



# NEWSLETTER

ROTARY INTERNATIONAL DISTRICT 5020

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## DISTRICT GOVERNOR'S MESSAGE: **JOANNE CROGHAN**

September is literacy month in the Rotary Calendar. There are so many options for clubs to make a difference with literacy both in their respective communities and throughout the world, that I would think that each of 90+ clubs would win a literacy award at the end of this Rotary year. We set a record last year with 26 clubs being recognized for their literacy efforts. We hope to honor even more clubs

on May 6, 2017 at our Combined District Training and Conference in Suquamish, WA.

Our District has a Literacy Committee that is chaired by Judy Henderson, a member of the Rotary Club of Olympia. This committee is a great resource to each of us when we need a bit of help putting a literacy project together for our communities. A very good way for a club to begin involvement in literacy projects would be to appoint a literacy chairperson.

On our District website under "Resources" there is a great deal of information on Literacy. There is an application for District Literacy Awards. Take a look at

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Mark Bolender, Foundation Chair for Rotary Club of Twin Cities in Chehalis, presents Dave Shook with his Major Donor Pin and Certificate. Rotarians become Major Donors when their cash contributions reach \$10,000 US. Married Rotarians may combine their donations to reach this level together.

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# DISTRICT GOVERNOR'S MESSAGE

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the application and you may find that your club is already well on your way to an award.

There are 101 suggestions listed that were collected from the Literacy Award applications received over the past several years. This is broken down into three categories:

- 1) **“Club Literacy”** are projects that can take place within your club;
- 2) **“Funding Focused”** are projects where your club funds a literacy project;
- 3) **“Front-Line Literacy”** where your club members volunteer in a literacy capacity.

Many of us learned to read at a very young age. In many cases we take this skill for granted. The option to learn to read is not a given and there are people, perhaps right in our communities, that missed the opportunity for a variety of reasons. Initiating a literacy project is an easy way to make a difference in a community — either one we live in or one that we know needs help. See page 9 of this newsletter for a District Literacy Grant opportunity.

As Don and I travel around our District we are very pleased to see so many of our clubs participating in literacy projects each year.

Contact Joanne at: [croghanj@aol.com](mailto:croghanj@aol.com)

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## WOMEN'S PRISON RELEASE PROGRAM BRINGS HOPE

by Buck Frymier  
Past President Rotary Club of Gig Harbor  
Rotary Member since 1975

Working with women prison inmates was a new experience — for all of us in the Rotary Club of Gig Harbor. None of our Rotarians had ever been inside the state women’s prison (Washington Corrections Center for Women in Gig Harbor houses some 940 women).

Working with inmates was initially challenging — we didn’t know what to expect.

That changed quickly as we realized these were people very similar to ourselves — women, daughters, mothers, grandmothers — many genuinely seeking help to make it on the outside after release. Rotary hearts, minds and attitudes were also changed as a result.

Budget cuts eliminating reentry programming in 2012 opened the door for Rotary to launch a reentry program focused on employment. With help from the prison, Employment Security, Goodwill Industries, and Rebuilding Families, a reentry employment training (RET) course was launched in 2013. To date 350 inmates have graduated.



## WOMEN'S PRISON PROGRAM CONTINUED FROM PAGE 2



We soon discovered a huge need for continuing education — most women leave prison with a GED/ high school diploma but no additional career education/training — a set up for minimum wage jobs — a real problem when 50% of inmates have children to care for at home. Gig Harbor Rotary launched the Women's Prison Endowment Fund and now funds scholarships

for ex-offenders to continue their education (UW, Evergreen, community colleges, trade/technical schools).

Many inmates request Rotary Mentors after release. We are hoping to launch a pilot mentor program with other clubs throughout District 5020 to test the concept. Early experience with Rotary Mentors has been very positive.

My wife Kay and I have mentored 2 women following release and it has been a good experience for all of us.

Many struggle to find work after release. Our hope is to involve District 5020 Rotary clubs in creating a job bank, open to former inmates — given that 95% of those released back into the community need work. A halfway house in Gig Harbor serving women after release is yet another idea that has surfaced.

Working with inmates has been transformational for me, our Rotarians and many non-Rotary volunteers we work with. Old stereotypes regarding prison inmates prove false and we see them as persons little different from ourselves in many respects — yet desperately needing help, encouragement and a sense of hope they can make it on the outside after release.

