

BERITA PUDU

(For members only)

www.rotarypudu.org.my



Peace

Through Service

The Weekly Bulletin of The Rotary Club of Pudu

RI District 3300

Chartered 5th December 1966

BOD RC Pudu RY2012-13





This website was Runner-Up to the

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Enjoy your **Berita** **PUDU**

12th November 2012
Issue No : **18**/2012-13

Programme Today

Speaker : PDG Leslie Salehuddin
Subject : 10 Reasons Why You Should
Join Rotary

ON DUTY

Duty Table : Rtn. Sandy Soh
Fellowship : Rtn. Robert Tan
Finemaster : IPP Dato Steven Oon
Introduce : PP Tai Chin Peow
Thanking : Rtn. May Lim

Happy Birthday!

Rtn. May Lim (13th. Nov)
IPP Dato Steven Oon (17th. Nov)

Spouse's Birthday!

Ann Chantra (16th. Nov)

Happy Anniversary!

Rtn. C T Heng & Ann Carven (15th. Nov)

Programme Next Week

Speaker : PDG Dr. Ravinder Singh Deputy DRFC
Subject : Future Vision Plan/DSG

ON DUTY

Duty Table : Rtn. Elaine Tan
Fellowship : Rtn. Veronique
Finemaster : PP Michael Yeow
Introduce : Rtn. Dr. C C Wong
Thanking : PP Michael Tung

FUTURE ROTARY EVENTS

Pre-PETS 1

Friday 23/11/12 – Sunday 25/11/12 @ Tampin, A'Famosa Resort
44th District 3300 Interact Conference
Eagle Ranch Resort in Port Dickson
Thursday 29th November to Sunday 02nd December 2012
PP Dr Kirthi of RC Seremban. Cost RM350 each.

District 3300 Rotary Youth Leadership Awards (RYLA) RY2012-13
18 to 21 December 2012 at Benum Hill Resort, Pahang
President tan Ee Teck of RC Bandar Utama. Cost RM350 per pax

Pre-PETS 2

Friday 15/3/13 – Sunday 17/3/13 @ Ampang, D'Villa Residences

District Assembly

Friday 26/4/13 – Sunday 28/4/13 @ Melawati, Grand Dorsett Hotel

DTTS – District Team Training Seminar

Sunday 19/5/13 @ Klang Central, Klang Executive Centre

District Conference

Friday 6/12/13 – Sunday 8/12/13 @ Kuala Lumpur West, Hotel Istana (tentative)

THE PRESIDENT AND THE MEMBERS OF THE PUDU ROTARY CLUB AND THEIR FAMILIES WOULD LIKE TO WISH ALL OUR HINDU ROTARIANS AND THEIR FAMILIES A VERY HAPPY DEEPAVALI

Rotary Club Diary 5th – 28th November 2012

Date	Time	Programme	Venue
November Mon 12	7.00 pm	Membership Development Night Dinner Meeting	Shangri-La Hotel, KL
Tue 13		DEEPAVALI	
Wed 14	6.30 pm	TRF & PR Committee Meeting	Bukit Kiara Equestrian Club
Thu 15		Awal Muharram	
Mon 19	12.45 pm	PRC Weekly Meeting	Hotel Sentral, Jalan Pudu, KL
Wed 21	6.30 pm	Club Admin Meeting	Long Foong Rest, Kelana Jaya
Mon 26	12.45 pm	PRC Weekly Meeting	Shangri-La Hotel, KL
Wed 28	6.30 pm	BOD Meeting	Bukit Kiara Equestrian Club

NOVEMBER IS ROTARY FOUNDATION MONTH

Today we are having an evening meeting and promoting the **Membership Development Night**. We will be having many guests who are potential members and it is good that we have a programme allowing them to learn more about Rotary. Though we will be doing a bit of hard selling by having interesting speakers like none other than PDG Leslie Salehuddin, Rotarian Veronique and Rotaractor Michelle, we are hoping those at the function will have a good time too. Thus there will be songs & wine-free flowing too. This proves that in Rotary not everything is straits jacket and **Rotary can be fun**.

