

Alumni Newsletter

Rotary International Zone 22 East

FROM THE DESK OF JOAN HAYWARD



I would like to take this space to introduce you to PDG Gay Ratcliffe, D. 6330, who will be the Zone 24 East Rotary Foundation Alumni Coordinator (RFAC) for 2009-2010.

all the programs that Rotary International supports tend to weave together and interconnect, helping the fabric of Rotary grow stronger. Through our outreach programs such as Peace and Conflict Resolution, GSE, and Ambassadorial Scholars, Rotary's influence grows in the world.

hopes that they, as family members, continue to share their experiences and expertise with Rotary clubs and eventually become full members of this amazing Service Club.

Gay has been a member of the Rotary Club of Warton, Ontario since 1999. In the following ten years, she has been a member or chair of many committees, at both the local and District level. During her year as District Governor (2007-2008) for district 6330, her understanding grew of how

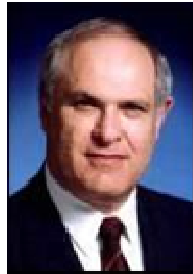
Gay is very excited to be the Alumni Zone coordinator for the eastern part of our zone and she looks forward to hearing what all the districts are doing to reconnect our Alumni. She believes they are part of our Rotary family and



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COMMENTS from GENERAL COORDINATOR RODNEY MAZINTER



We are reaching the tail end of this Rotary year and club presidents elect are planning for the 2009-2010 takeover. I hope that they have found space in their programs for Alumni, particularly with regard to the possibility of bringing them in as members. The key to doing so is very certainly the formation in each district of an Alumni Association. This remains a very important focus in preserving our investment by bringing these very talented men and women, now no longer students but among the movers and shakers in commerce, industry and the professions, back into the Rotary fold.

I contend that Alumni Associations are the best place to start. Let me explain:

Where would you go to find fish to catch if you were a fisherman?

To an area of a pond, river or the sea that is known to be rich in nutrients and the food that fish eat.

On safari where would you go to ensure the best sighting of wild animals?

The waterhole is where the animals congregate so if you want to see them, that is where you go.

Where would you find alumni you wish to approach with a view to becoming Rotarians?

I would suggest that the best place is where they gather together in enthusiasm to enjoy each other's company and talk about Rotary and their wonderful experience when they were scholars or members of a GSE team. And, where is that likely to be? Why, an association of like-minded people—A Rotary Foundation Alumni Association—your fishing pond and waterhole for seeing and capturing Rotarians.

Form an Alumni Association now and reap the benefits for your club and your district. A Rotary Foundation Alumni Association is not bound by Rotary's meeting and attendance rules. Your association can meet "live" at a time and frequency it determines, but it can also meet regularly by telephone or over the Internet or any combination of the above.

Once you have drawn your alumni back into the ambit of Rotary activities and involve them in some of your exciting projects it will be a small step to get them in as members.



ABOUT ALUMNI ASSOCIATIONS

Since the comments from the General Coordinator of Alumni this month is about alumni associations, I have reprinted some material about this kind of organization from previous publications. The first is printed below, a series of questions and answers about alumni associations. The second, on page 3, is a sample alumni association constitution. The third, on page 4, outlines the steps you can take to establish your own area's alumni association.

Q. *What is a Rotary Foundation alumni association?*

A. An active organization of former Rotary World Peace Fellows, Ambassadorial Scholars, Group Study Exchange team leaders and members, and other Rotary Foundation program participants.

Q. *What is the Rotary Foundation Alumni Network?*

A. The Rotary Foundation Alumni Network is the Foundation's alumni association that seeks to keep all their alumni connected to Rotary. All alumni and alumni associations are members of the network.

Q. *When does the Rotary Foundation Alumni Network meet?*

A. The annual meeting of the network takes place during the Rotary International convention. The next meeting will take place at the 2nd pre-convention alumni event on 20 June 2009 in Birmingham, England. The event is called the Rotary Alumni Celebration and will give alumni the opportunity to **Reconnect, Engage and Celebrate** with special events, notable speakers and social gatherings for alumni and friends.

Q. *What are the purposes of an alumni association?*

A. There are five main purposes:
 To establish and maintain a common bond among Rotary Foundation alumni
 To provide a connection enabling alumni to network with one another and with Rotarians
 To link the vocational interests of alumni with similar interests of Rotarians and other alumni
 To provide opportunities for involvement in Rotary educational and humanitarian service projects
 To facilitate membership in Rotary clubs, including e-clubs

Q. *How do members of an alumni association meet and communicate?*

A. Members of an alumni association meet as often as decided by the members. They communicate between meetings via e-mail and other available methods.