For additional information (PDF Fact Sheet) on the Rotary Women's Prison Program: [\[here\]](#).

You may also want to watch this [2-minute video of the Reentry Employment Training Class](#).

## POULSBO ROTARY FIGHTS POVERTY

by Wendell Verduin,  
Rotary Club of Poulsbo North Kitsap;



The Poulsbo-North Kitsap Rotary Club has joined with Second Table Ministries (STM) to support two Early Childhood Development (ECD) centers in South Africa. Early childhood development has been recognized by the South African government as the single most effective human capital investment that can be made.

One promising project Poulsbo Rotary has helped support is an innovative home-based ECD program that one of STM's champions, Bradley Stoffels, pastor of Aliwal North in South Africa, has built in his village. Bradley's childhood education center has been so successful that he ran out of room to house all the children. His solution was to create satellite class rooms in selected homes in the neighborhoods surrounding his school.

Rotary's financial support has done much to further this effort, address the devastating injustice of Apartheid, and give these young children a fighting chance at a better life.



# MAKING A DIFFERENCE: WORKING TOGETHER, WE CAN DO MUCH MORE

Photo and article by Sandy Grenier, Public Relations Chair, Rotary Club of Port Hardy.  
Port Hardy Club president, Ana Estrada, presents a mug to the District Governor, Joanne Croghan.  
This article first appeared in the July 27, 2016 North Island Gazette, edited by Kathy O'Reilly-Taylor.

## The Port Hardy Rotary Club was visited by a dignitary at their July 14, 2016 luncheon meeting.

District 5020 Governor, Joanne Croghan, introduced herself as an "ordinary Rotarian" who joined the organization for a number of reasons. Croghan attended the meeting with her husband Don Mannino Chief of Staff, District 5020.

"I joined our club's developing International committee where we printed booklets that were written in

an African tribal language," said Croghan.

"Off to Africa I went to deliver the booklets. The local committee selected five schools to receive them. As I went from school to school, I got a pretty good idea of how Ugandan children looked and behaved," she said.

When she got to the fourth school, the children and adults looked depressed, and there was a coughing chorus in the background.

It was soon determined these people did not have access to a source of clean water. The women either filled their containers from roadside ditches, or in a nearby lake, risking being killed or maimed by crocodiles. "I petitioned my club to provide the \$6000 needed for a deep

water borehole. When I went back the following year to dedicate that well, I learned that there were 80 other villages that also needed a well. I knew I wasn't going to live long enough to do that 80 more times," she joked.

Croghan happened to read in a Rotary magazine about Rotary Foundation Global Grants, a program where clubs provide only part of the funds needed for larger projects. "When we apply to the Rotary Foundation for a Global Grant, it enables us to do far larger projects than many clubs are able to do on their own," she said, describing it as "leverage". "I don't have the personal resources to help 200,000 people have reasonable access to clean water.

I don't have the personal resources to wipe out a horrible

crippling disease called Polio, but as a member of Rotary, I can use the leverage available, and be a part of making something really big happen," she said. "I applied to provide clean water to 10 additional villages, then for 11 more villages, then for 11 more villages and finally many grants later, for a large Global Grant for over a million dollars. 191 villages now have a clean, tested source of water," said Croghan.

A huge success story is Polio Plus, she said, which began in a Rotary Club like Port Hardy's, not in corporate headquarters.

"The very last case of polio in the world may well happen in this Rotary year. It will still mean that we will need to continue the fight for three more years until the world is declared entirely free from the threat of this disease. What a gift to the children of the world," she said.

# PORT HARDY

## MYSTERY BUS HAS WETSUITS!?!

by Sandy Grenier, Public Relations Chair, Rotary Club of Port Hardy



Port Hardy Rotarians were at first confused but intrigued when their Mystery Bus arrived with wetsuits!

Every year the club organizes a Mystery Bus Tour inviting Rotarians and their friends to show up without knowing exactly what is in store for them on a day-long North Island adventure.

Most tours involve unique activities that many Rotarians have never experienced before. Years past, trips have included helicopter rides, ferry rides to remote islands, behind the scenes at a newly built veterinary clinic, private tours of fish hatcheries, museums and remote wind farms, to mention only a few.

This year the organizers secretly planned a day of excitement, courtesy of North Island Transportation. There was a demonstration by [Tri-Port Motocross](#) and then a rafting trip led by Destiny Tours. Based in Campbell River, Destiny Tours offers rafting excursions near Woss through the Nimpkish River.

