDOM!



BY PDG EMAD ALMOAYED

Tt is Disease Prevention and Treatment Month, in Rotary, and you cannot find a more timely topic **L** than that, in the trying times the whole world is going through, with Polio, (nearly cleared), the COVID-19 pandemic, (still running wild), and diseases like Cholera coming back into circulation.

As we, in Rotary, strive to quash Polio, and treat other diseases regionally, and globally, we must sympathise with our neighbouring countries' sufferings.

Arab poet, Tahman Alkulabi (circa 700 AD) says;

'May God bless and cure all the sick people in Iraq, for with every sick patient in Iraq I sympathise' Reminds us of Qais (of Qais and Leila, 7th century A.D., the original 'Romeo and Juliet'!), when he heard that Leila was sick in Iraq, again, and said;

'They tell me Leila is ill in Iraq, and I wish I was a doctor!' A worse 'disease', though, is what Almutanabbi (915-965 AD) talked about;

'The worst 'disease' is what makes you look out to death to 'rescue' you from it, and oh, when death becomes a wish. You'd wish it when you look for a good friend, or a dormant enemy, but fail to find them'

And we should thank God for having so many good friends, in, and through, Rotary. So be grateful, and count your blessings!!

Another well known relevant saying, by an anonymous poet, I think, is;

'To every disease is a medicine to help cure, except stupidity. That's uncurable !!' Keep well. Stay safe!!



DID YOU KNOW?

THE DISTRICT CONFERENCE

BY RTN/CHAIRPERSON LAMEES ALHASSAR

ROTARY MOTTOES

The first motto of Rotary International, ■ "He Profits Most Who Serves Best," was approved at the second Rotary Convention, held in Port- land, Oregon, in August 1911. The phrase was first stated by a Chicago Rotarian, Art Sheldon, who made a speech in 1910, which included the remark, "He profits most who serves his fellows best." At about the same time, Ben Collins, president of the Rotary Club of Minneapolis, Minnesota, commented that the proper way to organize a Rotary club was through the principle his club had adopted--"Service, Not Self." These two slogans, slightly modified, were formally approved to be the official mottoes of Rotary at the 1950 Convention in Detroit--"He Profits Most Who Serves Best" and "Service Above Self." The 1989 Council on Legislation established "Service Above Self" as the principal motto of Rotary, since it best explains the philosophy of unselfish volunteer service.

THE 4-WAY TEST

One of the most widely printed and quoted statements of business ethics in the world is the Rotary "4-Way Test." It was created by Rotarian Herbert J. Taylor in 1932 when he was asked to take charge of the Chicago- based Club Aluminum Company, which was facing bankruptcy. Taylor looked for a way to save the struggling company mired in depression-caused financial difficulties. He drew up a 24-word code of ethics for all employees to follow in their business and professional lives. The 4-Way Test became the guide for sales, production, advertising and all relations with dealers and customers, and the survival of the company was credited to this simple philosophy. Herb Taylor became president of Rotary International during 1954-55. The 4-Way Test was adopted by Rotary in 1943 and has been translated into more than 100 languages and published in thousands of ways. The message should be known and followed by all Rotarians. "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 and BETTER FRIENDSHIPS?
- 4. Will it be BENEFICIAL to all concerned?"

The District 2452 Club News - Jordan

"Rotary Theme"

C peaking about a theme that we did not Ochoose Will inspire the minds of Rotarians to exercise implementation of such a theme into life even if it was somebody else's choice.

Rotary teaches that Leaders time in office is limited. On the other hand, it marks that success is not limited to 12 months of work in office. To succeed in Rotary leadership, our definition of success should be broader. It all depends on how we planned before and implement during office and motivate our members and their families to believe in that theme to reflect it and to weigh the impact of what happens after we leave office. All that defines the impact and certifies our successful work in the community and our profound reflection of it positively.

With the theme of this year Rotary opens opportunities, the inspiration of all Rotarians in this district 2452 and the world, will reflect on the impact of opening new opportunities for communities Rotarians work in along with achievements and projects accomplished.

The strong testimony of living and breathing 1,200,000 Rotarians with 115 years of experience would elaborate contributions and meanings of their inspirations to open opportunities and enhance new opportunities to make the world be better.

Some meaningful words and good things missing from the world like Leadership, integrity, diversity, service and fellowship are still here acting and active in Rotary, waiting for people to embrace them.

With these characteristics and ethics that Rotarians hold, are the keys to open doors and prevail opportunities for others to be served.



PP Mohammed A Khayyat Rotary Club of Amman Capital 85520 District 2452 Jordan

All this will inspire our efforts to serve our communities and the world sustainably.

With all different reasons that members of Rotary join in and their love of service and inspirations to serve, all that will sum-up granting the world new and more fabulous opportunities.

Our Rotary values reflect on our service and make available keys for new opportunities to be open and provide keys to those doors to be sustainable to the world community abundantly.

Our fellowship and values are the keys for opportunities that we bring with us to our weekly meetings to combine and make mature for the inauguration of those New opportunities to flourish, regardless of personal identities and interests.

