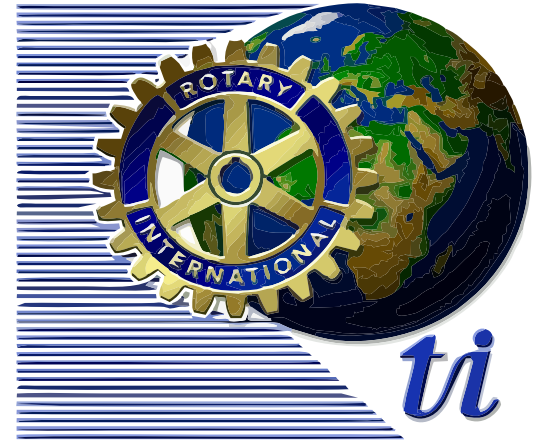


ROTARIANS ON THE INTERNET BREADBASKET

Monthly Newsletter of the Rotarians On The Internet

No. 6 Vol.5 1 December 2011

Christmas ISSUE



- Afrikaans* - Geseende Kerfees en 'n gelukkige nuwe jaar
Arabic - I'D Miilad Said ous Sana Saida
Argentine - Felices Pasquas Y Felices Ano Nuevo
Armenian - Shenoraavor Nor Dari yev Pari Gaghand
Azeri - Tezze Iliniz Yahsi Olsun
Bahasa Malaysia - Selamat Hari Natal
Basque - Zorionak eta Urte Berri On!
Bengali - Shuvo Naba Barsha
Bohemian - Vesele Vanoce
Brazilian - Boas Festas e Feliz Ano Novo
Breton - Nedeleg Iaouen na bloav ezh mat
Catalan - Bon Nadal i un Bon Any Nou!
Cantonese - Gong Tsok Sing Dan, Bing Ho Sun Hei
Choctaw - Yukpa, Nitak Hollo Chito
Cornish - Nadel ik looan na looan blethen noweth
Corsian - Pace e salute
Crazean - Rot Yikji Dol La Roo
Cree - Mitho Makosi Kesikansi
Creek - Afvcke Nettvcakorakko
Croatian - Sretan Bozic
Czech - Prejeme Vam Vesele
Vanoce a stastny Novy Rok
Danish - Glaedelig Jul
Duri - Christmas-e- Shoma Mobarak
Dutch - Vrolijk Kerstfeest en een Gelukkig Nieuwjaar!
Egyptian - Colo sana wintom tiebeen
English - Merry Christmas & Happy New Year
Eskimo - Jutdlime pivduarit ukiortame pivduaritlo!
Esperanto - Gajan Kristnaskon
Estonian - Ruumsaid juulup|hi
Faeroese - Gledhilig jol og eydnurikt nyggjar!
Farsi - Cristmas-e-shoma mobarak bashad
Finnish - Hyvaa joulua
Flemish - Zalig Kerstfeest en Gelukkig nieuw jaar
French - Joyeux Noël et Bonne Année!
Frisian - Noflike Krystdagen en in protte Lok en Seine yn it Nije Jier!
Hausa - Barka da Kirsimatikuma Barka da Sabuwar Shekara!
Hawaiian - Mele Kalikimaka
Hebrew - Mo'adim Lesimkha. Chena tova
Hindi - Shub Naya Baras
Hungarian - Kellemes Karacsonyiunnepek
Japanese - Shinnen omedeto. Kurumasu Omedeto
Jiberish - Mithag Crithagsigathmithags
Latin - Natale hilare et Annum Nuovo!
Latvian - Prieci'gus Ziemsve'tkus un Laimi'gu Jauno Gadu!
Lausitzian - Wjesole hody a strowe nowe leto;
Lithuanian - Linksmu Kaledu
Low Saxon - Heughliche Winachten un 'n moi Nijaar
Maltese - Nixtieklek Milied tajjeb u is-sena t-tabja!
Mandarin - Kung His Hsin Nien bing Chu Shen Tan
Manx - Nollick ghenal as blein vie noa
Maori - Meri Kirihimete
Marathi - Shub Naya Varsh
Navajo - Merry Keshmish
Norwegian - God Jul
Occitan - Pulit nadal e bona annado
Papua New Guinea - Bikpela hamamas blong dispela
Krismas na Nupela yia I go long yu
Pennsylvania German - En frehlicher Grischt daag unen hall ich Nei Yaahr!
Philippine Tagalog - Maligayang Pasko at Manigong Bagong Taon
Polish - Wesolych Swiat Bozego Narodzenia
Portuguese - Boas Festas Rapa-Nui - Mata-Ki-Te-Rangi.
Te-Pito-O-Te-Henua
Pushto - Christmas Aao Ne-way Kaal Mo Mobarak Sha
Rapa-Nui - Mata-Ki-Te-Rangi. Te-Pito-O-Te-Henua
Rhetian - Bellas festas da nadal e bun onn
Romanche - Legrevilas fiastas da Nadal e bien niev onn!
Rumanian - Sarbatori vesele
Russian - Pozdrevlyayu s prazhnikom Rozhdestva
is Novim Godom
Sami - Buorrit Juovllat
Samoa - La Maunia Le Kilisimasi
Ma Le Tausaga Fou
Sardinian - Bonu nadale e prosperu annu nou
Scots Gaelic - Nollaig chridheil huibh
Serbian - Hristos se rodi
Serb-Croatian - Sretam Bozic.
Vesela Nova Godina
Singhalese - Subha nath thalak
Vewa. Subha Aluth Awrudhak Vewa
Slovakian - Sretan Bozic or Vesele vianoce
Slovak - Vesele Vianoce. A stastlivi Novy Rok
Slovene - Vesele Bozicne. Screno Novo Leto
Spanish - Feliz Navidad y Prospero Ano Nuevo
Swedish - God Jul and (Och) Ett Gott Nytt Ar
Tamil - Nathar Puthu Varuda Valthukkal
Thai - Sawadee Pee Mai
Trukeese - Neekirissimas annim oo iyer seefe feyiyeech!
Turkish - Noeliniz Ve Yeni Yiliniz Kutlu Olsun
Ukrainian - Srozhdestvom Kristovym
Urdu - Naya Saal Mubarak Ho
Vietnamese - Chung Mung Giang Sinh



Merry Christmas
and Happy New Year in
100
Languages

- Welsh* - Nadolig Llawn
Xhosa - Siniqwenelela Ikrisimesi
Emnandi Nonyaka Omtsha
Ozele lintsikelelo Namathamsanqa
Yayeya - Krisema
Yugoslavian - Cestitamo Bozic.
Yoruba - E ku odun, e hu iye' dun!
Zulu - Sinifesela Ukhisimusi Omuhle Nonyaka Omusha Onempumelelo

From the Editor

At least 82 nationalities in ROTI will understand and appreciate the greeting on our front page!

Another year will be gone by. Half RY year for the current leaders. Half year more to go, then *wheww...* to many, *that-fast-eh?* to others, *so-what?* to bitter some, and to those who say *ohh-I-wish-my-term-never-ends* - they're lying. :-)

Leadership may end, but service will not. There will be new needs, new challenges, more money to contribute, more work to do.

As Rotarian, whose middle name is *service*, we do not rest our laurels (or our thorns). We continue to provide help where it is needed. Because that is what we do. That is what makes us special. And that is what makes us grow.

This Christmas, let us remember those who are less fortunate than us. Let us share our graces.

This Christmas, let us appreciate our own. We have a reason to visit, call, text, email, keep in touch with our loved ones and even those we ceased to love. In this high-tech time, most of our friends and loved ones are just a keyboard away.

This Christmas is now *wheww* that the year will be over.... It is *thank-God-I-am-blessed* and that *I-can-give-more-than-my-desire-to-receive*.

We thank Rotary, despite its many rules and future visions and web site repairs and impersonal admin staff - for the chance to give to others and share our blessings.

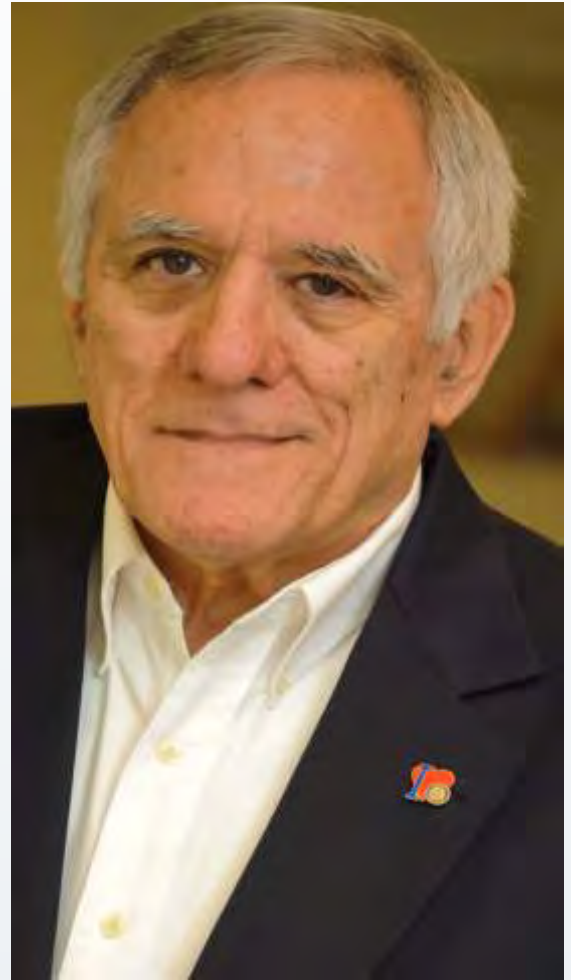
We thank ROTI for the many friends and colleagues who appreciate, respond to and answer our postings.

And lastly let us thank ourselves for being here and being in service to others.

The Plans for the Convention are going well

From the Chair

Steve Sokol



November was a slow month on the lists. However, the threads were serious and appropriate. It would be nice to see more activity, but until next (calendar) year, the Abrahamic faiths will be involved with religious events supplanting the serious ROTI topics. We will be working on the 2012-13 year soon, and I encourage everyone to bring out the plans and problems for next year and share with the group. I have to believe sharing club administrative efforts is one of the valuable aspects of ROTI.

The plans for the Convention are going well. It has been quite interesting working with the hotel as they function a bit different from the Western hotels with whom I am experienced. They are a Western chain but the area customs must be different. I was a bit disappointed in the number in the ROTI block of rooms, but I think a very large number of ROTIans will be in attendance. There is a great number from India attending and they are staying in Club/District groups as would be expected.

We have our booth reserved and I think we have a good chance at a corner booth near the Internet Café. I have made a case for us getting that prime location based on the technical support we can provide the users of the café. I am disappointed that ICUFR will not be in attendance. Roger will not be able to attend and has not been able to find anyone who would commit to maintaining the booth.