Q. *How often do the members of an alumni association meet in person?*

A. The times and places of all meetings are determined by the members. However, it is strongly recommended that an annual meeting take place in conjunction with the local district conference.

Q. *What are some of the benefits of joining an alumni association?*

A. There are countless opportunities, in addition to gaining friendships. They include
 Networking with leaders in all professions who share a Rotary experience
 Direct business and professional opportunities
 Serving on district Rotary Foundation selection committees for Rotary World Peace Fellows, Ambassadorial Scholars, and GSE teams
 Serving as a mentors to other Rotary Foundation program participants
 Speaking at Rotary club meetings and district events
 Participating in international and local service projects

Q. *What are the dues or costs involved with membership in an alumni association?*

A. None, unless the association itself decides to establish a nominal fee to cover operational costs.

Q. *Are members of an alumni association required to contribute to The Rotary Foundation?*

A. No, alumni are not required to make contributions to the Foundation. However, contributions of any amount, particularly annual contributions, are always encouraged, welcomed, and appreciated!

Q. *How many members can form an alumni association and what is its structure?*

A. There is no required number of members to form an alumni association, although practice has shown a good starting point is 15 members. Each alumni association elects its own officers. The president of the alumni association serves as a liaison to the district governor and district Rotary Foundation committee.

Q: *How can I get more information?*

A. Contact alumni@rotary.org for more information about the Rotary Foundation Alumni Network, the Rotary Alumni Celebration, and alumni associations.

SAMPLE ROTARY FOUNDATION ALUMNI ASSOCIATION CONSTITUTION

The Constitution of The Rotary Foundation Alumni Association of _____

1. Name: The name of this association shall be The Rotary Foundation Alumni Association of _____, and it shall hereafter be referred to as the "Association."
2. Purpose: The purposes of the Association are to
 - Offer assistance to inbound Rotary Foundation program participants.
 - Offer assistance to newly selected Rotary Foundation program participants from Rotary District(s) _____.
 - Provide a link between Association members and Rotary.
 - Represent the views of members in respect to The Rotary Foundation.
3. Membership: All former Rotary Foundation program participants qualify for membership.
 - Ambassadorial Scholars
 - Group Study Exchange team members and leaders
 - Recipients of Grants for Rotary Volunteers, Discovery Grants, PolioPlus Grants, Individual Grants, or Volunteer Service Grants
 - Grant for University Teachers recipients
 - Rotary World Peace Fellows
 - Rotary Peace and Conflict Studies Program participants
 These former program participants are automatically members upon completion of their scholarship/fellowship period, GSE trip abroad, or service term, respectively.
4. Officers: The officers of Association shall be the chair, vice chair, secretary, and treasurer. They shall be elected at the annual general meeting and shall serve until the next annual general meeting.
5. Chair: The chair shall preside at all meetings. In the absence of the chair, the vice chair shall have the duty of presiding at meetings. In the absence of both, a chair shall be elected for the meeting from those members present.
6. Secretary: The secretary shall carry out their duties under the direction of the board and keep a true record of all minutes of all meetings, attend to correspondence, issue notices for meetings, and maintain such records. They shall also maintain an updated membership list and keep informed on outgoing, incoming, and returned program participants as information relating to these becomes available.
7. Treasurer: The treasurer is responsible for keeping the accounts of all members, for receiving and acknowledging donations and payments, and for paying all bills incurred by the Association. The function of receiving monies and paying expenses for a particular meeting may be deputed to another member in the absence of the treasurer.
8. Board: The board of the Association shall consist of the officers together with such other members as the annual general meeting shall elect, or as shall from time to time be chosen by the board. It shall have the power to fix dates, times, and places of meetings, and to invite guests of the Association to such meetings. It shall also have the power to present the views of the Association on Foundation matters to Rotary International or anyone else. A quorum for a board meeting shall be three members.
9. Dues: No membership dues will be charged. However, each year all members will be invited to make a donation to the Association for the purpose of underwriting the cost of the annual meeting. Depending on funds available, the board has the power to make contributions to The Rotary Foundation through Rotary District(s) _____.*
10. Fundraising. The Association may from time to time engage in active fundraising among its members for the purpose of supporting a specific service project in Rotary District(s) _____; or for the purpose of supporting The Rotary Foundation of Rotary International. Such fundraising efforts must be approved by a simple majority of the membership.
11. Meetings: All meetings shall be financed by members paying their own expenses and those of their personal guests together with a contribution towards the expenses of alumni guests. The treasurer can authorize funding from the general funds of the Association towards the cost of a particular meeting. Any surplus which may arise from a meeting shall be added to the general funds. One such meeting in each year shall be designated the annual general meeting and at least 60 days notice given to all members residing in Rotary District(s) _____.
12. Guests of Alumni: Rotary Foundation scholars and fellows, GSE teams, and grant recipients currently visiting District(s) _____ and newly selected program participants shall be entitled to attend meetings as guests of the Association. The board has discretion, however, to ask them to pay for themselves and for any guests they may bring. Rotarians involved with The Rotary Foundation, such as district alumni subcommittee chair(s), district Rotary Foundation chair(s), regional Rotary Foundation coordinators (RRFCs), and Rotary Foundation alumni coordinators (RFACs) are also welcome to attend meetings as guests of the Association.
13. Amendments: The annual general meeting shall be entitled to amend this Constitution. For such meetings a quorum of six members is required. Notice of intention to propose a repeal, addition, or amendment must be received by the secretary in writing 30 days prior to the date of the annual general meeting. All amendments require a two-thirds majority of members present at the meeting before being accepted.