Just a gentle reminder, **November is Rotary Foundation Month**.

During this month we are to promote Rotary Foundation activities. Minimum activity-wise, we should have a speaker to speak to members on this subject. The Rotary Foundation is a very important part of Rotary International as it is "operated exclusively for charitable and educational purposes by the Trustees of The Rotary Foundation." What are some of the Programs of The Rotary Foundation? Briefly they are a) Ambassadorial Scholarships, b) Rotary Centers for International Studies, c) Rotary Grants for University Teachers, d) Group Study Exchange, e) Humanitarian Grants Program, f) Polio Plus, and g) Foundation Alumni.

Most of us are familiar with the **Group Study Exchange (GSE), Humanitarian Grants Program and Polio Plus**. Often we have hosted overseas participants of the GSE and we have sent participants overseas too. As for Humanitarian Grants, we have both paid and received grants for our local projects. Remember **"Matching Grants"**? And who can forget or don't know about our Polio Plus program? Since our involvement in this program starting from 1985 till 2007, only 4 countries still have the polio problem. More than two billion children in 125 countries have benefited from this program.

Thus the enormity of this program cannot be ignored. But programs need funds to operate. Thus this is the month to look at **"Annual Giving"**, "Rotary Foundation Sustaining Members"(RFSM), **"Every Rotarian Every Year" (EREY)**, and "A Hundred Percent PHF Rotary Club". There are various reward systems for contributions from Rotarian beginning with the Paul Harris Fellows (PHF). It will be good if members participate actively in the Annual Giving and see where their contributions go to.

The Rotary Foundation (TRF) is a wide & interesting subject and interested members can consult our current Rotary Foundation Director or best of all, attend the TRF fireside to learn more about it.

My dear Pudu Rotarians,

Peace be unto you.

Like many of you, I was glued to the CNN news channel whenever I have the time to do so to catch up on the US Election. Based on what we have been hearing from all the polls and political pundits' views, this election seemed to be very narrow and no clear favorite before election day came. Anyway, President Barack Obama was voted in for a second term in office.



We, in Rotary, do not discuss politics but I want to share my observation of the campaigning strategy used by President Obama. His rallying call is "FORWARD". Now that the result of the election is in and all the political analysts have given their analysis. It seemed that President Obama managed to get a lot of votes from among the younger generation and non-white voters. The Republican candidate seemed stuck to its traditional voter base and not able to capitalize on the growing voter base among the non-whites in the USA.

I think our rallying call in Rotary Club of PUDU should be FORWARD as well. We need to be constantly looking out among our friends, especially the younger ones, to invite them into our club. Our club needs new (and younger) members or risks being obsolete. The trend of stagnant membership and some clubs even seeing a decline in numbers is like an organization that has lost its focus and calling.

At one recent Past Presidents' Council meeting, some Past Presidents expressed concerns about lack of younger Rotarians in our club. If this trend continues, our club may become a "has-been" club and not function to its full potential.

Therefore, it is timely we have our Club Membership Development Night this evening and let us extend our hands of fellowship to our friends. If you are not able to make it this evening, bring a friend along to our next meeting.

Till we meet again, stay happy and stay safe.

