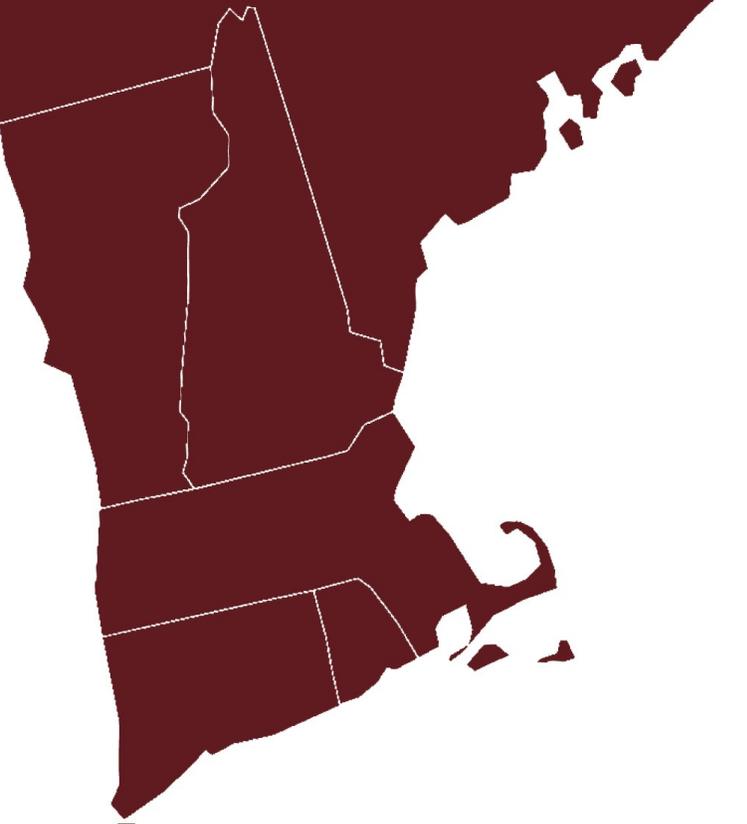


ROTARY
ALUMNI ASSOCIATION
of
GREATER NEW ENGLAND

— est. 2013 —



Message from Our President

Dear Alumni and Friends,

In this newsletter Past Rotary International President Bill Boyd, our Annual General Meeting's keynote speaker, gives his perspective on RAAGNE. Moreover, we have two alumni spotlights in this issue! Read more about Laís, a Rotarian from Brazil who was a Rotary Youth Exchange student to Germany and Chloe Heung, RAAGNE's former International Service Chair, who went from Hong Kong to the US as an Ambassadorial Scholar.

To connect you better with other RAAGNE members, we hope to have a first version of our directory online within the next two months. This directory is strictly restricted to registered members. It will contain some basic information that should allow you to get in touch with other members in your area, your profession or when you are abroad. Remember that we have recently over 170 members from 31 countries. We are also looking out for members who want to get more actively involved! If you are interested, don't hesitate to write me!

Additionally, we want to know your opinion regarding future projects, <http://goo.gl/forms/8M9tiOwcNR>. We highly appreciate your feedback.

Best regards,

Christopher Uschnig
RAAGNE President
christopher.uschnig@gmail.com



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A Message from PRIP Bill Boyd to RAAGNE

Dear Friends,

We as Rotarians are proud of those who are alumni of Rotary programs. You are very special people. You extend the reach and the impact of our humanitarian service and you take our values into a wider world.

All of which is what you would expect me to say but I mean it. So now to the practical “stuff”.

As individuals you should make contact with local Rotary clubs and offer to join them in their projects and even in their committee work. You do not need at this point to become a member as you are already a member of the Family of Rotary but don't hesitate if you would like to. If the first club doesn't appreciate the offer go to another one. Not every club has the same makeup and attitudes but then Rotarians are people and we are all different!