Most of the Rotarians and their friends had never experienced motocross or rafting and so the day was a hit. It just goes without saying, it's always an exciting venture when you're part of the Rotary Club of Port Hardy.

# THANK YOU BILL EVANS!



Thank you Bill Evans for being the District 5020 Liaison to Rotary Youth Leadership Awards (RYLA) Northwest. Bill has been a very important part of this District's success with this valuable Youth Leadership training.

In addition to serving as Liaison, Bill has been a very popular session presenter for the past 25 years.

Bill also served as Assistant Governor for our Rotary District's Area 10 which includes, Bremerton, East Bremerton, North Mason County, Port Orchard and South Kitsap.

Bill will continue to be a session facilitator for RYLA which is good news as Bill is one of their most popular presenters.



## Growing Rotary is as much about retaining members as it is about introducing new members to Rotary.

True growth in our clubs will happen if we can maintain the new member introduction rate and improve our retention.

For most of the reasons departing members give us the real answer is that the experience was no longer worth their time or money. “It’s too expensive” doesn’t always mean someone can’t afford it, it means that they aren’t getting the value

# GROWING ROTARY: IT’S A MATTER OF RETENTION

by Jennifer Durham, District 5020 Membership Chair

for their dollar. “I don’t have time” or “I am too busy” means that the time isn’t providing them with a benefit they see as worth it. The key to retention is providing our members with experiences and relationships they value.

Retention starts with the first time we meet a potential member, how we introduce and engage each member, and how we continue to treat all of our members.

Each member needs to feel valued, and studies have shown that the more opportunities our members have to use their vocational skills and passions the happier they are.

We need to work hard to deliver an experience that will keep members excited about Rotary. Successful strategies include:

- **Regularly recognizing members for their achievements** — recognize work accomplishments, engagements, grandchildren, and activities. Make sure they know the club cares about them.
- **Keep members involved** in club projects and activities that match

their passions — ask them!

- **Encourage members to take on leadership roles** — give all of your members an opportunity to shine and don’t assume a member isn’t interested in taking on more.

- **Consider regular club member surveys** — a couple of short questions on a regular basis can provide you with terrific information. Get your members in the habit of a monthly survey of no more than four questions. Track your progress; keep all but one or two questions the same each month.

- **Create a culture of inclusiveness** — this starts with how your club greets guests and will extend to how your members treat each other. Teach members how to welcome guests, this will change the culture of your club regardless of its size.

We work hard to bring in new Rotarians, we need to work equally hard at retaining the members we have!

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**“IGNORANCE IS A MENACE TO PEACE.”**

—PAUL HARRIS

# MEMBERSHIP



WE BUILD LIFELONG RELATIONSHIPS  
AND ENCOURAGE LEADERSHIP

## MEMBERSHIP & PUBLIC IMAGE SUMMIT

LEARN HOW TO GROW YOUR CLUB'S MEMBERSHIP

**Sunday, September 18, 2016**

at Victoria Grand Pacific Hotel, Victoria BC  
9am - 12pm

**Saturday, October 29, 2016**

at Hotel RL, Olympia WA  
9am - 12pm

Admission: FREE

Join us for a special event to learn about growing membership and improving your club's public image facilitated by Rotary International (RI) Steve Lindenbrink, Zone 25/26 Membership Advisory Chair.

Open to all Rotarians! We encourage club presidents, presidents elect, and the chairs and members of the membership and public image committees to attend to learn about new ideas for promoting Rotary, to network, and to share our successes. At least one representative from each club should attend.

**Register Online at:**  
[www.Rotary5020.org](http://www.Rotary5020.org)

**Or Email:**  
[JDurhamRotary253@gmail.com](mailto:JDurhamRotary253@gmail.com)

THE WORLD  
NEEDS MORE  
#ROTARIANS



# MAKING HEALTHCARE SUSTAINABLE

## in Rwandan Villages

article submitted by Dr. Perry Bamji, Rotary Club of Oak Bay (Victoria), Past President Rotary Club of Kingston (1992-2006)

When Rotary Club of Oak Bay's Rotarian John Jordan went to Rwanda for first time in 2009, his target group of 125 widows presented him with a long list of needs: food, school fees, medicine, roofs, blankets, goats amongst other necessities. Rotary guidelines told him to listen to the beneficiaries and to do only what was sustainable.