In Rotary Service,
Aaron Ong Lai Huat
 President RY 2012/13

Record of meeting on 5th November 2012

Guest Speaker : MS. TOMOKO NIMURA
Subject : MY EXPERIENCES AS AN AMBASSADORIAL SCHOLAR IN MALAYSIA

VISITING ROTARIANS

Name	Club
Rajan Senatharajah	RC of Freshwater Bay, Perth, Australia
PP Leslie Yeap	RC Kelana Jaya
PP Kirenjit Kaur	RC Titiwangsa

GUESTS

Name	Host
Steven Ho	PDG Dr. Paul Lee
Ms. Liew	Club
Anna Chew	Rtn. Veronique
Tomoko Nimura	Club
S Y Cheah	PP Quah Sek Cheng
Baby Cheah	PP Leong Choy Ying
Tomomi Hisato	PP Leong Choy Ying
Datin Raja Asma	PP Datuk Muslim

STATISTICS

Visiting Rotarians	:	3
Guests	:	8
Club Members	:	25
Total Present	:	36

COLLECTIONS

Birthdays / Anniversaries / Fines	:	RM 44.00
Paying Diners	:	RM 270.00
Raffles & Others	:	
Total	:	RM 314.00

Club Proceedings

Acting SAA Rotarian Mok Sin on behalf of President Aaron Ong called the meeting to order at 1.20 pm. He later introduced the visiting Rotarians and guests. He later led in the singing of the National Anthem and proposed the loyal toast.

The fine master was Rtn. Mok Sin who started his fine session by fining President Aaron Ong RM2 for doubling his duties.

He also fined the last table which consisted all ladies on the table RM1 and the odd one was PP Datuk Muslim who also got fined RM1.

He also asked a question on the number of guests present and those who did not get it right were PP Sim Bee, IPP Dato Steven Oon, PP Mike Yeow and PP Sam and they paid a fine of RM1.

All the members who were seated at the last table were each fined RM1.

Rtn. Jeffrey Yap who was late was fined RM2.

All those who celebrated their birthday in the month of November paid a fine of RM10 and a birthday song was sung for them. This included IPP Dato Steven Oon, PP Albert Lim and 'everyday is his birthday boy' PDG K B Lee.

President's Announcement

Weekly Meeting for : 5th November 2012 @ SHANGRI-LA HOTEL

1. On 12th November, 2012 our regular luncheon meeting is moved to 6pm in conjunction with Membership Development Night. Please bring a friend or two along. Guests will come dine for free and there will be a wine tasting fellowship after our meeting.
2. Our club will be celebrating our 46th Anniversary on 1st December at Restoran Bei Ping, Shah Alam. Please confirm your attendance with either PP Albert Lim or Director CT Heng.

Introduction of Speaker

PP Leong Choy Ying who was Tomoko's counselor/mentor as well as 'mothering' her, was in such an emotional state when introducing Tomoko, who was the Ambassadorial Scholar from Japan and posted to Malaysia. Tomoko was also bidding her final farewell to the members of our club when she leaves for home on the 8th. November 2012 after having finished her 14 months stay in Malaysia. She spoke on the topic of 'My Experiences As An Ambassadorial Scholar While In Malaysia.'

Speaker's CV

Name: TOMOKO
Surname: NIMURA
Phone No.: 014 229 3380
E-mail Address:
snowholic26@gmail.com



An Ambassadorial Scholar of the Rotary Foundation.
Home club: Fukuoka, Japan District 2700 (counselor DPFC Nakamura Hisayuki)
Host club: Pudu, Malaysia District 3300 (counselor PP Leong Choy Ying)

EXPERIENCE:

1998-2003

Hochi Shinbun (Newspaper) - Osaka, Japan.
Writer/Editor
Write on sports and Editing articles and photos in the field of sports and human-interest stories.

2003-2005

JOCV (Japan Overseas Cooperation Volunteer) - Bolivia.
Volunteer
Develop woman's skill and education in the rural area.

2007-present.

The Nishinippon Shinbun (Newspaper) - Fukuoka, Japan
Writer
Write articles in the field of sports and human-interest stories.