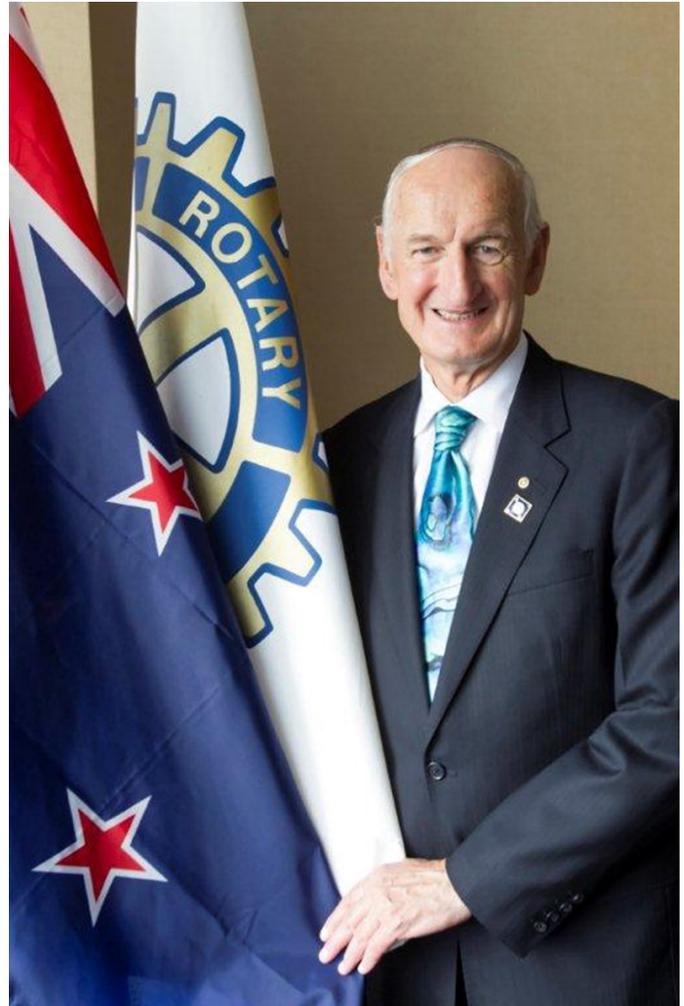
Find out who is the local District Governor and ask to be added to the District Newsletter mailing list. This will keep you in touch with what is going on and where you might want to get involved.

Offer yourself as a guest speaker for clubs. The District Governor can make your availability known to the Assistant Governors who are in close contact with clubs.

The message I am trying to give is to get yourself involved in Rotary. Both you and Rotary will gain. Don't be shy and don't let minor negatives get in the way. You have so much to offer us and we have so many opportunities for you.

My best wishes to you all,

Bill



Pitt Rotaract Update

This year marks the beginning of the University of Pittsburgh Rotaract Club, or Pitt Rotaract, for short. The group was founded by sophomores Charles Kronk, Uma Balakrishnan, Suzanne Fischer, and Daniel Shmagin. Although the group is new, they have made great strides in connecting with their sister clubs, the Duquesne University Rotaract and the Pittsburgh East Rotaract. In fact, Pitt Rotaract will be helping Duquesne Rotaract with their Walk for Water on September 28th.

The Pitt Rotaract announces all of its events via its FaceBook page at www.facebook.com/PittRotaract.

Alumni Spotlight: Laís S. D'Alembert

There is nothing more gratifying than staying in touch with former Rotary Alumni that have proceeded to make a difference in the world. We'd like to shed some light on individuals who have received an award to pursue their education by diversifying themselves through education abroad or other opportunities that have enabled them to grow academically and individually. Read about what some of these Alumni are doing now!

Meet **Laís** a Brazilian born Rotary recipient who became a Rotary member through Interact, where she developed great friendships and leadership skills as the President of the International Services Committee. Three years later she got the experience of a lifetime through the Rotary International Youth Exchange to study abroad in Germany.

"I would say the highlight during my exchange program was being invited as the only teenager (16 years old back then) that took place in Euro meetings (biennial meeting of European Rotary clubs) where I could help my local RC's to communicate with other European Rotarians who could only speak Italian, being a German-Italian ambassador. During the gala-dinner I had the pleasure to share the table with fellow Rotarians from Italy, Belgium and Ireland - that marked the beginning of a lifelong friendship, which led me to being invited to visit their countries, and therefore their Rotary clubs. It was a marvelous experience! I believe it was destiny, because since then, we are in constant contact and I am considered as part of their families and always come back to visit either for weddings in the Mediterranean or for horseback riding international events in the Flemish part of Belgium for instance. I must say it is indeed a big Rotarian family all over the world."