The next step will be to arrange for the ROTI dinner. If anyone is familiar with downtown Bangkok and willing to provide me with suggestions on where to hold the dinner, I would appreciate it. I have a couple of people I will contact. My plan, as I have mentioned, is to make it a ticketed event so there will be no last minute rush to make adjustments with the restaurant.

In this column last month, I mentioned four potential projects, one being to select a school to support in a very disadvantaged country. At roughly the same time, Sara Mansbach posted a message on the project she is involved with as District 7750 Literacy Chair. Her project is supplying books for a library for local students in Cange, Haiti. [It is more than just books; it is a complete literacy program]. Since these two projects are complementary, I think there could be some terrific synergy in working together. I am not suggesting the projects be combined; just that we keep them mutually aware of project efforts.

Is everything running as well as it can in your club? If so, tell us how you manage it. If like most clubs, you have challenges, share them with the group and let's work out the solution together. The concept is called TEAM. The name explains how it works: Together Everyone Achieves More!!! If we work on the problems together, we will eliminate them.

If you are in the US, I hope you ate too much for Thanksgiving and only now are getting over it. If you are not in the US, try to understand that we have a holiday dedicated to eating turkey and eating too much. We celebrate the bounty that the first European settlers found here. We still give thanks annually for the bounty we have here...

**A Merry
Christmas
and a
Prosperous
New Year
to all!**

It wasn't until about 200 years after Christ's death that Christians even thought about celebrating his birth. No one knows the exact date of his birth. It is believed that December the 25th was chosen to turn people away from celebrating other holidays in this time of the year.

Saturnalia, was the Romans holiday that they celebrated in December. It was a time of feasting and parties. Also, in northern Europe there was a holiday known as Yule. They celebrated this holiday by making great fires. They then would dance around the fires, yelling for the winter to end.



In time, Christmas took the place of these holidays. But people kept some of the old customs -- such as burning a Yule log and having feasts and parties. The word Yule is still used as a name for the Christmas season.



As time went on, new customs crept into Christmas. One was the Christmas tree, which was started in Germany. As the Germans settled in new lands they brought with them this tradition.

In 16th-century Germany fir trees were decorated, both indoors and out, with apples, roses, gilded candies, and colored paper. In the Middle Ages, a popular religious play depicted the story of Adam and Eve's expulsion from the Garden of Eden.

A fir tree hung with apples was used to symbolize the Garden of Eden — the Paradise Tree. The play ended with the prophecy of a saviour coming, and so was often performed during the Advent season.

It is held that Protestant reformer Martin Luther first adorned trees with light. While coming home one December evening, the beauty of the stars shining through the branches of a fir inspired him to recreate the effect by placing candles on the branches of a small fir tree inside his home

The Christmas Tree was brought to England by Queen Victoria's husband, Prince Albert from his native Germany. The famous Illustrated News etching in 1848, featuring the Royal Family of Victoria, Albert and their children gathered around a Christmas tree in Windsor Castle, popularized the tree throughout Victorian England. Brought to America by the



CHRISTMAS CUSTOMS

From the Old English 'Cristes Mæsse' ~ meaning the 'mass of Christ' ~ the story of Christmas begins with the birth of a babe in Bethlehem.

Many Christmas customs are based on the birth of Christ. Such as giving presents because of the Wise Men, who brought presents to the baby Jesus. Christmas carols based on Christ's birth and scenes of the birth with figures of shepherds, the Wise Men, and animals surrounding the baby Jesus.

But some of the ways people celebrate Christmas have nothing to do with Christ's birthday. Many bits of older holidays have crept into Christmas!



Last but not least is Saint Nick. A long time ago, a bishop named Nicholas lived in what is now the country of Turkey. No one knows much about him. There are stories that he often helped children in need. Many years after his death, Nicholas was made a saint. In time, he became the patron saint of children.

The origin of Santa Claus begins in the 4th century with Saint Nicholas, Bishop of Myra, an area in present day Turkey. By all accounts St. Nicholas was a generous man, particularly devoted to children. After his death around 340 A.D. he was buried in Myra, but in 1087 Italian sailors purportedly stole his remains and removed them to Bari, Italy, greatly increasing St. Nicholas' popularity throughout Europe.

His kindness and reputation for generosity gave rise to claims he that he could perform miracles and devotion to him increased. St. Nicholas became the patron saint of Russia, where he was known by his red cape, flowing white beard, and bishop's mitre.

In Greece, he is the patron saint of sailors, in France he was the patron of lawyers, and in Belgium the patron of children and travellers. Thousands of churches across Europe were dedicated to him and some time around the 12th century an official church holiday was created in his honor. The Feast of St. Nicholas was celebrated December 6 and the day was marked by gift-giving and charity.

After the Reformation, European followers of St. Nicholas dwindled, but the legend was kept alive in Holland where the Dutch spelling of his name Sint Nikolaas was eventually transformed to Sinterklaas. Dutch children would leave their wooden shoes by the fireplace, and Sinterklaas would reward good children by placing treats in their shoes. Dutch colonists brought brought this tradition with them to America in the 17th century and here the Anglican name of Santa Claus emerged.

Christmas in Philippines

The only Asian nation in which Christianity is the religion chosen by the people. Christmas celebrations start nine days before Christmas with a mass known as *Misa de Gallo*. At this mass the story behind the birth of Christ is read from the Bible.

Mass is held hourly on Christmas Day so that everyone can attend. Christmas celebrations may have evolved from old tribal customs mixed with other influences. Serenading cumbancheros, or strolling minstrels, end their performances by singing *Maligayang Pasko* to the tune of "Happy Birthday".

As part of my people's traditions, the children also go around their neighbor-hood and sing carols to each household. Sometimes, they get money, sometimes they get fed. The money they get, they use to buy gifts for themselves or loved ones.

The country also has the unique tradition of making 3-D "*parols*" or star lanterns made from thin strips of bamboo and covered in colored thin plastic film to symbolize the guiding star that the three wise men followed to find Jesus Christ; it is also the Filipinos' way of inviting the spirit of Christ into their home - it is to mentally reverse the notion of "no room at the inn". The star symbolize the willingness of each home to "house" the baby Jesus.

Families and their children gather on Christmas eve or Christmas day and eat the traditional "noche buena" meal (all kinds of food, with *pansit* noodle representing long life in the centrepiece). Gifts are exchanged. The children receive their "*pamasko*" (gift or cash) from grandparents and elders. Christmas time is also the best time to enjoy all kinds of fireworks.

CHIP ROSS, the first **BREADBASKET** EDITOR

Chip is a member of the Rotary Club of Strathcona Sunrise, D-5020 Canada

Who is Chip Ross? Most ROTIans only know Chip as the guy who started our Fellowship's newsletter, The Breadbasket, and was its editor for the first 93 issues. Over ten years ago.

But there's more to him than that. He is a Rotarian, who has held all club positions except Treasurer, a Past President of the Strathcona Sunrise Rotary Club, Courtenay, BC, Canada (RD 5020), a former ROTI Board Member, and ROTI Institute Webmaster. Several years ago Chip produced the following profile for the ROTI list. It is lengthy, but interestingly informative.

"Hello All:

It was a dark and foggy day in January 1940 when yours truly appeared on the scene. London was under attack by German planes, and explosions were frequent. I don't remember any of the events of that auspicious day, though I do have a few recollections of my early years: the wail of the air-raid sirens; the sound of the V1 "flying bombs"; hiding under the stairs while the raid was on Following my father's death in 1943 my mother married a Canadian soldier who brought our family to Canada in 1946. The stormy voyage, and the long train ride almost all the way across Canada are still etched in my mind. After looking about for a suitable farm, we eventually settled on Canada's west coast, not far from where my wife Karen and I now live.

My childhood years saw school and farm chores occupy most of the year (or so I recall), and the summer being the time for farmwork and play. We lived 5 miles from our small town, and really didn't go there often. It wasn't until the early '50s

My childhood years saw school and farm chores occupy most of the year (or so I recall), and the summer being the time for farmwork and play. We lived 5 miles from our small town, and really didn't go there often. It wasn't until the early '50s that we had electricity at the farm, and we didn't get a phone until the '60s. I guess that life was hard - living on a small dairy farm that also had a few sheep. It was up at 5 to milk the cows - first by hand, then later by machine, off to school by 8:15, back by 4:00 to start chores again. I didn't remember anything else though - so I guess that I wasn't unhappy.

The highlights of the year during my teens were undoubtedly centred around visits to Fall Fairs with our 4H clubs. (The 4H movement's purpose is to promote leadership skills and concepts of service among country youth.) Each August we would load up the calves and/or sheep that we had been grooming and training all year and go off to Fall Fairs in other communities to compete in Conformation, Showmanship, Demonstration, Public Speaking and Livestock Judging events. 4H was a good thing for us - we had fun, learned a lot and met many other young people. It was good for the farmers too - it fostered upgrading of cattle and sheep, and taught animal husbandry skills.

I was 17 when I graduated from High School, and immediately went out into the wider world to work. I was, and am, an innocent. One of my first lessons in life in the big world involved selling my old car to a fellow labourer for \$125 now and \$125 next payday. I'm still waiting!! After 4 years of low-paying work in drilling, mining, logging and construction camps I got my sleeve caught in some gears and ended up without my right hand. Clearly a change in career was called for. I was always quite good in school - although like many I often lacked motivation. Now that motivation was no longer a problem(!) it was off to University to become a teacher.

While on the way to register for my first year I visited a friend who had been going to university for two years to ask his advice on what courses to take. "Geography", was his answer. "It's easy, I've passed it four times!" So that was it - I would become a geographer. University was great fun - always new stuff to learn and new people to meet. What could be better? It

was so much fun that I didn't notice it was work. A job in the summer, and school in the winter, so it went. After my second year Karen and I were married (she's a 4H alumnus too) and we went 500 miles north to teach for a year "to see if we really liked it." Well, the kids and the teaching were fine, but I missed the university life. So back we went. At the end of the fourth year one of my profs advised me to apply for Graduate Studies. So I did, and it even came with a teaching assistantship. The wonder of it all - to be paid to learn!!

As the first year of my Master's drew to a close my Prof suggested that I should apply for a Fellowship. I remember saying "I'll never get one of those." He replied, "Someone will, you might as well throw your hat in the ring." So I did. And, wonder of wonders, the funders bit!! Imagine that - more money, just for learning!

Encouraged by success, the fledgling geographer plowed on, completing his thesis, and then applied for a Doctoral programme, complete with Fellowship. Darned if it didn't come through!

There are often choices of which road to take. Robert Frost wrote about them in "The Road Not Taken." My choice was whether to accept the offer of a place in Christchurch, NZ or one in London, Canada. Years later, when Karen and I visited Christchurch, we realized that if we had taken that choice we would probably be Kiwis, and would have raised our two girls there. But instead, it was the University of Western Ontario for a three-year stint doing quantitative geography.