EDUCATION:

1998

Osaka Prefecture University - Osaka, Japan.
Bachelor of Science in Integrated Arts and Sciences
Major: Life sciences, Physiology

2011

University Malaya – Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia
Master in research course at Institute of Graduate Studies
Major: Sociology

- Arrived in Malaysia in August 2011 - 14 months has passed
- Achieved many things i.e learned to play golf, obtained her diving certificate, completing a difficult research for her Masters degree.
- Conscientiously performed her Rotary duty by speaking to many of the clubs within D3300, and participated in many Rotaract and Interact activities.
- Managed to travel to many places in East and West Malaysia, and to many other countries like Nepal, Thailand, Indonesia (Bali, Jogjakarta), Myanmar, Singapore. Tomo even managed to fit in a trip to France & Spain.

Speaker's Text

Good afternoon Rotarians and guests.

Today is my final presentation in Malaysia as an Ambassadorial scholar, and I appreciate you having me at this meeting.

Since I arrived at Kuala Lumpur and met my host counselor PP Choy Ying, in August last year, how time has flown thanks to all the Rotarians and friends.

Now, I am near the end of my 14 months tenure as an Ambassadorial scholar. I'm feeling very sad and I really don't want to leave...

In these 15 months, I have learned a lot of things more than I expected before I came here. By visiting, discussing, interacting and speaking at the meetings and fellowships, every person inspired me and made me have lots of fun. As Rotarians, are persons of culture and experience, they always provide me with plenty of opportunities to discover the Malaysian culture and society.

I visited more than 20 Rotary clubs, and spoke at 15 clubs. I enjoyed many festivities and events, and joined some volunteer works organised by Rotary clubs or Rotaract. Visit a children's shelter and a soup kitchen project.

The main reason why I chose Malaysia was because it is a multi-cultural, racial and religious country. In Japan, we almost share common sense, education and religion. But as the world is coming to more globalisation now, I thought we need to learn how to make good relationship with people from different background. Although there is discrimination, Malaysians have tried to live in harmony with multi-racial society for a long time. I felt the most important thing for good understanding are mutual understanding and acknowledge each other differences, not assimilation.

Secondly, looking at the growth of Malaysia as an example of a semi-developed country was my motivation to come here too.

From 2003 to 2005, I had worked as volunteer in Bolivia, helping children and single mothers in a village. It was a great and an unforgettable experience. But Bolivia is one of the furthest country from Asia, and the poorest country in South America. After that volunteer work, I had wanted to know Asia and a more developed country than Bolivia.

At the beginning of my Malaysian life, sometimes I was annoyed with the lack of explanation from some customer service personnel because they just replied to me "can not!" "don't have" "finish". I felt, "that's all? No explanation? So how can you resolve my problem?" "Can you help me or not?"

But, I'm already used to the Malaysian lifestyle. In these days, jokingly I'm calling to some of the Japanese customer service to prepare my new life in Japan when I return. For example, a car insurance or a real estate

agent to help me find a room, a mover company to move my stuffs. One day, I called and asked the mover company. "How long does it take to move my stuff from Chiba where my Dad's house is, to Fukuoka where my office is located". He said, "We need at least two days. Because the Ministry of Transport doesn't allow the mover's company to move faster than two days to avoid any traffic accident. If you don't want it, you have to pay extra fee for air cargo and it's very expensive". When listening to their explanation, I felt it's very long. I just want to know how long to plan my schedule. I didn't need the details. And at that time, I realized I'm already used to the Malaysian style.

About my university life, Rotarians helped me to do my degree.

I'm doing my master at UM. My subject is sports labor migration in Malaysia, especially movements of professional football players who play in Malaysia. For data collection, I travelled all over the Malaysian Peninsula and had interviews with football players from overseas. When I visited new places, I contacted with the local Rotarians and met them. They were very helpful to arrange transportation and accommodation. And also they showed me their home town too. I had a great time in each place.