Every Rotarian is different and that is the beauty of Rotary. We are all here for the connections and we all are here to help others, but the Beautiful key is to enable us to join, unite and be able to serve the community, the world and our organization. Opportunities provided by Rotary and the people it serves.

The District 2452 Club News - Bahrain



Rotary Club of Manama Bahrain



The Rotary Club of Manama donated 10 wheelchairs to the Bahrain Association for intellectual disability & autism at the beginning of the year.

When we went for a follow-up meeting we could see the joy and gratitude on the children's faces which was really heartwarming. This project amounted to a total of BD 6400.



















Members of the Rotary Club of Manama attended a physical vocational trip to Bahrain's first commercial aquaponics facility. Aquaponics is a special farming system that provides a sustainable method of both raising fish and growing vegetables under one roof. While the concept of growing fish and plants modern aquaponics has only recently started to gain momentum around the world.















Aliaschool instagram post:

Thank you Rotary club manama. Today RCM donated laptops to some of our students to use for their online classes. There is no better partnership to assure that all kids have the support and resources needed to succeed in school and life than the partnership between

Thank you for supporting our efforts to raise needed resources for educational programs within Our Schools. We simply couldn't do it without you!

The District 2452 Club News - Bahrain







On Saturday 7th November 2020 the Rotary Club of Salmaniya distributed 50 food boxes containing basic food items to needy families in Al Ekir area. The Rotary Club of Salmaniya has pledged to distribute 100 food boxes every month. All volunteers took care to follow all social distancing and safety precautions.

The District 2452 Club News - Bahrain

Rotary Club of Salmaniya Bahrain Green House project

The Rotary Club of Salmaniya invited two inspirational girls Rawan and Noor to harvest some of the vegetables grown in the Greenhouse project on Saturday 21st November 2020. The Greenhouse project is a joint initiative between the Rotary Club of Salmaniya and Khalid Janahi Charity Society. The income generated from the project will be donated to the Friendship Society for the Blind, Al Rahma Center, and the Association for Parents and Friends of the Disabled.

The project started when the seeds were planted on 28th September 2020 in Khalid Janahi's farm in Al Jasra. The project will end with a final harvest on the 20th of December 2020.



The District 2452 Club News - Lebanon



Rotary Club Tyre Europa organised two initiatives event in Tyre with the collaboration of the UNIFIL French division in Lebanon; assisted by Rotaract of Tyre.

The first event consisted of a yoga session led by President of the Rotary Club Tyre Europa Mrs. Imane Jaffal, in the Pine forest of Tyre. The initiative profits went for the awareness and support of the children's polio disease.

The second event was the inauguration of the oldest pine forest in Tyre, which was mostly burnt, RC Tyre Europa renovate and planted 120 pine trees offered by AG Sami Ghaddar, PP Jihad Feghali, P.A.L. Nazih Ghattas and PP. Riad Saade in the presence of AG. Dania Solh, PG. George Azar, RC of Aley, RC of Saida P. Imane Bahsoun, RC of B. Cadmos, RC of Baabda, RC Beyrouth.

RCTE honoured the donors by naming a tree after each benefactor.

RCTE welcome all rotarians, Friends and Families, over a lunch offered by "Les Ateliers de Tyr"

RCTE core objectives for the year 2020-2021 is Environment and Education. Besides making the City of Tyre and its surroundings, clean and green; We also Invest in recycling; The project is progressing massively and is acclaimed by local social media.

RCTE has also launched an ambitious plan to spread online learning by purchasing laptops and tablets for public Schools.

RCTE need "means" to continue both projects and broaden their limits.























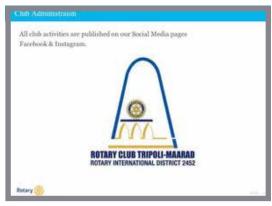
The District 2452 Club News - Lebanon



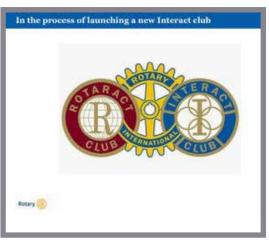
By: PP May Monla Chmaitilly Rotary Club of Tripoli Maarab

















The Last Word

Rtn. Renuka Nambiar, Editor

We are in the last month of 2020. What a year it has been, almost apocalyptic! So unexpected and so unreal - this unreality has brought out the best in most of us as we sit to reflect, re-set and recharge. It has also been a year of slowing down and realising what is truly important. Our empathy, compassion and humanity to the less fortunate in this most challenging of years is commendable. As a community, let us Rotarians rally together to overachieve our goals in serving the needy.

With 2021 at our doorstep, we wish it brings in hope and cheer for a future of fun, family, friends, faith and hopefully finance!

We also look forward to all of you making the trip to Bahrain to attend the District Conference in March. Please click on the website link below to register and avail of the early bird offer.

Seasons Greetings and a very Happy New Year to all of you!

"The unselfish effort to bring cheer to others will be the beginning of a happier life for ourselves."

— Helen Keller