When asked how Rotary has altered her future Laís says, "Rotary has changed my life in the sense of empowering and dignifying my life as an opportunity to serve society and to spread international understanding, goodwill, and peace. I consider alumni involvement very important through projects and causes that contribute to humanity, encouraging high ethical standards in their respective professions, always remembering and practicing our motto - "Service Above Self" through their lives."

Currently, Laís studies International Management, alongside also being an entrepreneur and writing books. She speaks Portuguese, English, German, Italian, French, Spanish fluently and a bit of Dutch and Korean. She also mentioned that in the future she wants to keep her engagement with Rotary, by participating and developing international projects, and making a positive impact in the world.



Alumni Spotlight: Chloe Heung

1) Please tell us a little bit about yourself (where you're from, what you studied, what are you doing now)

I am from Hong Kong and spent most of my life there. I received the Rotary scholarship to study a Master's in International Development Economics at Yale University in the States. I am working in a development NGO, World Vision, in Thailand now.

2) What were some highlights from your Rotary Ambassadorial Scholarship?

I think with Rotary, it's always about the People. I went to several club meetings and enjoyed knowing people that I would not have known without Rotary. As a foreign student, it's quite difficult to get to know the local people and Rotary provided this opportunity for me. My host club, Rotary of North Haven, was very nice to me. They picked me up at the airport with a basket of groceries!

As a scholar, it was also my responsibility to speak to different clubs. This gave me an opportunity to talk about Hong Kong, China or International development as these topics were related to my scholarship. It's a fun and new experience and I learnt a lot from the discussion with a wide range of audience.

Alumni Spotlight: Chloe Heung

3) As a past board member of RAAGNE, do you have any thoughts to share with our readers about RAAGNE and also do you have any advice for the current RAAGNE members/board?

First, I want to say "thank you" the readers for taking the time to read our newsletter.

By connecting with RAAGNE, it means you have the intention to stay connected with Rotary. It might be difficult or a bit odd to do so, but I can tell you that Rotarian or Rotary alumni are really fun crowd to hang out with.

I also encourage members to share about their stories. You never know who would read this and how your story will inspire people. I also think it's one of the ways to give back to Rotary.

The organization RAAGNE was set up to help people connecting with each other and it does take time, and I am very grateful for the board member for their contribution to RAAGNE.

4) Since you're involved with Rotary still, what are some of the challenges do you think Rotary will face moving down and what thoughts do you have about that?

We talked about Rotary is aging and the membership in the US or other countries is decreasing. That's probably true if we are look at who are Rotarian exclusively. But I think Rotary is broader than that. We of course would want to see more Rotary clubs and more members, but at the same time, Rotary is contributing to the society in different ways. We invite our friends to join a fundraising event, to speak in a club, or to volunteer for a NGO. Though many of them are not Rotarians, they support what we believe and contribute to make a difference.

5) What is your favorite quote?

"You are never too old to set another goal or to dream a new dream." - C. S. Lewis



Message from RAAGNE Treasurer

I am reaching out to the members of RAAGNE to ask for your advice, opinion, and suggestions for the direction of RAAGNE.

Some of our goals include keeping Rotary Foundation alumni in touch with Rotary and acting as a resource for future Rotary Scholars.

We also have actively assisted with Rotary fundraising efforts for service project (our recent project was to raise funds to purchase a computer for a girls school in Afghanistan <http://www.raagne.com/projects/>).

We need your help to understand what interests you with RAAGNE. **What sort of content would you like to see in our newsletters? Do you currently read our newsletters?** One of our ideas is to assist another Rotary club with fundraising for a global scholar (previously known as the Ambassadorial Scholarship) to raise funds and provide our own scholarship for international study/service. **Would you be interested in helping with raising funds for a scholarship?** Another potential idea is to provide a yearly scholarship in the amount of \$1500 that would be awarded to a qualified applicant. We are open to suggestions and advice on the scholarship amount or type of scholarship as well! **We would also like to know what type of service projects interest you.**

We look forward to hearing from you via email (davidmgau@gmail.com) or if you prefer, please respond to this Google Form (<http://goo.gl/forms/8M9tiOwcNR>).

Please do not hesitate to contact us with any other suggestions or comments.

Thank you,
Dave Gau