Also, I wrote some articles for my newspaper too. I am a sports journalist for a Japanese newspaper back

home, and I have a leave of absence for one year to get my degree. But as the Malaysian life was so excited, I couldn't stop writing for the newspaper. I covered not only sports, and also did a co-project between the Malaysian and Japanese universities, and on the Japanese landing in Kota Bharu during the second world war. While researching about Kota Bharu, Rotarians in Khota Bharu and Kelantan hosted me and helped me by visiting some historical places. Before I went there, I was bit worried because it was possible that the local people don't have a good feeling for the Japanese. But it was groundless. Rotarians and the local people treated me kindly. My desire to establish world peace was confirmed.

I have been really happy in Malaysia and to be an Ambassadorial scholar. I'm sure I'll miss you and my 'second home' country Malaysia. Hope we can meet soon. You're always welcome to visit me in Japan. Thank you very much for listening.

Thanking of Guest Speaker

PP Quah Sek Cheng on behalf of the club thanked the guest speaker Ms. Tomolo Nimura for her wonderful presentation and presented a parting gift from members of the Club and wished her all the best in her future undertakings.

PUDU ROTARY CLUB WEEKLY MEETING HELD ON 29th OCTOBER 2012

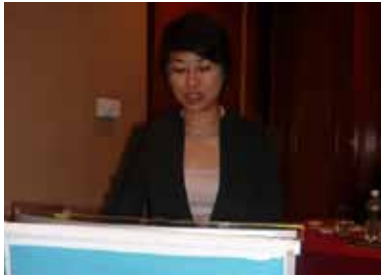






PUDU ROTARY CLUB WEEKLY MEETING HELD ON 5th NOVEMBER 2012





Membership Development Night

November 12, 2012

Programme

- 7.00 Registration
- 7.05 Slide show to show case our club
- 7.30 Buffet Dinner
- 8.00 Welcome by MC
- 8.05 Welcome by OC Alex Chang and introduce PDG Leslie
- 8.10 PDG Leslie - Ten Reasons Why You Should Join Rotary
- 8.30 President Aaron Ong to thank PDG Leslie and to present us a song
- 8.35 Rotaractor PP Eriq Lee - Rotary A Wonderful Organisation
- 8.45 Rotaractor Michelle to present a song
- 8.50 Rtn Veronique - Rotary Clubs in France and Malaysia
- 8.55 Rotaractor Michelle to present a second song
- 9.00 Fellowship and wine tasting

Message from Ms Tomoko Nimura - farewell to District 3300

Dear fellow Rotarians of D3300

Our Ambassadorial Scholar from D2700 Ms Tomoko Nimura is completing her scholarship term in D3300 Malaysia and will be heading off back to Japan on 8 Nov 2012.

It felt just like yesterday that we welcomed her as our District's hosted scholar. Over the past 14 months, in her sweet and charming ways, Tomo has won many friends amongst Rotarians and Rotractors in our District. In particular for Pudu Rotarians, Tomo has become an adopted daughter/sister to us.

Tomo has indeed been an exemplary Ambassador for her home club in Fukuoka and her home country, Japan. She has built so much goodwill with us Malaysians that it is hard to say goodbye....

For those of you who wish to see her off at the airport, Tomo's flight is departing from LCCT at 2.40pm on 8 Nov.

I enclose herewith Tomo's message to all Rotarians of D3300.

In Rotary Service,
Host Counsellor PP Leong Choy Ying
RC Pudu

Dear Rotarians in District 3300

Time flies and it is difficult to accept it is the time to say good bye.

How I could imagine such great days in Malaysia! I arrived at Kuala Lumpur in August last year with a mixture of expectation and anxiety. But my fear was groundless. My time in Malaysia was really great and meaningful.

Thanks to PDG Dr S. Raveendra Kumar for providing me with the opportunity to be the Ambassadorial Scholar in District 3300. Rotarians in District 3300 have been so helpful to me in many ways. I have learned so much from each of you about everything from culture, society and religion. By speaking at the meetings,, joining fellowships and visitations, I met a lot of kind Rotarians in District 3300. During my time in Malaysia, I visited more than 20 clubs and spoke at 15 meetings of the Rotary clubs and Interact clubs. In addition, I have gotten lots of help from the Rotarians for my research at University of Malaya, and writing articles for my newspaper. Thanks to the Rotarians' support, I am finishing my Master in this semester, and could send articles about the co-project between Malaysian and Japanese universities, and on the Japanese landing in Kota Bharu during World War 2 to my newspaper.