When people ask me what Geography is I reply "It's the science of determining what is where, and then why it is there and not somewhere else." Quantitative Geography is just that, with the addition of using mathematical aids to model the underlying spatial relationships. My main interest was in developing methods which would aid in the location of service-providing amenities such as shopping centres, parks, etc. Enough of that, they drove me out in '72, with a Ph.D., to make my way in the world.

In the early '70s, in Canada, "environment" was a new word. Nobody knew exactly what it meant, but everyone felt that it was important! I got caught up in our Federal Government's formation of "Environment Canada." It was a heady time. Lots of excitement, lots of money, lots of challenges. I spent 5 years in that milieu, learning, among other things, bureaucratic principles, program planning, Geographic Information Systems, and for fun, French.

By the late '70's I was Director of Research and Systems for Alberta Recreation, Parks and Wildlife, a provincial government department in western Canada. I stayed in this position, and similar ones, until I retired in '95 a few years after a mild heart attack. I regard myself as having been fortunate to have been involved with computing and computers during their evolutionary period. I'm not a computer

**ROTI
Feature
of
the
Month**



expert, but I do use them.

In 1984 one of my friends, Wally, a businessman, farmer and youth camp director, said "Come for lunch at our Rotary Club with me on Wednesday." So I did. The rest is history. I was invited to join, accepted, and spent the first year learning about Rotary. Then they made me Captain of the Bingo crew, and I learned a lot about fund-raising in a short time!!

In 1987, we had Polio Plus. My friend (and by now, mentor) suggested that I ride along on a Wagon Train which would promote Rotary and Polio Plus, arriving at our District Convention in time to meet the RI Representative, Luis Giay. Our cavalcade consisted of two covered wagons, about 10 mounted outriders, and a motor home which pulled a small trailer on which was mounted an "iron lung."

That was a wonderful trip, sore knees and all. It took 9 days of riding and sleeping under the stars. We visited 6 Rotary Clubs along the way, collecting pledges of over \$1,000,000, which we delivered at the Conference. I found it a very emotional time, as we were frequently met by individuals and groups wishing to contribute to Polio Plus.

One event I remember clearly was an elderly couple who came up to our trailer as it was parked in a shopping centre in one of the towns we went through. They said that they had lost two children to polio during the 1950 epidemic, and that they wanted us to make sure their money went to "the children in Africa." When we got to Calgary, Luis Giay and his wife Cecelia came to meet us and rode on one of the wagons to the Conference.

In '95 the opportunity to retire presented itself. Actually, we had been preparing for it for some time, and that year the conditions were right. Karen, who had been working as an Executive Secretary in the Canadian Government, had a sister in NZ, her brother was in hospital with the last stages of ALS. Her Dad had died in '86, and her Mom lived alone on the West Coast. When both Karen and I saw the opportunity to leave our jobs with (small) severance packages we leaped at the chance. I left in March, Karen in July. By September we had sold our house and left Alberta. It's lucky we moved quickly, her Mom had a major heart attack and her brother passed away within a month of our arrival. While Karen helped nurse her Mom back to health I got cracking on our new house.

When we started planning for retirement we bought ten acres near Courtenay, on Vancouver Island. The property had little but potential. There were two old houses (one built in an abandoned gravel pit), a barn and a shop. On Oct. 31, '95 I burned one of the houses, and started to rebuild on the same site. For six months there was a flurry of activity - carpenters carpenting, roofers roofing, excavators excavating, trucks trucking and bulldozers bulldozing. And I was the general contractor - in charge of seeing that everything worked smoothly, and that schedules were met and the job was on budget! Talk about project management - this is the real thing. Luckily for me, I had great help, and they kept me on the straight and narrow. We moved into our new house on May 2, 1996, and worked on the landscaping for the next several months.

Once we moved in we started busy developing a series of spring-fed ponds in which we have reared young coho salmon for a year before they go off to sea on their big adventure. In the autumn we catch several mature fish as they return to spawn, strip their eggs and sperm, then incubate the eggs. Last year we hatched about 15,000 fish. This year's stock is now starting to return to our creek, and we are reedy to start the cycle once again.

Of course, the ponds have other uses. Our grandchildren enjoy swimming in and boating on them during hot weather (although they are never warmer than 12C - @55 F) and they certainly add a lot to the landscaping. In addition, the ponds are a magnet for mink, otter, deer, bears, ducks, and herons, as well as numerous other birds (we've now seen over 80 species). It is not uncommon to see wildlife from our kitchen windows. We really enjoy living in the country, and often have outdoor barbecues during the summer, sometimes for 50-60 people.

Upon moving here I was asked to join a local breakfast Rotary Club. Naturally I was honoured - especially as one of the senior members was a farmer for whom I had worked some 45 years before. The members were great - they welcomed us and got us involved in club activities right from the beginning. With the burgeoning of



Neighbors and friends watched a youth jazz group play in the lawn of Chip Ross residence.

the Internet came a suggestion that we have a club web page. That took a while, but eventually I got it built.

Then along came ROTI!! I joined ROTI in its formative period - before it became a Fellowship. In '97 Karen and I took our post-retirement trip and went to visit her sister in New Zealand. The driving force behind ROTI at that time was our Founding Chairman, Darryl Mckeller, of Dunedin. Naturally, when we were going to NZ we looked him up. That was a great experience. We stayed with the Mckellers, and visited Darryl's club. Later, as we traveled around NZ we visited several other Rotarians. On the way back to Canada we stopped in Hawaii for a week where I met several more. Not long after we got home the idea of a ROTI Bulletin was suggested. Darryl asked me if I would like to take on the Editorship. My Rotary mentor, Wally, advised me in '84, a Rotarian cannot say "no" without a very good reason. I couldn't think of one, so I told Darryl that I would do it. Well..... I paid for that decision for seven years!!



My present club is very interested in the idea of an international fellowship which communicates about Rotary-related matters. In particular they enjoy the International Recognition Program which sees us recognise a different Rotary Club at each of our

meetings. When Doug Meent asked if I would be webmaster for the RC I institute the club encouraged me to accept, and instructed me to use the club's web space to host the site. Later the club wanted to arrange a Sistering with a Latin American club. We've done so, sistering with the RC of Valencia, Carlos Garcia's club, and even had a visit from them. Following discussions with Hari Ratan, of the RC of Chennai Kilpauk (India). I challenged our Board to match up to \$1,000 that I would raise toward a Prosthetics project for the Children of Chennai who have lost limbs to traffic accidents, need braces or other orthotics due to polio, etc. The Board agreed, so I got up one morning at the Club and told my story about living for 40 years as an amputee. Then I passed the hat and it came back full. I repeated the story at a nearby Club and the same thing happened. So I topped it off with money from the family, and handed it over. In all, we've now done more than \$US16,000 worth of work with Chennai. Since then we've done two more Matching Grant projects with Chennai for a further \$52,000 and are just completing the paperwork for another for \$50,000.



Glo and Chip, present and past Breadbasket editors

Rotary has been very good to me. It's given me a virtually-unlimited family of cousins. Wherever we travel we meet with Rotarians. They are invariably good people. We have common beliefs, common goals, common experiences. They laugh at our corny jokes, and support our pet projects. We laugh at their jokes and support their pet projects. We rejoice at each others' good fortune and cry over each others' bad luck. And now, with the advent of global communication in the form of the Internet, our circle is so much bigger!

Well, I've gone on much longer that I think that I should have!!! In closing let me say how much I enjoy ROTI. It's the icing on my cake!

*Yours in Roti
Chip Ross"*



Every year Strathcona Sunrise holds its first meeting for the Rotary Yeat at the pier platform which the club constructed for lake viewers.



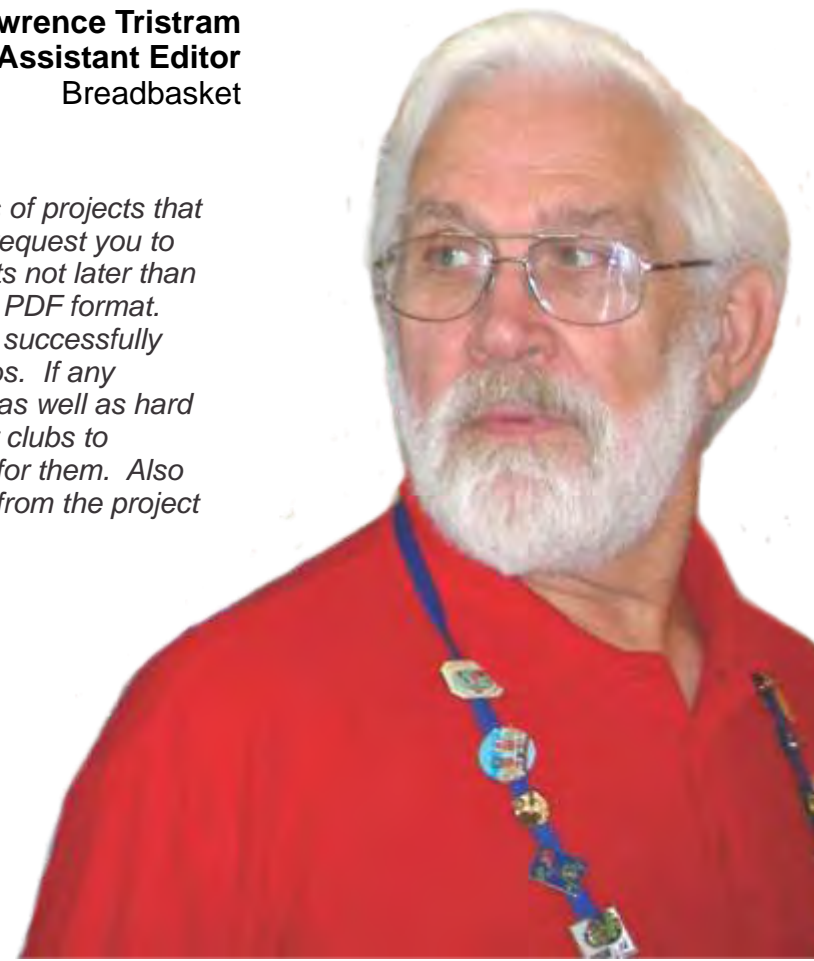
All photos by Ron Nethercutt during his stint as clinician for the Comox Jazz Fest. Ron and Glo were home-hosted by Chip.

1910-1912 Paul R. Harris (founder of Rotary) (Law), Rotary Club of Chicago, Illinois, USA. Rotary Vision: To harness the great power of friendship to help do the world's work.

