



## Rotary Foundation Alumni Coordinator (RFAC) Monthly Bulletin October 2007

### *Article from Educational Programs Division Manager Harvey Newcomb III*



Harvey Newcomb III was a 1990-91 Ambassadorial Scholar to Universität Wien, District 1910, Austria. Harvey joined The Rotary Foundation as a staff member nearly 16 years ago and became a Rotarian in 2001 as a member of the Rotary Club of Evanston Lighthouse. In March 2007 at the RFAC Training Institute in Skokie, Harvey made a presentation on locating lost TRF alumni based on his own experience trying to find his fellow Ambassadorial Scholars that studied with him in Austria. The attached article shares some lessons learned when planning a recent alumni event.

### *Comments from General Coordinator Don Osburn* **Selection and Orientation of Future TRF Alumni**

The first step to achieve our goal of reconnecting with TRF alumni is the **selection** and **orientation** process. During this phase we have the opportunity to select ambassadors steeped in Rotary Foundation philosophy, who possess the skills to represent and communicate that philosophy and exhibit a mature commitment and passion to make a positive difference in the lives of people.

We must not merely strive to fill our quota, but work to insure that we have maximized our investment in concert with TRF philosophy. It is critical that at the district level we provide that quality control.

A thoughtful and comprehensive selection and orientation process will increase our success of producing "LIFE - LONG Rotarians" - even though they may not be card carrying members.

### *Comments from Assistant General Coordinator Rodney Mazinter*

Why are our Foundation alumni called our "Lost Assets?" Are they truly lost if they don't join Rotary? Have we not fulfilled our commitment to them, our country, and the world by giving them the opportunity to enrich their lives? And should we not be content to simply let them loose on the world to exploit their enhanced life-appreciation? Leaving the cost of such an extraordinarily expensive program aside, I ask myself, is simply recruiting new members to Rotary a realistic justification for such an effort? I would suggest that a more important reason for bringing alumni into Rotary lies at the heart of the aim of The Rotary Foundation: the pursuit of world understanding and peace. This is the benefit to be derived from the program; across cultural divides through mutual interest and friendly intercourse. Through social and scholarly intercourse, and through business across borders, nations become intelligible to one another. Strange customs which in the beginning are puzzling eventually become interesting and frequently are copied, contributing to the enrichment of life. This is a way to peace and understanding not available to many Rotarians. Our front-line soldiers are the Ambassadorial, Peace Fellows, and GSE teams, who experience this enriching opportunity. No soldier having completed a mission is discharged from the army. Our mission is peace and our peace soldiers should be recruited to continue to help Rotary in its work.

### *1st Quarter Activity Report highlights*

Please remember that the due date for the 1st quarterly report was 30 September! Thanks to the following RFACs that turned in their reports:

**Babin:** Northeast Link 2007 (Regional Scholar Orientation) just concluded, 21 alumni were in attendance.

**Blender:** I am training alumni in making powerful presentations and discuss Rotary expectations with them.

**Buck:** One alumni association in the process of forming in my zone.

**Ertler:** We will have an alumni association in District 1910 by the end of the Rotary year.

**Harlan:** Reports that he trained his district alumni chairs in person and has begun working with the HOC districts to promote the Rotary Alumni Celebration to Southern California alumni.

**Hayward:** All of my district alumni chairs have received one-on-one training.

**Jespersen:** I received the District 1470 Alumni Association charter from Trustee Lou Piconi at the TRF seminar in Oslo, Norway.

**Johnson:** I was directly involved in the selection of a District 1250 GSE team member.

**Mashhour:** TRF seminar in November will include an alumni session and participation from two alumni.

**Matsuoka:** 11 out of 13 districts in my zone have established alumni associations.

**Mazinter:** I addressed 122 Rotarians at the District Foundation Seminar in Middleburg on the value and importance to Rotary membership growth of nurturing Foundation alumni.