Every time, I have been warmly received by Rotarians. Their hospitality was what I wanted to do for my guests when I return home. Sometimes, the Japanese are too sensitive to treat guests and it makes both host and guest very tired. On the other hand, Malaysian Rotarians are cosmopolitan and accustomed to treat people who have different background. I guess it is because Malaysia is a multi-cultural, multi-racial and religious country. I learned that we do not need to assimilate, just need to accept differences. Mutual understanding is important and necessary to be continued. But I think, even if we cannot understand deeply of each other, we must accept differences of the other and this helps us to understand each other gradually.

This is my second time for me to live overseas. From 2003 to 2005, I worked as a volunteer in Bolivia. In my late 20s, I wanted to make a difference to improve the world. In the farm and village, I did some projects with the children and mothers, including anti-polio vaccination. At that time, I did not know well about Rotary International. After coming to Malaysia, I recognized that the anti-polio project was a part of Rotary's activities and was a great help to Rotary International for the promotion of world peace.

Now, I go back to work in Japan as a journalist. My speciality is sports. I think sport is a good tool to establish a friendship. Doing my regular work, I will keep looking at Malaysia and the international scene to make difference for our future.

Thank you so much everyone. My sincere thanks to my host counsellor PP. Leong Choy Ying. My time in Malaysia was a precious moment. I am very honored and proud that I have been the Ambassadorial Scholar in District 3300.

I do not want to say Good bye but then _____

I hope to see you all again anywhere in the world.

Till we met again.

Sayonara and God Bless.

Tomoko Nimura
snowholic26@gmail.com

THE ROTARY FOUNDATION

The mission of The Rotary Foundation is to enable Rotarians to advance world understanding, goodwill, and peace through the improvement of health, the support of education, and the alleviation of poverty.

The Foundation is a not-for-profit corporation supported solely by voluntary contributions from Rotarians and friends of the Foundation who share its vision of a better world.

PolioPlus

For more than 25 years, Rotary has been a leader in the global effort to eradicate polio.

Peace Centers

Fellowship recipients prepare for a leadership role in peace and conflict resolution.

Foundation grants

Grants support Rotarians in their humanitarian, vocational, and educational activities.

RI News

Rotary-UN Day will proceed as planned

Despite the recent storm that struck New York City and much of the Northeast Coast this week, all Rotary-UN Day activities will be held as scheduled. All registrants should expect long ground transportation delays in New York City and surrounding areas. Contact your airline and hotel for updates on your reservations and local conditions.

The annual Rotary-UN Day will be held on Saturday, 3 November, at United Nations headquarters in New York City.

Organized by the RI representatives to the UN, this year's event will feature presentations from senior UN staff and Rotary leaders as well as panel discussions on the two organizations' mutual goal of achieving peace. Honored guests will include Rotary Peace Fellows.

High school-age students, including Interactors and Rotary Youth Exchange participants, can attend a special youth program in the morning and join the adult program in the afternoon.

Download the registration form for RI-UN Day <http://www.rotary.org/RIdocuments/en_pdf/un_day_registration_form_en.pdf> and the young Rotarians program <http://www.rotary.org/RIdocuments/en_pdf/un_day_registration_form_young_rotarians_en.pdf> .

Use social media to follow the event live Follow the day's activities through Twitter by using #RotaryPeace. You can also watch the event in live stream by clicking "Rotary UN Day Streaming" on the official website <<http://www.riunday.org/>> .

(Note: To avoid overloading the system when watching the event, please don't activate your computer cameras.)