*"Friendship was the foundation rock on which Rotary was built and tolerance is the element which holds it together."
- My Road to Rotary*

MEMBERS' REPORTS

Lawrence Tristram
Assistant Editor
Breadbasket



Note: We are looking for new reports of projects that may inspire others to follow suit. We request you to submit your articles and project reports not later than the 3rd week of the month, in word or PDF format. Reported activities should be current, successfully implemented, and supported by photos. If any indication of the cost in member time as well as hard cash be given it would enable smaller clubs to determine whether it would be viable for them. Also an indication of how many benefitted from the project is useful.

Please forward your reports to lawrence@tristram.force9.co.uk.

lawrence@tristram.force9.co.uk

Blood is an important source to hospitals and to treatment of wounded people.

Some clubs around the world established Blood Banks or purchased Mobile Blood Bank vehicles.

The Rotary Club of Beit Dagan, Israel, arranged an afternoon of blood donating at its community – the little town of Beit Dagan, as the club did for a few years.

Club members hanged posters around the town and send SMSs to a part of the community. At the afternoon the portable blood bank arrived and some club members came to help the staff of the bank with registering the blood donators and persuading passersby to donate.

As time passed many came to donate but some rejected because of winter illness. Finally, the activity yielded 25 blood units, and the staff and the club members (With yellow shirts) went home satisfied.

Blood Donating in Beil Dagan, Israel





D9830 RAWCS ROTARY VOLUNTEERS PROJECT LAUTOKA FIJI SCHOOLS PROJECT REPORT

by **Veena Tilly**, Project Leader, Tasmania

In 2004 a building team lead by Terry Lobban from the Rotary Club of Bellerive in Tasmania went to Fiji to build house number twenty in the Rotahomes Koroipita Village. As a result of this visit, the Lautoka Schools Project was established in 2005 to provide support for the schools attended by the children from the village.

The project, now in its seventh year of operation, has provided support primarily for three schools: the Ami Chandra Memorial School, Lovu Sangam Primary and Drasa Secondary School. Many schools in the Lautoka area as well as the wider Western District have benefitted from donated school items during the seven years of operation. From 2006, in addition to the work done in the schools listed above, members of the project team have conducted literacy workshops for teachers from schools in the Lautoka area.



Upgrade of the Chandra Memorial School library. The library was equipped with metal shelves, 1700 books and furniture, and a sick-bay with first-aid cabinet and bed.



BEFORE
and
AFTER
PHOTOS



Computer laboratory at Ami Chandra School, set up with 25 networked computers, AC



Computer lab at Drasa

In December 2008, a cyclone hit western Fiji and the ensuing devastating floods resulted in Drasa Secondary being one of the worst effected schools in Fiji. Earlier in 2008, the project team had placed 4,000 books in the school's library and thirty five computers had been installed in the computer lab. Unfortunately, both of these areas were a total loss. As a result of this tragic event, the focus and plans for the work of the 2009 team were changed to addressing the rebuilding of these two valuable resource areas.

Following the extensive flood damage, the school was allocated funding by the Fiji government. The school then prepared the two areas ready for relocation by painting ceilings and walls and covering the floor with tiles. This preparation by the school and the arrival of the container on May 20, enabled an immediate start by the team of fourteen people on their arrival at the school. As a result, the work of the team, together with help from the school exceeded expected targets.



The computer lab during and after construction, the first in any school in Fiji.



VOCATIONAL TRADE LEARNING AREA AT DRASA SECONDARY SCHOOL



At the Lovu Sangam School, the project team renovated an old two-classroom building for a computer lab. Steel shelving and twenty computers were provided by Geelong Donations-in-Kind. The existing Library was painted by the school, with materials provided from project funds. The library books were then sorted, catalogued and re-shelved by project team members.



At Drasa Secondary, the main focus and achievement of the 2011 project was the development of the vocational trade learning area, consisting of woodwork, joinery and metalwork workshops. A wood and a metal drop saw were purchased in Fiji from the \$1000 donated by the Rotary Club of Kingston.

The Fiji Schools Project would not be possible without the generous donation of items from the many schools, business, organizations and individuals in Tasmania. Each year Denys Tilly and Terry Lobban have spent many hours collecting, packing and arranging the shipment of the container. Rotary District 9830 has covered the cost of shipping the containers and the project team raises funds to cover the cost of the projects. The Rotary Club of Lautoka, and Peter Drysdale has provided support through William and Gosling in receiving and processing the containers in Fiji.

In 2004 what started out as a one off project to in one school has grown over the years to provide benefit and support to many schools within the Lautoka area. It is our passionate belief that education is the key to long term sustainable improvement in living conditions and to this end the Fiji Schools Project has focused on complimenting the work of the Koroipita Village by supporting the children opportunities in learning.

Literary and Public Speech Competition

Dr. Hari S. Chandran
President, Rotary club of Mavelikara, Kerala, India
Dist. 3211



On 1 November 2011, the Rotary club of Mavelikara, Kerala, India, conducted a literary competition for school students where 329 students participated.

The competition was followed by a workshop on "public speech" which was conducted by leading journalists in Kerala.

The Wekiva River Promise

The Wekiva River Promise benefits anyone who uses water.

It was created to educate the local population about the decline in the quantity and quality of the water flowing in the Wekiva River Basin and the Floridan Aquifer.

We have published a full color 40 page magazine with articles from authors who are knowledgeable about the environmental problems facing our water supply.

We have also created a DVD that explains the problems and gives the history of the Wekiva Basin.

It took almost 1 ½ years to produce the Promise and it was rolled out at the Wekiva Riverfest this past spring.

Much of the work to produce the Promise was done by Shannon Costello, a graphic designer who is also a member of our Rotary club.

At present, we are working on a teachable lesson for the Seminole County Public Schools.

The Art Festival will hopefully generate additional funding for the school program.

**www.ssrotary.com
Bill Stack
District 6980, Club 4418
Orlando, FL**



RECYCLE YOUR CELL PHONE

There are 130 million cell phones thrown away in the US every year. That's a hell of a lot of annoying ringtones, and worse, it equates to 65,000 tons of landfill waste.

That's about the same as burying 43 World War II destroyers. And that's not even counting the millions of old cell phones lying around in people's desk drawers.

So, despite the strong desire to grab the Flip Up 2200 from the guy next to you in line and chuck it in the garbage can, resist.

The least irritating thing about your cellphone should be how it is used after its death.

Go to <http://recyclemycellphone.org> to send in your phone for recycling, or check out <http://earth911.org> and enter your zip code to find a recycling drop off point near you.

NAGAI TUNAMI REPORT

The Tsunami struck the coastal Villages on December 26, 2004 in Rotary International District 2980 which comprises 9 revenue districts of Tamilnadu and Union Territories of Pondicherry.

The Tidal waves devastated the costal Districts of Villupuram, Cuddalore, Thiruvarur, Nagapattinam, Pondicherry and Karaikal. Over 10,000 people lost their lives, of which most of them were women and children.

Almost all the fishermen community of the coastal villages lost their properties, houses, fishing boats, nets and other belongings.

Taking stock of the situation, Rotary flung into action. The relief, rehabilitation and restoration works were planned and done by Rotarians of R.I.District 2980.



The immediate relief like food, clothes, temporary shelters were provided in the First phase. Fishing nets and new boats were given to the fishermen and also the damaged boats were repaired and given to the fishing community.

The amount of Rs: 90 Lakhs [US\$2,00,000] was spent for this second phase. 43 houses were constructed at Nagapattinam at a cost of Rs:83 Lakhs [US\$1,85,000]and which was inaugurated by R.I.President William Bill Boyd during the year August 2006. Again, construction of 24 houses at Paravaipet village in Karaikal District has been completed at a cost of Rs: 36 Lakhs (Funded by Solidarity in South Asia Fund) which was inaugurated by R.I.P.Kalyan Banerjee.

About 9 School Buildings, 2 Vocational Training Centers (Karaikal, Chidambaram) were constructed with the support of Solidarity Fund in South Asia in the coastal Villages at a cost of 115Lakhs[US\$2,55,000].

Recently the Government has allotted Sellur Village , Nagapattinam for the construction of 15 houses by R.I.District 2980.This project was completed at a cost of Rs:34Lakhs [US\$75,500]. The inauguration of the houses was held on 18th August 2011.



Rotarians from India and also Germany, USA, UK, Canada contributed about Rs:237 Lakhs for the above projects. The major contributors were from Germany, Rtn.PDG.Dr.Reinhard Frike and Past Inner wheel Chairman Annalie Fabay had channelled funds from Rotarians& Inner Wheel members of Germany and contributed about 100 Lakhs .

“Our success or failure will not depend upon the machinery of Rotary or its physical growth, but upon the extent to which Rotary ideals or objectives are translated into positive, tangible results in personal, business, community and international life. We shall be known by our works.”

- The Second Quarter Century, The Rotarian, July 1930

Rotary Club of Ottappalam Community Based Rehabilitation Programme Vaniyamkulam – Lakkidi Peroor – Ottappalam

In association with National Association for the Blind
Kerala State Branch

Expected No of Persons benefited = 27,000

Target beneficiaries:

- Eye Care services –20,000; Cataract Surgeries –200
- Disability Correction surgeries –25
- Preventive Vaccinations/Immunisations-2000
- Distribution of Vitamin A –2000; Spectacle Distribution –500
- Distribution of Aids & Appliances -100
- Awareness Programmes to Non Govt Organisations –10
- Awareness Programmes to Government Programmes –10
- Distribution of Disability Identity Cards -100
- Distribution of Disability Certificate –200
- Distribution of Travel Concessions –100
- Distribution of Govt Allowance for Disabled –150
- Economic Rehabilitation/IGP –100
- Mobility Training –50; Vocational Training –75
- Computer Training –50
- HIV Aids Awareness Programmes –10 programmes
- Educational Support –50
- Distribution of Educational Materials –100
- Training Programmes for the parents of Children with Disability –10



Distribution of 12 Braille Kit, 25 Mobility Canes



*BRINGING
THEM
BACK
TO LIFE*

by rehabilitation

medical camp missions

literacy and self-help
programmes

livelihood and
financial assistance

moral support



Services rendered till date.....

Disability Certificate	305	Braille Kits	32
State Disability Pension	288	Mobility Canes	38
Free Bus Pass KSRTC	15	Special Aids	05
Free Private Bus Pass	47	Disability Identity Cards	50
Railway Free Pass	14	Education Scholarships	25
Computer Training	15	Income Generation Programme assistance	12

by: **Ambalakat Ram Mohan
Rotary Club of Ottappalam**



Doing community service takes time, effort and money. But, what if you can take away the cost? How? By partnering with other organizations and with the local government.

One of the biggest benefits of our recent Cluster 3B Dental Mission held at Magalang, Pampanga is we were able to establish a relationship with various Dental Chapters. And, by cultivating this relationship, we have 15 – 30 dentists who are just phone calls away — dentists who are dedicated and fun to do community service with. Moreover, since these dentists are fully equipped, they not only do extraction (bunot) but cleaning (linis) and restoration (pasta) as well. They can also do dentures (pustiso) for a cost since dental technicians are involved. However, these dentists require that transportation, meals and some dental supplies should be provided by the organizer. So, how do we meet these requirements? This is where local government comes in.