It was quite unclear to him how fulfilling any or all of these needs would make life more sustainable. After weeks of consideration, he posed the question to the local clinic director who responded:

“Poor health is their biggest problem. Educate them to sustainable health and these women will move mountains to support their children.”

With that insight, removing the threats to health became the focus of the project that continues 8 years later and has reached thousands of households.

From the clinic director we learned the five primary causes of serious illness: respiratory infection — mostly from the smoke of indoor cooking fires, water borne parasites and malaria because of lack of bed nets. Add to that malnutrition and lack of health care access, both of which leave them unable to stop minor infections from becoming major.

So, we set out to build effective, inexpensive solutions to those needs: efficient smoke free cook stoves from local river clay, water catchment systems on new roofs, intensive raised-bed



gardening, small breeding animals such as rabbits and pigs for protein and selling at the village market, co-op fields for increased food production and composting toilets for safety, sanitation, and using human waste (both liquid and solid) as precious fertilizer to invigorate their fields. The one-time purchase of bed nets and cash payment for subscription to National Health Care that we made for them became, in subsequent years, sustainable needs

which most could provide themselves. With these supports their health did improve as did their earnings, nutrition and school performance.

It took a couple of years to improve each initiative and educate people why and how to accept the innovation into their traditional way of life. Eventually they saw the new ways give back even more than they might cost in labor or money. A family now saves 10 hours a week of labor to collect wood and water. Human waste previously left in a latrine as a potential contaminant now increases harvests. The increased food supply improves the human immune system and learning capacity of children.



Rotary has indeed understood what the Clinic Director saw on the ground: health education is the foundation for sustainable improvement.

Contact for more information:  
[jjordanafrica@gmail.com](mailto:jjordanafrica@gmail.com)

# GRANT OPPORTUNITY:

## 2017-18 LITERACY/NUTRITION PROGRAMS

by Bob Zawilski (Rotary Club of Lakewood), Judy Byron (Rotary Club of Sydney-By-The-Sea), Sally Porter Smith (Rotary Club of Lakewood)

The District 5020 Grant Committee is offering a grant opportunity for clubs to fund summer literacy or nutrition programs targeted to low income, free or reduced lunch students.

Grants may start at the beginning of summer break in 2017. The grant will be reimbursed after all reporting is completed during Rotary Year (RY) 2017-2018. Notification of grant award will occur prior to the start of RY 2017-2018.

The special criteria to apply are as follows:

1. **Applications open November 1, 2016.**
2. **Grant writer must have attended either Lakewood September 10, 2016 or Nanaimo training on October, 2016.**

- **Lakewood Training**  
Online Registration: [\[here\]](#)

- **Nanaimo Training**  
Online Registration: [\[here\]](#)

3. **A 2017-18 Club Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) must be filed.**

### DESCRIPTION:

For the Rotary year 2017-18 the District 5020 Community Grants (DCG) committee will run a test procedure. We will accept up to 2 grants in each of British Columbia (BC) and Washington (WA). (There will be four total grants). This granting opportunity is ONLY applicable to Summer Programs targeted to low income, free or reduced lunch students on summer break. Summer literacy or nutrition or combination programs will be able to begin their project at



the start of summer break in 2017, prior to the start of RY 2017-18.

The grant will be reimbursed after all reporting is completed during RY 2017-18.

All standard application and documentation requirements remain. This test experiment is a District Community Grant. The key difference is you will receive grant approval and begin the project prior to the beginning of RY 2017-18.

### APPLICATION PROCEDURES:

Submission procedures and a detailed application checklist will be provided at Foundation training. This Summer Literacy/Nutrition DCG application opens November 1, 2016. Grants are first come first served by merit.

### QUESTIONS:

Please review grant information at: [district-community-grants](#)

Contact Bob Zawilski with additional questions at [zawilski@comcast.net](mailto:zawilski@comcast.net)

More about District Grants in MyRotary at Rotary.org: [apply-grants/district-grants](#)



# \$3200 RAISED TO FIGHT POLIO



Based on a bet, Rotarian Roger Painter grew his hair for 3 years. When he cut it off, he challenged District 5020 Rotarians to contribute to Polio Eradication. For every dollar contributed, the Bill Gates Foundation gave \$2. In all, \$3200 was raised when Roger got snipped. And who can dispute it? Roger cleans up real good.