For more information contact Joseph Lauren jlaren@yahoo.com

Source : Rotary International News

Canadian Rotarians inducted into Arch C. Klumph Society

Five couples, and a Canadian who generously supported The Rotary Foundation's work in basic education and literacy, were inducted into the Arch C. Klumph Society during a Canada Day ceremony 25 October. The society honors those who give at least US\$250,000 to the Foundation.

Canada is home to more than 25,000 Rotarians. The Rotary Club of Winnipeg, Manitoba, chartered in 1910, was the first club outside of the United States. Five RI presidents have come from Canada, including Wilfrid J. Wilkinson, who is currently serving as Foundation trustee chair.

"This is a very proud day for Canadian Rotarians, and I am thrilled to be a part of it," said Wilkinson. "It is our honor to recognize our inductees' service and to gather as one, the family of Rotary, to applaud their efforts."

General Secretary John Hewko added, "Rotary has had a strong presence in Canada since its earliest days, and I am so pleased that we have the chance to gather today to recognize some Canadians who have done remarkable work in the name of our Rotary Foundation."

Bryn and Randy Styles

Wilkinson introduced the first couple, Bryn and Randy Styles, noting that Bryn's many positions in the Foundation have given him a chance to share his enthusiasm for Rotary with other Rotarians.

"Bryn is very sincere about his commitment to Rotary and his affections for our Rotary Foundation, and he has worked diligently to support both," Wilkinson said.

A pharmacist, Bryn joined the Rotary Club of Barrie-Huron, Ontario, in 1986 and has served as club president (1994-95), governor of District 7010 (2004-05), and regional Rotary Foundation coordinator (2010-12). He is currently a Rotary International director. His wife, Randy, is a volunteer at Hospice Simcoe. The couple supports the Foundation through the Bryn and Randy Styles Rotary Peace Centers Endowed Fund.

Bryn said he became interested in conflict resolution years ago after listening to Wilkinson speak about creating an environment for peace. Bryn said he was skeptical at first but came to see this as having the potential to "close the deal" on Rotary's efforts to change the world.

"By training individuals who will eventually be in positions of authority in the UN, NGOs, and governments with the tools of conflict resolution, we will provide a means for peace," Bryn said. "Gradually, over generations, as we remove the reasons for war we will have people in place to negotiate peaceful solutions to conflict. Our peace program is the close to the circle of peace."

Chris and Penny Offer

Chris Offer, a retired police commander, joined the Rotary Club of Vancouver South in 1988 and is a member of the Rotary Club of Ladner, British Columbia. He has served as club president (1991-92), governor of District 5040 (1999-2000), and regional Rotary Foundation coordinator (2008-11). His wife, Penny, joined the Rotary Club of Burnaby-Deer Lake and later the Ladner club.

She has served as club president (2003-04) and district governor (2010-11).

Chris recalled how he first learned about Rotary as a young patrol sergeant and signed up for a Group Study Exchange. "What I did not do was read the small print on the application that said this was a lifetime commitment. Going on this GSE team to India was truly life-changing."

He described the team's visit to a Foundation-funded eye clinic that performed free cataract surgeries. The patients kept thanking the team because they represented Rotary, which had given them their sight.

Since then, Chris said, "I have had many opportunities to see how our Foundation changes lives . . . This is why The Rotary Foundation is our charity of choice."

The Offers support the Foundation through the Penny and Chris Offer Fund for Peace and Conflict Resolution.

Sandy and Jane MacKay

Sandy MacKay, whose father was also a Rotarian, joined the Rotary Club of Medicine Hat, Alberta, in 1977 and has served as club president (1982-83) and governor of District 5360 (2002-03). He served as representative to the Council on Legislation in 2010. In 2001, he traveled to India to work on a Health, Hunger and Humanity grant project for integrated village development.