Hon. Jose Angelo Dominguez, Mayor, Castillejos, Zambales is a classmate of my wife and Mayor “Flip” as he is fondly called together with his wife, Yeye, is very much into community service. And, since October is “Senior Citizens Month”, Mayor Flip told my wife, Elvie, that he wants to organize a dental mission for about 200 senior citizens and 50 children. My wife told Flip that she can probably muster the services of 15 – 20 dentists mostly from Manila thus; he has to provide transportation, meals and some of the supplies. Mayor flip said, “Okay”. With this, all we needed to do is organize the event.

Therefore, last 23 October, 15 dentist headed by their President, Dr. Renzy Viloria, Makati Dental Chapter and assisted by Dr. Lolit Sunglao who provided the portable equipment were picked-up at their Makati Dental Chapter office. Another contingent of 4 dentists from Olongapo Dental Chapter headed by their President, Dr. Gina Samsel – Ocampo motored directly to Municipal Health Center, Castillejos, Zambales. Members of the Rotary Club of Balibago were present to assist, along with 9 clubs in Angeles City and Mabalacat City who belong to Cluster 3B.

At the end of the day, smiles can be seen on the faces of 23 senior citizens who got their new dentures while, 68 got their tooth extracted, 99 minors got their teeth cleaned and over 40 patients got their tooth decay removed and their teeth filled.

PARTNERS in SERVICE



Herman V. Sumadchat
President, RC Balibago
D-3790 Pampanga, Philippines



Dental technicians and volunteers fabricating on-the-spot dentures for the elderly.

1989-90 Hugh H. Archer (electrical engineering), Rotary Club of Dearborn, Michigan, USA.
Rotary vision: That Rotarian Enjoy Rotary in every aspect, from simple fellowship to wide ranging service.

*Enjoy
Rotary*
The Rotarian
July 1989

“...There is so much pleasure in Rotary activities. The breakfast, luncheon, or dinner every week bring you in contact with your fellow members. Their diverse interests and knowledge stimulate your interest in your community.... The planning for service projects both close by or across some distant horizon carries us out of our own self-interests into the wonderful world of service to others... {and the} pleasing paradox... that we grow in nature when we give of our time and talent to improve the quality of life for someone else. How strange that when we give dignity to others, we grow in dignity ourselves...”



Senior ROTIAN FEATURE of the MONTH

Norm was educated at King's College, Auckland, where he developed a lifelong interest in History, enjoyed Rugby football, cricket, and golf, and at Auckland University.

In World War II he enlisted in the New Zealand Army in September, 1939, and served as a Gunner in both the Middle East and Pacific theatres, finally being discharged in February, 1946.

In 1947, He married Nan. They had a family of a son, Peter, (Shipping industry), a daughter Ann, (graphic artist), five grandchildren and four great-grandchildren. Nan died in 2003.

Settling into civilian life after WW II was not easy. After a time as a commercial analyst for Nestlé in Auckland, he moved into the field of Shipping and Customs, first with four companies in the Kerridge group, then as Indent Manager for a

major national company, where as a licensed Customs Broker, he was heavily involved in the construction of the Meremere Power Station, and to a lesser extent the Marsden A Power Station.

He held senior positions in two business associations. In 1968 he set up his own practice and retired from active business in 1980.

Invited to join the **Rotary Club of Auckland East** in 1970, at the time when RI required that a member either resided or worked in a club's designated area, Norm moved to the Glenfield club in 1976.

In 1977, a club mate from Auckland East, DG Dr Grattan O'Connell, was in the process of chartering a new club in Devonport, so Norm moved to the provisional club to assist in its formation. He served Devonport as Treasurer, Bulletin Editor and was Secretary for five years. The club designated him a Paul Harris Fellow in 1984. In 1986, moving to the suburb of Milford, he joined the Milford club. In 1988, with District approval he began developing a Science & Technology Forum for outstanding Year 12 secondary school students nation-wide, who intended a career in Science and Technology. The attendees live in halls of residence for two weeks at the University of Auckland, attend lectures from leading scientists and business leaders and gain hands-on experience in laboratories, working at degree level over a wide range of Science disciplines. The first Forum was held in 1990, and with Nan's active support, Norm acted as director for the first six years. The Forum continues stronger than ever under the management of the Milford club and the Rotary New Zealand Science & Technology Forum Trust.

For this work, Norm was given a Sapphire Pin by the Milford club in 1996 and Nan was designated a Paul Harris Fellow in 1999 for her services to Rotary and the community. Moving to the small rural town of Katikati in early 2004, Norm joined the Katikati club until early 2008 when he returned to Auckland and re-joined Milford. In June, 2009, Milford granted him Honorary membership and he now serves as Club Archivist. He spent many years on District committees, both as a member and chairman.

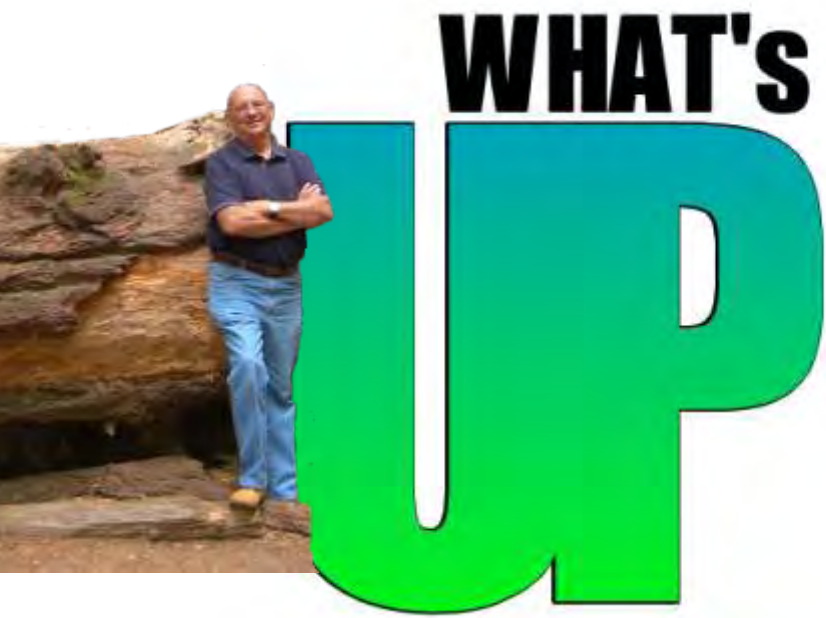
In Rotary Global History Fellowship he has served on the History committee, as Board member, Secretary since 2008 and contributed articles on Rotary history.

In ROTI he has served on the Membership Committee, as vice-chairman and Sergeant at Arms.

Community activities, include school committees, active in a political party, parish vestryman in his church, Rugby football as a coach and administrator, in yachting as member of the NZ International Finn Association, Rear Commodore of the Takapuna Boating club and on the Sailing Committees for New Zealand Olympic Yachting Trials in 1964, 1968 and 1972. In motor sport he held a competition licence and was a volunteer instructor in Defensive Driving for thirteen years.

In 1983, he was a foundation member of the Takapuna Probus Club, served on the foundation Executive, is a past president and Life member.

Current interests are Rugby football, sailing, motor sport, Rotary history and current affairs with particular interest in the Middle Eastern countries.



RON NETHERCUTT
ROTI Chair 2007-2009

**Project ideas
Reflections
Rotary Information
Announcements**

**and
Collections
of Club,
District, Zone
Data
among
ROTI membership**

**Email
jazzprof@gmail.com**

This is a special time of the year for many ROTIans, so I wanted to share some advice and humo(u)r for those that fall in this category.

Went for my evening walk last night and WOW, was a pleasant surprise. Beautiful lights are being put up on all the trees on the sidewalk around the Parade Grounds on the Clark Economic Zone; the former US Clark Air Force base. They were about one half completed and this morning crews were out again; looks they will finish soon the 2.5 km perimeter soon.. Many folks are out enjoying the cool air, the exercise, and the beautiful lights. There are over 10 strings of lights on each tree and each have 100 light, which means 1,000 lights on each tree. Today I counted 140 trees with lights, so that's or 140,000 lights. Someone else can check my math; they are just estimates, but they are MY estimates and I am sticking to them. Maybe your neighborhood, town or city has something similar. Venture out for a walk and join the crowd; you won't regret it.

How about posting on the list YOUR favorite place to walk or run. That's important this time of the year with all the holiday meals. Glo and I just returned from a massive and delicious Thanksgiving dinner at our favorite Cajun restaurant and I know I gained at least 5 pounds!

Now to share a bit of humor with some items I found on the internet.

- *Supermarket shopping etiquette for the busiest grocery time of the year must begin outside in the parking lot, or even two blocks away, where the traffic to get into the parking lot is building.*
- Please pull into the first available parking space. Trust me: There is nothing closer. If you choose to idle behind a car you think is going to pull out of a space, the occupant of that car is destined to be buckling a toddler and an infant into car seats, and having trouble with the buckles. This means the traffic behind you is now backed up for three blocks instead of the usual two.
- *Once upon a time, in a galaxy far, far away, it was the custom for people to open doors for each other, especially for the elderly. It was a nice custom. We should revive it. But do not faint and block the entrance if someone tries to practice this old-school art on you.*
- Do not under any circumstances stop in the middle of the aisle -- especially not the poultry aisle -- to talk on your cell phone. The guy blocked in behind you, the one with only rum and eggnog in his cart, is getting a look in his eye and it's not pretty.
- *It is forbidden to abandon your grocery cart in the middle of the aisle while you rummage through every single one of the turkeys. If you do it anyway, and then return to your cart without a turkey, be prepared to take cover.*
- Citizens in motorized shopping carts have the right of way at all times. The more items are piled in their carts, the faster you must yield.
- *Let's talk about your children, shall we? If they are not in your cart, where are they? Are the little angels helping an elderly person reach the cranberries? What? I can't hear you due to the shrieking of the child who just ran in front of my cart. She's yours? I'm sure nothing is broken. That's not blood, its cranberries.*
- Since you are wandering the aisles and throwing random items into your cart anyway, toss in a can or two to put in the food bank barrel at the front of the store.
- *Please use your time waiting in line at the deli case to figure out exactly what want to order and how you want it sliced. Dilly-dallying at the front of the line makes the 20 people behind you want to beat you with a stick of salami.*
- If you have never used the self-check-out lane, now is not the time to learn.
- *Chatting with people in the long checkout lines is encouraged, as it helps pass the time and you might just learn something. I've gotten some of my best recipes this way, and learned how to prepare raccoon with sweet potatoes. There are a number of great opening lines, such as, "What are you going to make with your oysters?"*
- If you're too shy to blow kisses to checkout personnel when they are kind and helpful, a sincere "thank you" suffices.
- *Bringing your own reusable grocery bags does indeed make you 50 percent hipper than anyone else in the checkout line, but you are not allowed to say so with body language. If you can possibly tip anyone, do it.*
- When leaving the supermarket, do not dash out among the constant stream of cars trying to enter and exit the dangerous parking lot. Stick to the crosswalk. Even if you have on neon pants that glow brighter than the moon, I still can't see you.
- *It is illegal and a fire hazard to park your car directly in front of the store to wait around for your party to emerge, unless you are a firefighter and somebody in the deli line has been set ablaze.*
- Once clear of the parking lot, give thanks that you survived.