SAMPLE ROTARY FOUNDATION ALUMNI ASSOCIATION CONSTITUTION (cont.)

Written absentee votes for the election of officers and board will be accepted.

*Alternate #9.

Dues: Membership dues will be charged to each member at the amount of US\$____ per year, payable to the Association for the purpose of underwriting the cost of the annual meeting. Depending on funds available, the board has the power to make contributions to The Rotary Foundation through District(s) _____.

STEPS TO FORMING AN ALUMNI ASSOCIATION

Step 1: Identify TRF alumni in your area

Communicate with Alumni Relations staff at The Rotary Foundation to get a list of alumni who currently reside in the area in which an alumni association may be formed. The area could be a city, district, state or province, or even an entire country. Work with Rotary clubs within that area to confirm that alumni contact information is current. Email alumni@rotary.org to obtain lists of alumni who reside in your area. Be sure to involve alumni chairs, district Rotary Foundation chairs, district governors, regional Rotary Foundation coordinators, and other district leaders as appropriate throughout the process of forming an association.

Step 2: Hold events to encourage alumni to reconnect to Rotary

Once you know who the alumni are in your area and how to reach them, set up an event or a series of events to help alumni reconnect with Rotary and with one another. Different alumni respond to different types of events. Some alumni are more comfortable with casual events, perhaps a reception at a local pub or restaurant. Other alumni may appreciate a more formal program. Multiple events may help you to attract more alumni.

Step 3: Identify alumni who are willing to lead the alumni association

As you meet alumni at the event(s) you set up, communicate with them to find out who is willing to take a leadership role in the alumni association. Most alumni associations have positions for presidents, vice presidents, and secretaries. Find out which alumni are motivated to take on extra responsibility to lead the alumni association.

Step 4: Charter the alumni association with the Rotary Foundation Alumni Network

Contact Alumni Relations staff at The Rotary Foundation to obtain a charter application and sample constitution for your alumni association. Work with the alumni association's leadership to finalize the association's constitution to fit its needs. Consider how often the association should meet, what is the criteria for membership (geographic area), how will association leadership be selected, etc. With the association's leadership, complete the charter application form. Submit these documents, along with a list of contact information for the association's members to Mike Pfriem, Alumni Relations Coordinator, at The Rotary Foundation (michael.pfriem@rotary.org).

Step 5: Celebrate certification of the alumni association

Once the Foundation receives the completed alumni association charter application, constitution, and member list, it will issue a charter certificate, designating the alumni association as an official member organization of the Rotary Foundation Alumni Network, signed by the trustee chairman and the Rotary Foundation alumni coordinator for that zone. Identify an appropriate Rotary event to honor the alumni association. District conferences, Rotary institutes, or even alumni association meetings are good places to honor the formation of a new alumni association. Often Rotary leaders such as district governors, Foundation trustees, RI directors, or a past district governor are asked to present the charter certificate to the alumni association.

