



Rotary Foundation Alumni Coordinator (RFAC) Monthly Bulletin

August 2007

Message from new 2007-08 Rotary Foundation Trustee Chair Bob Scott

On 1 August, I became Rotary Foundation trustee chair. I'm deeply honored by this opportunity. I would appreciate- and I need- your support as we share Rotary and advance the many programs of the Foundation to do good in the world.

I'm grateful that Past Foundation Trustee Chair Bhichai Rattakul will remain a trustee and allow us to continue to benefit for his vast experience and wisdom.

I has the privilege of working with Trustee Rattakul in developing the Foundation's goals for the year, and they remain unchanged: 1) to finish the job of global polio eradication and prove that a polio-free world is realistic; 2) to fulfill the promise if Every Rotarian, Every Year; 3) to show that peace is possible by supporting Rotary Centers for International Studies in peace and conflict resolution; and 4) to reconnect with Rotary Foundation alumni, our forgotten assets.

These goals should guide all your deliberations at Foundation meetings, from district seminars to club forums- and indeed, club Foundation committee meetings. They will help us all to do good in the world.

Comments from General Coordinator Don Osburn

IDENTIFY - INVITE – INVOLVE

During our RFACs training sessions in Skokie last March, we spent a lot of time discussing the three (I's) - Identify - Invite – Involve. To successfully reunite with TRF alumni, it was agreed that these three phases were necessary conditions. Hopefully, most of the RFACs have been successful in identifying the alumni in their districts. Now is the time to initiate ACTION by inviting them to a Rotary event that will be planned to eventually involve them back into Rotary.

Each year more district conferences are being scheduled in September and October. Now is the time to move into that **action** phase by planning a special event during the district conference or some other district-wide event.

If Rotary is to be successful in reuniting with it's alumni, some kind of planned "gathering of alumni" **MUST** be held if we are to involve them in organizing alumni associations , becoming Rotarians or participating and supporting Rotary.

NOW IS THE TIME TO INVITE AND INVOLVE!!!

Comments from Assistant General Coordinator Rodney Mazinter

In Rotary we focus on young people because we claim that one of our functions as Rotarians is to identify and nurture leaders to take over our Rotary clubs and our communities. Though we need leadership as never before, we should remember to not only have good ideas but also to execute them. Last week, I was involved in the interviewing process that leads up to the selection of Ambassadorial Scholars. Each interview took one hour and candidates were put through an exhaustive and rigorous interrogation. It was brought home to me in listening to these excellent candidates how wasteful we are in letting such obvious leadership material, well qualified because of the interview, slip through our fingers because we don't follow up when they have returned home. Our clubs should be fighting to bring these young men and women into membership and stop complaining that they don't know where to turn to find suitable members. If we are to believe our own words then the purpose of The Rotary Foundation is to promote peace among the world's peoples. We need to believe that as Rotarians we have a role to play in bringing about peace in the world; never more so than in our alumni activities. Our job is to bring this fact to the notice of our districts.

Sample goals for 2007-08

Have each of you set goals to achieve as RFACs for the new Rotary year? Zones 22 & 23 RFAC Judy Harcourt has shared the goals she has set for herself:

1. Contact district alumni chairs monthly, and train new chairs.
2. Produce alumni newsletters, monthly or bi-monthly.



3. Encourage districts to form alumni associations.
4. Promote alumni as speakers at major events.
5. Help educate Rotarians about the unused potential of alumni to become Rotarians and thus help grow Rotary projects and finances for the Foundation.
6. Encourage district chairs to update alumni lists, and to ask the clubs in their districts to include alumni in club activities upon their return from their program.
7. Promote proper orientation and expectations to future alumni prior to program participation.
8. Encourage district alumni chairs to attend the Regional Foundation Seminar in Vancouver in October.

RI Convention in Salt Lake City Foundation alumni update

Visit <http://rfan.sharpcast.com/> to see pictures of alumni activities at the 2007 RI Convention.

August is Membership Extension Month

The following resources can help you promote alumni membership in Rotary:

- o A recent PR Tips Newsletter discussed recruiting new members:
http://www.rotary.org/newsroom/downloadcenter/pdfs/prtips/0708a_prtips.pdf
- o The Membership Minute is a newsletter sent by RI's Membership Development Division:
<http://www.rotary.org/membership/resources/membminute.html> to sign up.
- o Find the current regional Rotary International membership coordinator in your area:
http://www.rotary.org/newsroom/downloadcenter/pdfs/rrimc_list0708.pdf.

Quarterly Activity Reports

If you have not yet received your customized quarterly activity report you should be receiving it shortly as we are waiting for the last translations. Please remember that the first quarter report is due **30 September**.

Alumni in the July and August issues of The Rotarian

July

- o Susan Stigant, Rotary World Peace Fellow alumna, now working in Sudan, is featured in Faces in the Field on p. 26 (also attached as a pdf).
- o In an article on p. 58, it is noted that Monty Audenart, Rotary volunteer alumnus, and Themistocles A.C. Pinho, volunteer and GSE team leader alumnus, are new RI Directors for 2007-09.

August

- o Don Garner, Ambassadorial Scholar alumnus, is featured in a short article on p. 11 about some friendly competition between the Rotary Club of Chicago and the Rotary Club of Indianapolis. To view the full article, click here: http://www.rotary.org/newsroom/features/0708_tr_party.html.
- o Ernie and Sally Montagne, 2005-06 Volunteer Service Grant alumni, are highlighted on p. 26 with a summary of the Matching Grant project that resulted from their trip in November 2005.
- o Bhichai Rattakul, Rotary Foundation trustee, talks about alumni being a natural resource to tap into on p. 54 (also attached as a pdf).
- o José Antonio Salazar Cruz, GSE team leader alumnus, and Lou Piconi, former general coordinator and Rotary Volunteer alumnus, are announced as incoming trustees for 2007-2011 on p. 59.

Alumni in the July issue of Rotary World

- o Jim Graham, GSE team leader and Rotary Volunteer alumnus, went to Afghanistan to review a polio immunization plan with government administrators on p. 1.
- o A GSE takes place for the first time between two formerly conflicting neighboring countries, South Africa and Zambia on p. 6.
- o Rotary Foundation Ambassadorial Scholars hike 1,200 miles in South Africa to raise money for AIDS orphans on p. 7.
- o Izabela Pereira, Rotary World Peace Fellow alumna, talks about working for conflict resolution in three countries before completing the Rotary Centers program on p. 7.

The complete July *Rotary World* can be found at

http://www.rotary.org/newsroom/downloadcenter/pdfs/rworld/rw_0707_en.pdf.

Alumni Advisory Committee Meeting

The first Rotary Foundation Alumni Advisory Committee met in Evanston on 22-24 July. The committee, composed entirely of fifteen alumni from around the Rotary world, discussed plans for the first Foundation alumni preconvention meeting taking place with the Los Angeles Convention 13-14 June 2008. The trustees will consider the committee's recommendations at their October meeting.