WHAT'S UP

in Bangkok now?

*A personal account
by PP Ariel Jersey,
RC Angeles Midtown
D3790 Philippines*



On 8-12 November 2011, I attended the International Map Trade Association (IMTA) Asia Pacific held at Imperial Queens Park, Bangkok. The event was very successful although we had lesser attendance. Bad publicity brought about by the flooding in Bangkok caused the other delegates to cancel out their trip.

As I walked on the streets of Bangkok from Windsor Suites Hotel to where I was accommodated, a block from Imperial Queen's Park Hotel, I noticed that some of the establishments were still keeping their sandbags up front. I also noticed that in nearby 7Eleven store, there was no drinking water available. Probably because they were still waiting for the flood scare to settle down.



Busy street of Bangkok

The conference venue was located near the train station. We took the train during our fellowship night and went bar hopping.

The streets were still busy, the clubs and restaurants had good crowd, and people were still doing their everyday life. No indication of problems mentioned in newspapers.

We also walked around the shopping district areas; the place was full and busy.

I asked one of the hotel staff about the floods and he said that the flooded areas were in the suburb of Bangkok City... and according to him, hopefully by Christmas the flood would be repelled and their life would be back to normal.

Worried about RI 2012 Bangkok Convention? I am not.



Bangkok Skyline, view from my hotel

THAILAND REPORTS...



Tourism Authority of Thailand (TAT) is wooing back travellers, with the statement that 97 per cent of tourist attractions nationwide are safe from floods.

In a statement, it said some 40 of Thailand's 1,200 tourist attractions that appeal to international visitors, or around 3 per cent of Thailand's key tourist attractions, have been affected by the floods. The World Heritage Site in Ayutthaya, around 50 km north of Bangkok, is also dry now.

"At the TAT, our hearts go out to all the Thai people affected by the flood," said TAT Governor Suraphon Svetasreni. "All Thais are pulling together to help each other and the country has received generous support from many countries, especially the people of China. The flood waters are receding in the central provinces, all the way down to Ayutthaya, and the cleanup has begun.

The remaining floodwaters in the affected parts of Bangkok and the surrounding provinces are expected to be clear within the next four to six weeks. Meanwhile, tourist destinations in the rest of Thailand are ready to welcome visitors from China."

In a statement released to promote its newly-launched Bangkok-Brussels route, Thai Airways International President Piyasvasti Amranand said THAI as the national carrier of Thailand aids in the efforts to rejuvenate the country following the national flood disaster, especially revival of travel, tourism, and transport. He is elevated by the fact that several countries that issued travel advisories concerning travel to Thailand have lifted these warnings, while water levels have receded in several areas in Bangkok.

He said that passengers are able to connect THAI flights to provincial destinations at Suvarnabhumi Airport as normal.

THAI is boosting passenger confidence in travel to Thailand through its offices worldwide, with the support of Royal Thai Embassies and overseas offices of the Tourism Authority of Thailand offices at destinations that THAI serves.

According to TAT, tourist attractions and destinations outside of Thailand's central provinces are experiencing normal conditions and continue welcoming visitors. This includes Pattaya, Phuket, Rayong and Chiang Mai, which are favourite destinations for tourists from China. Almost all other tourist destinations in Thailand including Sukhothai, Chiang Rai, Surat Thani and Ko Samui, are also not affected by the flooding in the Central Region. Even in the Central Region, places such as Hua Hin and ChaAm are outside the area affected by the flood.

Suvarnabhumi Airport, the main gateway to Thailand for international flights, is not affected by the flood and all flights continue operating as per usual. The airport, which has considerable water management and flood prevention measures, serves over 800 flights per day. There were more than 958,000 international visitor arrivals at Suvarnabhumi Airport during October 2011, an increase of 6.7 per cent over the previous year. Connecting flights from Suvarnabhumi Airport to other airports to other destinations within Thailand are operating normally.

Don Mueang Airport, which has not handled international flights for more than five years, is the only airport in Thailand closed due to flooding. Two small domestic airlines based at Don Mueang are currently operating their daily flights out of Suvarnabhumi Airport.

In the Bangkok Metropolitan Area, the central part of the city is not flooded and government officials are confident their flood prevention efforts will keep it dry except for some places close to the Chao Phraya River during high tides. Flooding in the Bangkok area is mainly in outlying residential and industrial zones in the city's east and west, the city's northern districts, and the western side of the Chao Phraya River.

The statement was issued mainly to woo back travellers from China. During the first nine months of 2011, international tourist arrivals to Thailand reached 14.4 million. Over 1.3 million of these arrivals were from China, a 9.06 per cent increase over the same period last year. Some 42 per cent were repeat visitors and 43 per cent travelled in group tours.

Travellers from China can also fly directly to destinations such as Phuket and Koh Samui. In October 2011, the number of tourist arrivals at Phuket was up almost 28 per cent compared to the same period last year. Phuket International Airport had 40,500 arrivals during 16 November, a 40 per cent increase compared to the same period last year.

As the flooding has mainly affected Thailand's agricultural and industrial sectors, tourism will play an important role in sustaining the country's economy, providing employment and contributing to Thailand's recovery. A significant part of the recovery process will be increased tourist arrivals and sustaining employment in this important part of the Thai economy. More than 2,000,000 Thai people work in Thailand's tourism sector.

"The TAT hopes that more travellers from China will visit Thailand, especially those who planned to come during the high season. They will enjoy all the country has to offer while making an important contribution to the Thai economy, especially in terms of supporting jobs in the tourism sector that will generate income for the Thai people," said Suraphon.

TAT is bringing 100 members of the Chinese media to see first hand that very few of Thailand's tourist attractions were affected by the flood. More than 300 media from other countries worldwide will also visit Thailand on similar trips over the next weeks.



The MEANING of the SEASON

Well, Fellow Rotarians.

Here we are, going into one of the most insightful and reflective times of the year.

For northern hemisphere people, in the midst of winter and the diminishing hours of the sun's passage from East to West, we anticipate solstice and the many spiritual and meaningful celebrations of the season.

It's an introspective time.

We reflect

on our fortunes and struggles: having again endured, overcome and survived life's indignities, insults and set-backs: having become aware of our growth, gratitude and gifts bestowed by the passing year: our coming to terms with gains and losses in the midst of economic and political chaos and instability: our absorbing the new and unraveling threads woven into and pulled from our intimate blanket of family and friends: and our gathering together in the breaking of bread, the clinking of glasses, the bowing of heads, the embrace of loved ones. We serve the less fortunate around the world, we celebrate, we are grateful, we have reverence, we gird our loins and optimistically anticipate a new year.

In this context we confront

a Sears sexy cutie's heavy-breathing, orgasmic pleasures of a stairmaster, a MacDonald's 30-something adolescent's oral fantasies of pork ribs in preferenceto his fiancé, a Zales disembodied finger demonstrating love's meaning through refracted artificial light, or buxom babes and buff dudes who can't resist the condensation on sweaty beverage glasses of fermented hops and grapes or distilled spirits. Go ahead, folks, delve into the significance of the season! But, don't forget to buy, buy, buy and consume, consume, consume. Consume especially those material, conspicuous and hedonistic things that represent your ability to assume debt, swipe plastic, keep up with the neighbors, generate corporate profits and distract attention from the truly meaningful values of life.

Yeah. That's what this season is all about!

Am I too sensitive or is feeling offended justified?

Just sayin'

I wish you all a Happy and Reflective Thanksgiving. Be grateful for life's blessings and don't be distracted by artificial needs to consume. Embrace the true values of your life.

Onward and upward,

Jon Deisher, PP, Anchorage Rotary/D5010, Anchorage, Rotary

BANGKOK and FEES

"Philip Merritt" <papa354@...> wrote:

Earlier today I went to Members Access at the RI site and registered for the Bangkok Convention. I was wondering if RI has made any official comments regarding how the flooding might affect the Convention, or if any of you have any inside information on possible scenarios that might happen if the flooding does not abate for many months. Has RI ever canceled or moved a Convention? My best guess is that the situation will be under control at least a couple of months before the Convention and that will give Thailand sufficient time to bring some normality back to the country.

Also I heard that the cost of registration at this convention is much lower than previous years. (it is \$160.00 if paid before Dec 1) Does anyone remember the registration costs from the last few years? Who exactly determines or decides how much the registration will be? It is my understanding that the registration fees are substantially lower for Bangkok because the government there contributed several million dollars to the event. That has not happened in past Conventions.

The RI Convention scheduled for New Orleans was moved to Salt Lake City due to the devastation of Katrina. It was placed back in New Orleans last summer. Salt Lake City was chosen due to having recently held Olympics, some new facilities, and infrastructure.

Registration fees for Chicago, Salt Lake City, Los Angeles, Montreal, and New Orleans, that Glo and I attended started just below \$300 and rose Dec 15, and again in March, and again at the convention site. We did not attend Copenhagen or Birmingham (England, not Alabama) but understand the cost was similar.

Not sure 'who' sets the fees, but I am sure a lot of it is governed by the cost of the convention site. The time of the year also affects the costs.

- **PP Ron**, RC Mabalacat D 3790, Angeles City, Philippines

It is my understanding that the registration fees are substantially lower for Bangkok because the government there contributed several million dollars to the event. That has not happened in past Conventions.

- **Eugene L. Beil**, Centennial PDG 6950, Rotary Club of Hudson, FL

Daniel W. Mooers <dwm@mooers-law.com> wrote:

Gene:

Your information, so far as I know, is accurate. The registration fees result from the recommendation of the Convention Committee and are adopted (set) by the RI Board of Directors.

FREE CLUB WEBSITE

Bob Erickson <cirkut8@hotmail.com> wrote: Does your club, district, zone or project need a website? Google Sites are free.

<https://sites.google.com/site/rotaryclubtemplate/>
<<https://sites.google.com/site/rotaryclubtemplate/>>

The above link is to a Google Sites template that I created. To use it you must first...