Foundation Trustee Ashok Mahajan of India noted that Sandy won many friends in the Rotary Club of Calcutta Metropolitan through his involvement in the project, chronicled in the video Make No Small Plan.

Mahajan said, "PDG Sandy and Jane, like me, have a very soft spot in their hearts for the beautiful country of India."

Sandy said he and his wife have been grateful for the opportunity Rotary has given them to make a positive difference in the world.

"Where else could I have had the opportunity to help 53,000 destitute Indians get an education, develop a vocation, and get medical care for their children?" he asked. "How else could we have possibly helped to rid the world of polio?"

Jennifer Jones and Nicholas Krayacich

Jennifer Jones, president and CEO of a television production company, joined Rotary in 1996. She has served as president of the Rotary Club of Windsor-Roseland, Ontario, (2001-02), governor of District 6400 (2007-08), and district public relations chair (2009-11). She has been honored for her professional and charitable efforts with a host of awards, including Rotary International's Service Above Self Award, the YMCA Peace Medallion, and the Queen's Diamond Jubilee Medal.

Her husband, Nicholas Krayacich, who was unable to attend the ceremony, is a physician. He joined the Rotary Club of LaSalle-Centennial in 2010 and is serving as club president in 2012-13.

Jennifer's mother, Joyce, president of the Rotary Club of Windsor, noted the couple's many acts of service to the community and their enthusiasm for outdoor activities and travel. They have participated in missions to the

Brazilian Amazon, Peru, Haiti, Venezuela, and Tanzania and summited Mount Kilimanjaro in 2009.

Jennifer credited her parents with letting her try things and make mistakes, which developed into a commitment to service. "I share this to illustrate a point -- service doesn't happen by accident; it is learned, and it takes cultivation."

Jennifer and Nicholas, both Foundation alumni, have established an annual peace symposium at Duke University to support Rotary Peace Fellows and publicize the program. They are also creating a pooled endowment that will generate revenue for their district to use for water projects.

"This is an area that we both believe is of critical importance to the future of our planet," Jennifer said. "We believe this is vitally important because water is life."

Wayne and Bernice Chesley

Wayne Chesley, who, like Sandy MacKay, is a member of the Rotary Club of Medicine Hat, has been a Rotarian since 1998. He served as club president in 2008-09 and is involved with the annual Medicine Hat Rotary Music Festival, which the club has sponsored for more than 50 years. He and his wife, Bernie, also traveled to India to take part in the dedication ceremony for the integrated village development grant project.

"A defining moment for me and my wife, Bernie, was when PDG Sandy MacKay invited us to . . . travel to Calcutta [for the dedication]," Wayne said. "This was our first experience with abject poverty, and it was overwhelming. The fact that the Foundation invested more than US\$300,000 in this project convinced Bernie and me that the Foundation was the place that we should put our donations."

Laverna Dollimore

Laverna, who passed away in 2011, admired the Foundation's work in basic education and literacy and supported it through the Laverna Dollimore Fund.

Laverna spent most of her career as an executive assistant in Canada's diplomatic corps, working in various embassies around the world. She served in the Women's Royal Canadian Naval Service during World War II, returning to civilian secretarial work briefly after the war, then joining Canada's Department of External Affairs in 1956. Her posts included Canadian embassies in Cairo, Warsaw, Poland, Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia, Leopoldville, Belgian Congo (present-day Kinshasa, Congo), the Soviet Union (now Russia), Laos, and Cambodia. She was awarded the Canadian Peacekeeping Service Medal.

She was assigned to the Canadian Embassy in Tehran, Iran, in 1977 and played a role in supporting six Americans who had evaded the 1979 hostage-taking at the U.S. Embassy in Tehran. While they were in hiding, she worked tirelessly to make them as comfortable as possible. She was awarded the Order of Canada for her role in their eventual rescue. Her last post was Addis Ababa, Ethiopia. She retired to Brighton, Ontario, in 1983.

Source : Rotary International