

International Service Update
Director: Anita Weiss
Southtowne Rotary Board Meeting, 6/21/23

Friendship Exchange

The District 7820 Canada Atlantic States team was in our district from May 19-June 3rd. We had fun posting pictures on the District website of their journey. This team was hosted by the Rotary clubs of Newport, Springfield and Roseburg. Each area planned 3-4 days of adventures. Their team of 7 was led by PDG Tom McCaughey. Our team went to this district in August 2019.

A team of 4 Oregon winemakers led by Gary Plano is currently in Tuscany. Their District is 2071. They are in Tuscany from June 17- July 2nd. Stay tuned to the District website for more on their adventures. This group was introduced at the district conference in Eugene and their airfare was funded by the District and the RFE funds. They will go to 3 wine regions and stay in local hotels and be guided by winemakers and Rotarians in their area. Their young winemakers team will come to us in late April and be introduced at our District conference in 2024.

It is hoped that they will send a team of Rotarian couples in October (an RFE type exchange) of up to 12 people. This is still being confirmed and we will know more soon. We have applications for our team which tentatively will go there in March 2024 led by Camille Ronzio. Southtowne will be hosting this team if dates are set. We should know soon, after the outgoing winemaker team comes back.

Our exchange with District 9350 Cape Town South Africa currently has a team of 8 outgoing from September 4-15. This team will be led by Camille Ronzio. We will invite this district to send another team probably sometime in 2024. This team will be going to various areas around Capetown.

Our goal is to exchange with the Philippines District 3850 during DG Mate's term is being planned now. More info when dates are set.

Our exchange with Pakistan District 3272 is currently awaiting their incoming team to secure team members and U.S. visas. It is tentatively scheduled for March 2024. We will be hosting this district before sending a team and are awaiting information from them. Anyone can apply who is interested in this exchange.

Our exchange with the District 6200 Southern Louisiana will be planned when their new chair is appointed after new DG. Anyone can apply for this team. Dates are TBA

Hospital/Medical Supply

On Wednesday morning, May 31st, CardioStart CEO Dr. Aubyn Marath and Southtowne Rotary volunteers loaded a container with medical supplies and equipment at the International Way warehouse in Springfield. The container is headed to the Dominican Republic and Haiti. 16 pallets are destined for the Dominican Republic and four are for Haiti. A total of 503 inventory items were listed on the manifest. The container loading took two hours. Southtowne volunteers helping with the loading on May 31st included: Randy Bernstein, Patric Miller, Sean McGann, Lonny King and John Pfanner.

Weekly surplus medical supplies and equipment pick-up and sorting continues as usual.

Food for Lane county staff members John Ross and Brad Bassi allowed me to pick-up a used tote. A tote is a heavy duty 3'x4'x4' cardboard box on a pallet. At McKenzie Willamette hospital

I was able to fill the tote with donated clean bedding, wrapped in plastic, which eventually will be shipped to a hospital in Cambodia.



Peace Committee

No report received.

South Valley Rotary Grant Committee (SVRGC)

Minutes from June 8, 2023 meeting:

Updates on Projects:

- 2017-2018 GG1990780: John reported that implementation is now well underway. At 5 out of 6 schools, tanks, guttering, and fencing is installed and trees are planted. Training is ongoing. John also mentioned that District 9212 is starting a District-to-District project format that will be implemented by District staff and not involve clubs directly.
- 2020-2021 GG2117656: Bob reported that implementation is complete and the project is closed. Bob mentioned that the Petaluma, CA RC is working elsewhere in western Uganda, and provided additional training in cervical cancer detection to the beneficiaries of this project.
- 2021-2022 GG2126821: Larry reported that the host district has not signed off on the application as they are continuing to review the project. Larry also mentioned the severe new law in Uganda regarding same sex relationships and suggested there is an impact on our work and on the teams he brings to Uganda.
- 2022-2023: Gael reported their funding is complete, the community assessment is done, the preproposal has been submitted, and she will present and request DDF at the 7-08-23 District Grants Committee meeting.

Larry mentioned that TRF is expecting 3 years of monitoring on global grants after closing.

- 2023-2024: Bruce and Dave reported that they have now raised \$78,000 for their project in Peru which is budgeted for \$45,000. They are considering putting the remaining funds towards equipment and supplies to the Moshchun Clinic Recovery Project in Ukraine. They are planning to present the Peru project at the 7-08-23 District Grants Committee meeting and, perhaps, the Ukraine project at the October meeting.

Invitations for Assistance:

1. Ukraine (Eugene club): Bob Nickel mentioned their project utilizing the “Echo” model for capacity building for individuals with developmental disabilities. They’re looking for \$750 to complete fundraising for the projected budgeted at \$37,500.
2. Ukraine (Eugene club): Bob described a summer camp program for children traumatized by the war. They are wanting to give children the opportunity to feel safe and calm in a friendly atmosphere. The cost is \$45/day for 10 days and has a goal of serving 100 kids this year. Total cost: \$45,000. People or clubs interested in sponsoring a child should contact Bob right away. If you have an interest, Bob is willing and ready to present to your club or World Service committee about the project. The summer camps have been extended through August and will possibly run into September.
3. Uganda: Larry is looking for clubs that would be interested in helping with an education and water intervention in the town of Soroti, Uganda. If your club would like to discuss, contact Larry. Your club can take the international club lead or participate.

Housekeeping/Organization:

- Currently clubs that bring forward grants at their time in the rotation, send invoices to the member clubs for the \$1050 per club contribution. Because of variance in scheduling and delays, sometimes member clubs are billed twice in a year or not at all. Larry suggested we develop a regular procedure for collection and disbursement of funds.
- Larry suggested we should review our organization MOU at the next meeting
- Larry suggested we discuss nomination of a new committee chair at the next meeting.

Announcements:

District Grants Committee will meet on 07-08-23. It has not been decided by district leadership to have the meeting by Zoom only or in person at the OSU Cascades campus in Bend, or both.

Next meetings of the SVRGC are 09-14-23 and 01-04-24 9:00-10:30 am.

World Community Service Committee

School for the Deaf in San Miguel de Allende: We sent them \$810 for STEM project and our usual contribution. The school is doing very well and receiving support from numerous clubs and donors. We hope to visit them next winter. *Painting Donation:* A painting won in a raffle for San Miguel School was donated by the Meyers and purchased by a club member to be displayed in Scott’s/Travis’s Blue Rotary Room. The \$4000 will go towards International Projects.

English language teaching project in Rwanda: The grant work is completed, money spent, and final report is in progress. Deborah and Don Steely will do a presentation in the next few months covering their exciting work.

Hospital/Medical Supplies will be the recipient of this year’s District Grant, as that was promised when the Rwanda English project received primary grant status last year. The district

grant has been submitted to help support shipment of medical supplies to Haiti, the Philippines, Cambodia, Ukraine, and other places as needed.

English language teaching project in Rwanda: The Steeleys have returned from Rwanda and have exciting news to report. Their ESL program is expanding to India as well as additional locations in Rwanda, focusing on training teachers at teacher colleges. They are working to get laptops to Rwanda and the funds allotted to them this year will need to be confirmed as spent ASAP or else we cannot apply for additional grants.

Mental illness project in Benin: Jocelyn Bonner has full support from the board to fund her project to supply medications needed to treat mental illness in Benin. She has a long-standing relationship with the group there that administers the medications.