- * Create a Google account for the club, district, zone or project. I recommend that you create a new Gmail account for your club, district, zone or project at <http://mail.google.com> <<http://mail.google.com>>
- * Sign into Google at Google.com
- * Go to the site/template above.
- * Choose "Use Template".
- * You will be asked for a name for the website.
- * Change the information to fit you
- * Watch the videos on the "Using Google Docs" page.



All the other reindeers used to laugh and call him names....



GUATEMALA DENTAL-MEDICAL MISSION

PDG Douglas W Vincent, RC Woodstock-Oxford, D7080 Canada
Rotary United Nations Representative, Z24



Hi Rotarians and Friends:

It was an early morning start in the Toronto airport at 6 am, where we came early to arrange the 46 duffle bags of medical equipment and supplies as well as our personal luggage. It was a task of weighing and repacking items to balance and ensure each bag used our maximum 50 lb baggage allowance without being overweight. In the end, we found the airline staff very forgiving for a few pounds.

Twenty three health care professionals are on this trip, made up of Rotarians, Care Partner nurses, family and friends. Altogether we have two Doctors, one Dentist, a Pharmacist, Physiotherapist, several nurses and a few others to handle training and logistical duties.

After a layover in El Salvador, the tired group was happy to land in Guatemala City. Everyone except for three of the team was ushered straight through customs. I was one of the unlucky ones who had luggage x-rayed and then had to explain what we were doing with the large amount of medical items. The officer was concerned we had no documentation, especially a letter of invitation from a Guatemalan agency.

Another team member questioned was John from Mississauga. When they opened his bag there were boxes of condoms and Tylenol. They asked what all the condoms were for and he said "to provide relief" and they looked at him puzzled but let him go. We had fun teasing him about that one . . . After a short discussion and sharing of some Rotary souvenir pins, the officer allowed us to carry on with a "Thanks for coming to help our Guatemalan people" greeting.

Once outside the airport terminal we were pleased to see John Smith was waiting for the group with a school bus ready to transport us. He escorted us to a Seminary about 1/2 hour away, which would serve as our home for the next three nights. It was a nice setting with flowers, gardens and well painted buildings. This is summer break so we had use of the plainly furnished, concrete dormitory with basic bunk beds and a shared bathroom at the end of the hall.

Good food was provided in the school cafeteria each day by local women who shared some local Guatemalan meals. They also supplied bag lunches of jam and peanut butter sandwiches which we took with us each day on our trek out to the rural areas for clinic set up.

Everyone was up early the next day for our 1 1/2 hour school bus trek to the village of San Juan, where a local Church allowed us to use their facilities. Shortly after our arrival, the room full of benches and furniture was transformed to create a variety of work stations. Our team had brought several sheets and some rope to curtain off some private examination and treatment areas for the Dentist and Doctors.

In addition to these areas, a nursing triage area prioritized patient needs with treatment for simple cases and referral to one of the two Doctors, Dentist or Physiotherapist. Our Rotarian Pharmacist had a good supply of common medications, several donated and some funded by the team. We also bought some locally in Guatemala due to the extra needs or logistics of transporting from Canada.

One of the early dental challenges was the lack of a portable dental unit used for suction and drilling to repair teeth. This had been expected based on advance planning but did not materialize, except for loan a portable dental chair which was appreciated. (We are still fundraising to purchase one, but in the meantime had hoped to borrow one).

Luckily the church Pastor knew of someone two hours away who had a portable unit and arrangements were made to obtain it. Not only did we get use of the unit, but the 'wanna be' Dentist came to help as well. He appreciated learning from our Dentist and provided good assistance with extractions in addition to the three Canadian nursing assistants.

The next challenge was that the duffle bag with all of the dentist's instruments was left behind at the dormitory, so the Pastor kindly drove me the 3 hour round trip to get it. In the meantime, limited dental treatment was available with the local volunteer and his portable unit.

When I returned to the church, the room was buzzing with activity and happy faces of the poor Mayan people as they left the clinic. An important part of the health care service includes education on personal health and hygiene, as well as tooth brushing lessons and fluoride treatments. Of course the children carry off their tubes of tooth paste and tooth brushes with much delight. Eye glasses for reading were also available for those with eyesight problems.

By then end of our first day 168 patients had received treatment and a tired but happy team returned for some well deserved rest and nourishment.

Day 2 was a shorter drive, approximately 45 minutes, up into the rural mountain area. Again we were welcomed at a local church where the benches and tables were quickly re-arranged into a series of examination and treatment areas similar to yesterday. After the experience of our first day, the traffic flow of patients was greatly improved, but it is always a challenge to control the energetic and inquisitive children.

In the dental area, we purposely arranged the waiting bench to face away from the dental chair. But in short order, the curious onlookers were perched on their knees, looking backwards over the rear of the bench. Obviously their apprehension raised when they observed the first needle and extraction! So we quickly realized that privacy a curtain was necessary, which ended up being more sheets hung off ropes with clothes pegs. Luckily we found some microphone stands in the church to extend and use for poles to support the rope.

The local residents were very friendly and helpful, especially the church elders who went to get additional tables and supplies we required. And it was very kind of a neighboring family who allowed us to use their bathroom facilities, since none were available in the church.

An additional benefit of this was the opportunity to view their primitive home and family compound, including watching the ladies weaving and sewing items. We also observed the men of the family sifting, cleaning and bagging some of their maize harvest for sale.

Once again, our tired but happy team headed back to our dormitory home to enjoy a well cooked Guatemalan meal, followed by a debriefing meeting of the group. Tomorrow we pack up and move on to another distant location, taking time to do some sightseeing along the way.

More to come on this exciting journey.



Sara Mansbach
<saramansbach@gmail.com> wrote:

Dear PDG Doug,
Thanks for reporting on the statistics presented during your visit to the United Nations on November 4th. This evening I read the report you alluded to, The Millennium Development Goals Report 2011.

I am not sure what you are doing with regard to Canada's focus, but if your priorities include the *educational* "development of countries/ population at risk, such as Afghanistan, Haiti and the Sudan's. . ." then our District 7750 in upstate South Carolina would welcome you as partners. You could help us in a number of ways--only some of which include your knowledge of the Haitian culture, your familiarity with preschool to adult French literature, and your skills with the French language.

Having just gotten back from a two week literacy work visit to Haiti, I am afraid that we still have a long way to go to assist that country in making significant changes. Our Rotary efforts focused on starting to put French and Creole books into a library filled previously by English picture and chapter books. And on schools.

In the 21 preschools we are serving both those 4 near the village and those in the 17 remote sites (some a 3 1/2 hour hike away), only 50% of the children had class workbooks. Not one of our 21 teachers had pencils, paper, crayons, markers, pencil sharpeners. Not a shortage of these learning tools; no tools; no charts; no color posters.

We also provided fundamental training information in Creole on reading comprehension. The picture books we gave the teachers were the only ones they had to share.

I read the section of The Millennium Development Goals Report on Goal 2: Achieve universal primary education with affirmation and skepticism. The report states these facts which unfortunately fit Haiti perfectly: "To achieve universal primary education, children everywhere must complete a full cycle of primary schooling. Current statistics show that the world is far from meeting that goal. Only 87 out of 100 children in the developing regions complete primary education. In half of the least developed countries, at least two out of five children in primary school drop out before reaching the last grade." >>>>>>>>

TIES and SCARVES in CLUB MEETINGS

Remember when we all wore suits, even down to the most junior office boys, in the middle of hot steamy summers? Later, bank officers in my country threatened to strike when they were refused permission to wear shorts and knee-length socks (but with ties, naturally) in the same heat and humidity. They sparked the relaxation in summer office dress. In those days we all wore suits and ties to Rotary meetings as a matter of course and our wives/partners wore long gowns to the monthly Ladies' Nights. Suddenly about 1978/79, the long gowns were discarded by the ladies for those meetings, apart from Changeover Nights.

My understanding is that the transformation to casual dress for work began at the time of the rapid expansion of Silicon Valley, when the software companies had great difficulty in recruiting computer programmers. Maybe someone can confirm this as fact or fiction.

- **Norm Winterbottom**, Rotary Club of Milford, Auckland, NZ (D9910)

Wearing a tie should not be made compulsory. There are some members who are pressurised to wear a tie while on duty..their profession. If the club meeting is in the evening or lunch time..let them relax by not using pressure around their neck. A club here finds members who do not wear tie at the meets. I have tried to point out that finds should not be a punishmentbut fun. what do members say ?

- **PP.Anthonysamy Francis**, R.C. Seremban.,D3300

**DZPerson@aol.com" <DZPerson@aol.com> wrote:
Greetings !!!!**

Wearing a tie to each meeting should be mandatory - after all, this is Rotary and not the bank office !!!!

My son graduated from the university in August 2010. Luckily he was hired by Microsoft and began with them in July 2011. He had interviewed with 2-3 other companies prior to Microsoft, wearing coats & ties to the interviews.

A few of his fellow students from the university were already working at Microsoft when he interviewed with MSFT. His friends told him - wear a nice pair of slacks and shirt, but no tie and no coat. It's just not their 'culture'. He has thoroughly enjoyed his first several months working at MSFT. Great company, great benefits.

His dad, on the other hand, wears a dress shirt and tie every day to work - and long slacks, even in the summer.

- **Todd Lindley DDS FAGD**

Rotary Foundation Alumni Coordinator, Zone 31

Past District Governor, District 6060, 2010-2011 Overland MO

I did not say, I as a Rotarian do wear a tie, close reading does not reveal either you say so? Even our official Club Dress code is bussiness suit, I mostly wear a jacket only.

Other uses for a tie are: bandage, mitella, use it to stop acute arterial bleeding and many more. A \$100,00 would be great to use as a woman's belt..... Just kidding.

- **Pimm Blankevoort**, Rotary Club Curacao, District 4370

Good Evening All.

This is my first response to ROTI communications. I have read and thought this is a good communication avenue for Rotarians to express their thoughts and have a great banter, something that I really enjoy.

Well "ties" in my club the Rotary Club of the South Cotswolds in District 1100 we wear ties until it is summer time March - October then we are allowed to disregard them. Then until just recently we had to obtain the Presidents permission to remove our jackets, that as now changed, if you are getting hot you can take it off! Thanks President Margaret, your Rotarian husband Ray. I have been a Rotarian for nearly 25 years, I believe we should all pull together and increase our awareness within the world and create more members.

- **PP Ray Sanderson**. PHF. Rotary Club of the South Cotswolds Uk Assistant Governor District 1100 (2010-11)



WHO IS WEARING RIGHT? Two clubs met for the first time; local club in its club informal uniform, international club in tie and jacket....

Had a tie been mandatory, I would not have joined. At International events, I fully intend to wear my barong Tagalogs. I'm a member of a Philippine club and will wear their national dress.

In fact, I think it'd be remarkably cool if everyone did this. Suits are boring. Everyone should wear the national formal clothing of their own culture.