**Pesel:** According to reports I have, District 4450 in Peru and District 4160 in Mexico are the most active.  
**Skinner:** At the District 6490 Conference I presented a program called "Salute to Alumni" which included a panel of Rotarian and non-Rotarian alumni.  
**Torroba:** I requested that alumni speak at every event, this has occurred at EVERY one I have attended.  
**Wente:** District 1840 is in the process of establishing a new club where alumni are targeted as members.  
**Wentz:** It is difficult to determine how many but the recent Council on Legislation actions have been a definite factor in encouraging alumni to reconnect with Rotary clubs in their areas.

### ***Reminder- Rotary Foundation Global Alumni Service to Humanity Award***

Even-numbered zones (2, 4, 6, etc) are eligible to submit candidates for the Global Alumni Service to Humanity Award this year. All appropriate RFACs should work with the RRFC in their area to send a nomination to The Rotary Foundation no later than **31 December 2007**. Early submissions are encouraged. Award materials are posted on the Rotary Web site at [http://www.rotary.org/RIdocuments/en\\_pdf/trf\\_alumni\\_awd\\_en.pdf](http://www.rotary.org/RIdocuments/en_pdf/trf_alumni_awd_en.pdf).

### ***Rotary Alumni Celebration at the 2008 RI Convention in Los Angeles, CA, USA***

Please help promote the Rotary Alumni Celebration taking place at the Los Angeles Convention! All RFACs are encouraged to attend this exciting new preconvention event. Alumni relations staff will soon be sending out a promotional mailing to all district governors containing information about the Rotary Alumni Celebration. The mailing will include a cover letter, flier, FAQ, the district's residing alumni list, and the residing alumni list key. The letter, flier, and FAQ are attached for your reference. If you have any suggestions or ideas about speakers or topics at the Rotary Alumni Celebration please let your coordinator know.

### ***Alumni in the October issue of The Rotarian***

- Alex Buchanan, 1959-90 Ambassadorial Scholar and Rotarian, is featured in the "Up Front" section about his life and accomplishments on p.10.
  - Ray Klingensmith, 1960-61 Ambassadorial Scholar and 2008 RI Convention Committee Chair, is featured in article about the "Star-studded Gala" in Los Angeles, CA on p.36.
  - Martin Postma, 1999-00 GSE team leader and 2005-06 Rotary Volunteer, talks about his latest project with ShelterBox on p. 47.
  - Jeanne Gang, 1988-89 Ambassadorial Scholar, is profiled in an article about her career as a young architect in Chicago on p. 56.
  - In the "Message from the Chair" on p. 72, Chairman Bob Scott reinforces 2007-08 Foundation goals, which includes alumni.
  - On the inside back cover there is an advertisement for the Rotary Alumni Celebration.
- See the attached PDF for these articles.

### ***Alumni in the October issue of Rotary World***

- An article that highlights the Council on Legislation's formal encouragement of clubs to consider Foundation alumni as prospective members is found on p. 2.
- A group of 2005-06 Ambassadorial Scholars studying District 4890, Buenos Aires, Argentina completed a World Community Service (WCS) project to encourage literacy and promote world understanding on p. 4.
- Ken Morgan, 1977-78 GSE team member alumnus, is featured in the "Ask the Experts" column on p. 5.
- Ambassador Phillip Lader, 2006-07 Global Alumni Service to Humanity Award winner, is highlighted on p. 7.

To view Rotary World, visit: [http://www.rotary.org/RIdocuments/en\\_pdf/rw\\_0710\\_en.pdf](http://www.rotary.org/RIdocuments/en_pdf/rw_0710_en.pdf).

### ***New RI Website Launched***

Earlier this month, Rotary International launched a newly improved and redesigned Web site. Alumni information is now found under the "Students and Youth" section at <http://www.rotary.org/en/StudentsAndYouth/Alumni/Pages/ridefault.aspx>. Please feel free to share any feedback you have about the new site.