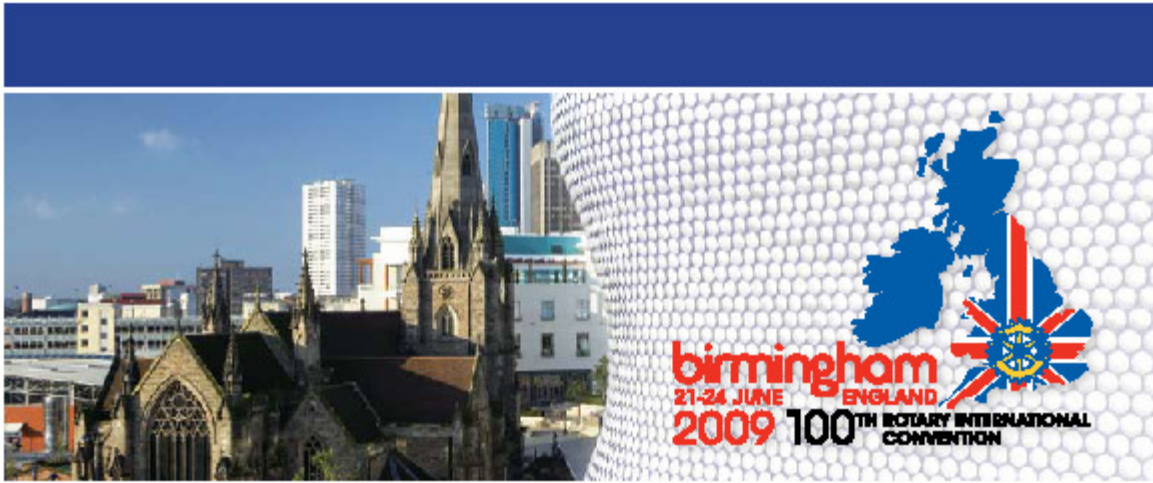
Step 6: Keep the association active

Now that the association has been established and chartered, it should meet on a regular basis. Check in with the association regularly. Help the association to identify projects to which it can devote time and resources that will keep alumni interested and connected to Rotary. Make sure the association's leadership remains active. Help the association to maintain contact with local alumni and to identify new alumni who move to the area.

Step 7: Send an association representative to the Rotary Alumni Celebration

Every local alumni association is a member of the Rotary Foundation Alumni Network (RFAN). The annual, worldwide meeting of the RFAN is the Rotary Alumni Celebration, held as a preconvention event of the RI Convention. It is important that each alumni association send a representative to the Rotary Alumni Celebration to represent the association and benefit from the networking with other associations. Help the alumni association identify funding to sponsor a representative to travel to the Rotary Alumni Celebration on behalf of all members.

ALUMNI IN BIRMINGHAM, 2009



Rotary World Peace Symposium

18-19 June 2009



Preconvention events of the
2009 RI Convention in Birmingham, England



Rotary Alumni Celebration

20 June 2009

Note: Foundation alumni from 2001 through 2009 are eligible to attend the convention at a reduced fee.



The Rotary Foundation of Rotary International



D.K. Lee
President
Rotary International

John Kenny
President-Elect
Rotary International

Alumni Chairs 2008/09
Zone 22 East

D. 7820	Joe Donachie	joseph.donachie@ns.sympatico.ca
D. 7810	John Torunski	jmtorunski@rogers.com
D. 7790	Clayton King	larchie@gwi.net
D. 7010	Doug Fairhall	dfair@vianet.ca
D. 7040	Doug Heyland	keemik@ca.inter.net
D. 7070	Jack Renteria	jack_renteria@hotmail.com
D. 7080	Kathi Smith	kmsmith@sentex.net
D. 6330	John Eberhard	eberhard@uwo.ca

Zone Coordinator

D. 7070	Joan Hayward	rhayward@sympatico.ca
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SPEAKING OF THE ALUMNI CELEBRATION...



Those who choose to attend the Rotary World Peace Symposium, a pre-convention event at the Birmingham International Convention, on June 19th, 2009 will have an historic opportunity to hear one of the world's most influential leaders. Archbishop Desmond Tutu will be the featured

speaker at this Rotary Foundation event.

Archbishop Tutu was born in Klerksdorp, Transvaal in 1931. He was educated in Johannesburg and trained first

as a teacher and was ordained as a priest in 1960. In 1975 he was appointed Dean of St. Mary's Cathedral in Johannesburg, the first black to hold that position. From 1976 to 1978 he was Bishop of Lesotho, and in 1978 became the first black General Secretary of the South African Council of Churches. Tutu is an honorary doctor of a number of leading universities in the USA, Britain and Germany. He was winner of the Nobel Peace Prize in 1984.

There is more information about the Peace Symposium on the Rotary International website

I hope you have enjoyed reading the stories in this monthly newsletter that have highlighted the way in which some alumni have begun to give back to Rotary in tangible ways through becoming Rotarians and working with local clubs.

Do you have stories about Alumni who have been involved in newsworthy activities? Have these activities been shaped by their experiences as being participants in the programs of The Rotary Foundation?

If so, I'd really like to highlight them in this newsletter. Please e-mail me the stories in Word and the photos as jpeg files. A picture really does "say a thousand words"!

In the May issue I hope to introduce you to an inbound ambassadorial scholar from Brazil who is studying at the University of Toronto, Ontario, Canada. She fully intends to join Rotary upon her return home and will tell you why she is so committed to doing so.

The deadline for the May (and last) issue is April 25th, 2009