- **James Shields**, Rotary Club of Tacloban (District 3860, Phils)

Interesting that you should mention coat & tie vs barong. At most formal Rotary events in D 3790 (Philippines) I wear a barong but many of the Filipinos are in coat & tie. Sometimes I jokingly ask why is the foreigner wearing a barong and the Filipino wearing a coat and tie?

Some of them told me that they wear a barong at their office, and to "dress up, they wear a suit and tie." I smile and stay comfortable in my barong while I notice some of them sweating in a coat & tie.

- **Ron Nethercutt**, Past ROTI Chair, RC Mabalacat D 3790

Aloha Ron,

Comparing a coat and tie with a traditional barong is not a good comparison. A coat and tie doesn't symbolize or represent any culture, whereas the barong has a special design and look. It is absolutely ridiculous today that an average tie cost upwards of 30 dollars each. I can buy two decent polo shirts for that and a pair of shorts cost less. If the tie had a purpose, I think I may soften my position, but I have yet to hear someone finish the sentence: "You know, the tie could be used for"

- **Alan Okinaka**, RC of Hilo Bay, Hilo, HI, District 5000

Only time I wear a tie is if someone is getting married, buried or billed by the hour. That means that if you see me in a tie, something is not going well for someone.

- **Steve Coleman**, SaveGSE.org, R.C. Danbury, Texas D5890

In our district 3780 Quezon City, Metro Manila. The district officers and presidents wear uniforms (usually coat and tie) based on the official coat or suit colors of the RI President. The tie is also the official tie. We also have a Barong Tagalog version with the theme logo embroidered. Of course needless to say, the DG subsidizes the cost of the uniform. This has been a practice for many years. In our type of climate, I really do prefer the Barong but the suit is also popular in the business communities of nearby Ortigas and Makati.

I remember I visited a Rotary club in California once where there are several Filipino members. During that particular breakfast meeting, the Filipino members wore coat and tie and the rest were informal. I was wearing a Rotary sports jacket (no tie).

I also remember the first time I met Ron Nethercutt and this was at the Chicago Centennial convention. I(the Filipino) was wearing a suit which as James earlier mentioned we often refer to as "Amerikana" and Ron (the American) was wearing the Filipino Barong. Strange things happen sometimes ha ha ..

- **Jesse Tanchanco**, RC Loyola Heights, RI District 3780 Quezon City, Philippines

I was considering sending this email to ROTI Tech but thought otherwise, Maybe I was wrong
- **Jesse Tanchanco**, RC Loyola Heights D3780

WARNING: DON'T UPGRADE YOUR GF TO WIFE

Dear Tech Support Team,

... ..

Last year I upgraded from Girlfriend 5.0 to Wife 1.0. I soon noticed that the new program began unexpected child-processes that took up a lot of space and valuable resources.

In addition, Wife 1.0 installed itself into all other programs and now monitors all other system activities. Applications such as BachelorNights 10.3 , PlayBall 5.0 , BeerWithBuddies 7.5, and Outings 3.6 no longer run, crashing the system whenever selected. I can't seem to keep Wife 1.0 in the background while attempting to run my favorite applications. I'm thinking about going back to Girlfriend 5.0 , but the 'uninstall' doesn't work on Wife 1.0 .

Please help! Thanks,
"A Troubled User"

REPLY: Dear **Troubled User**,

This is a very common problem that people complain about. Many people upgrade from Girlfriend 5.0 to Wife 1.0 , thinking that it is just a Utilities and Entertainment program. Wife 1.0 is an OPERATING SYSTEM and is designed by its Creator to run EVERYTHING!!!

It is also impossible to delete Wife 1.0 and to return to Girlfriend 5.0 . It is impossible to uninstall, or purge the program files from the system once installed. You cannot go back to Girlfriend 5.0 because Wife 1.0 is designed not to allow this. (Look in your Wife 1.0 Manual under Warnings-Alimony-Child Support).

BANTER:
Don't Upgrade
your GF to WIFE

I recommend that you keep Wife1.0 and work on improving the environment. I suggest installing the background application "Yes Dear" to alleviate software augmentation. The best course of action is to enter the command C:\APOLOGIZE because ultimately you will have to give the APOLOGIZE command before the system will return to normal anyway.

Wife 1.0 is a great program, but it tends to be very high maintenance. Wife 1.0 comes with several support programs, such as Clean 2.5, Sweep 3.0, Cook 1.5 and DoLaundry 4.2.

However, be very careful how you use these programs. Improper use will cause the system to launch the program NagNag 9.5. Once this happens, the only way to improve the performance of Wife 1.0 is to purchase additional software Dresses 2.1 and Jewellery 5.0.

WARNING: DO NOT, under any circumstances, install SecretaryWithShortSkirt 3.3 . This application is not supported by Wife 1.0 and will cause irreversible damage to the operating system and to your computer as well....

This very serious stuff.

Why call it BANTER in the first place.

You forgot all trouble when "THE" VIRUS jumps in to Wife (all versions are vulnerable for attacks and cross infections happen), be careful with GF and Secretary V69 and other suspicious software on your hardware always use high standard protection. My advise would be software to be downloaded from URL: con.dom.com

- **Pimm Blankevoort**, Rotary Club Curacao
www.RotaryCuracao.org, District 4370

By selling fair trade coffee to Rotary clubs throughout the United States, a former Rotary Foundation Ambassadorial Scholar is helping to raise money to fund worldwide clean water initiatives.

[http://www.rotary.org/SiteCollectionImages/News/111110_coffee_narrow.jpg]

A pump provides water to a village in Tanzania -- part of a project made possible by the Foundation's donor advised fund. Water and sanitation is one of Rotary's areas of focus under the Future Vision Plan. Photo courtesy of Five for Water Five for Water <<http://www.fiveforwater.org/>> , a project started by Bill Prost, a member of the Rotary Club of Cape Girardeau, Missouri, USA, finances a Rotary Foundation donor advised fund <<http://www.rotary.org/en/contribute/waystogive/donoradvisedfund/pages/r/default.aspx>> for water projects in coffee-producing countries.

After forming a partnership with Green Mountain Coffee, Prost invited clubs to purchase the organic coffee and sell it in their community. Funds generated from the sales would go toward water projects throughout Africa, Central and South America, and Indonesia.

"I wanted to create a year-round project that's fit for any size club," says Prost, who studied in England as a 1979-80 Rotary Scholar. "Any club, no matter how large or small, can help be a part of this. It's a really simple project."

Coffee sales

Even though the project was launched only a year ago, more than 300 clubs in the United States are already selling the coffee. Their efforts have netted nearly \$184,000, providing more than 50,000 people in 10 countries with access to clean water.

An estimated two million people die every year from waterborne diseases, and more than one billion lack access to clean water, according to the World Health Organization. "I told myself that, as a Rotarian, it was my responsibility to do something about [that]," Prost says.

After the money is raised, clubs seek an international partnership with another club and apply for a Rotary Foundation Matching Grant. A big focus of Five for Water has been funding the installation of wells to serve schools, orphanages, and medical clinics -- but, according to Prost, the project's scope goes beyond that. "We're not narrow-minded on what we'll fund," he

SELL COFFEE
to FUND WATER
PROJECT

Wells in Bolivia

Recently, Five for Water installed eight wells in Bolivia and pump stations near a reservoir in Sumatra. Prost has also partnered with a club in Missouri and Engineers Without Borders to create a pipeline in Honduras that supplies water from an existing well and a water tower. The project's goal is to provide more than 300 families with clean drinking water.

Because Five for Water only sells coffee in the United States, and several clubs elsewhere have expressed an interest in getting involved, Prost says the next step is to expand the project internationally.

"This is a simple and fun project designed for any club," he says. "It works because Rotary has so many international components, and we're all wanting to work together for a similar cause."

Sign up to receive Reconnections

<<http://www.rotary.org/en/StudentsAndYouth/Alumni/ReconnectionsNewsletter/r/Pages/r/default.aspx>> to read more about Rotary Foundation alumni.

- **PP Ron Ron Nethercutt** D 3790 Rotary Information Chair RC Mabalacat Angeles City, Philippines

BANTER: RECESSION UPDATES

1. Ali Baba and the forty thieves are now Ali Baba and the 30 thieves. Ten were laid off.
2. Batman and Robin are now Batman and Pedro. Batman fired Robin and hired Pedro because Pedro was willing to work twice the hours at the same rate.
3. Iron man now "air-pooling" with Superman to save fuel costs.
4. Women finally marrying for love, and not money.
5. Q: With the current market turmoil, what's the easiest way to make a small fortune? A: Start off with a large one.
6. The credit crunch is getting bad isn't it? I mean, I let my brother borrow \$10 a couple of weeks back, it turns out I'm now America's third biggest lender.
7. Q: What's the difference between an American and a Zimbabwean? *A: In a few weeks, nothing.

- **Rtn Makhan Sarda**, PP / MPH, RC Malda Central.*



FUN CHRISTMAS FACTS

The song "White Christmas" holds the credit as the most-selling Christmas single of all time.

Santa Claus has nine reindeer counting Rudolph that pull his sleigh.

Saturnalia, was the Romans holiday that was celebrated in December.

It wasn't until about 200 years after Christ's death that Christians started celebrating his birth.

In northern Europe there was a holiday known as Yule. They celebrated this holiday by making great fires. They then would dance around the fires, yelling for the winter to end.

Austria was the first country to issue a Christmas postage stamp.

Silver and gold are the popular Christmas colors after red and green.

Eggnog the popular Christmas food was an American discovery.

The Christmas carol "I Saw Momma Kissing Santa Claus" was made famous by Jimmy Boyd when he was just 12 years old.

Christmas lights were invented by the American Ralph E. Morris.

W. C. T. Dobson invented the Christmas card.

Canada is the largest exporter of Christmas trees.

King's Canyon National Park, California has the world's largest Christmas tree.

Coca-Cola made the concept of Santa Claus popular in America.

There are twelve days between Christmas and the Epiphany.

Rudolph the Red-Nosed Reindeer was originally created for Montgomery Ward department stores as part of a promotional gimmick.

CHRISTMAS TREE RECIPE

- 3 tbsp. margarine
- 32 lg. marshmallows
- ½ tsp. vanilla extract
- ½ tsp. green pepper coloring
- 4 c. Cheerios
- Sm. gum drops, sliced

Melt margarine and marshmallows in saucepan over low heat, stirring constantly. Remove from heat. Stir in vanilla and food coloring. Pour over cereal in large bowl; mix to coat. Shape warm mixture 2/3 cup at a time into Christmas trees on waxed paper with buttered hands. Decorate with gum drops to represent tree ornaments, add paper stars for tops. Let stand until cool. Yields 6 trees.

MERRY CHRISTMAS!!



GREETINGS
from the
ROTI
LEADERSHIP
COUNCIL
@RotiLdr1113