

# Rotary Foundation Alumni Association of Greater New England



## Newsletter #4, July 2013

Dear Alumni and friends,

Welcome to the fourth edition of your alumni newsletter. This edition continues to put a human face on who we are and how the association can add value to its individual members, service work and Rotary International. As you can see we are making significant organizational progress!

- **Rotary Alumni Spotlight from Development Chair Nicholas Bell – July 2013**

**Christine Cloonan**  
**Senior Financial Analyst, American Tower**  
**Boston, MA**



Christine Cloonan knows how to turn Rotary experience into career opportunities. While studying as a 2008-09 Ambassadorial Scholar at La Universidad Torcuato Di Tella (Buenos Aires, Argentina), Christine wrote her master's thesis on American Tower, a leading owner and operator of communications sites for wireless and broadcast providers. She now works at American Tower as a Senior Financial Analyst with a focus on the company's Latin American operations. She is also a graduate of Bowdoin College and Middlebury College, and is the 2013 Women's Wireless Leadership Forum Fellowship Award recipient.

### **You wrote your master's thesis on American Tower. What drew you to this company and this industry?**

American Tower drew me to the industry. In writing my thesis, the company's strong financials and trajectory for growth captured my attention. Subsequently, I had the opportunity to hear the current CEO speak at an international business conference and was further impressed by the strength and vision of the company's leadership.

### **Can you describe a typical day as a Senior Financial Analyst?**

I work with the International Financial Planning team in the Boston office. We support the company's operations in Latin America, Europe and Africa. Our work involves both budgeting and forecasting for operations, as well as business development. My daily activities include budget and forecast analysis, developing quarterly review and investment committee presentations, working on financial models for the evaluation of potential acquisitions, and keeping myself and our management up-to-date on regional economic, political and industry news.

## How do you apply your Rotary experience in your current position?

Beyond the content of my studies, the most instrumental aspect of my Rotary experience that I apply to my current position is my understanding of another culture and personal connections in the region. Culture is an often overlooked, although core component, of international business. Life and work exist in different contexts outside of the United States and it impacts how people and business operate.

## Do you have any advice for recent graduates of Rotary Foundation programs on how to leverage their Rotary experience in their job search?

I am thrilled about the organization of a Rotary alumni network because I strongly recommend that recent graduates connect with former alums to learn about their career paths and gain insight into any suitable positions. If you would like to stay in an international environment, leverage your in-country/regional experience. Most important to any job search is to complete an honest self-assessment. Define your interests and your skill sets and then actively seek to connect with people who can link you to companies or roles that would fit you. Once you find that opening (even if it needs to be made for you) – sell yourself!

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Christine continues her involvement with Rotary as a member of the Northeast LINK Committee, and will be joining the Alumni Association's Charter Dinner at Northeast LINK in Boxborough, Mass. on September 28.

You can learn more about Christine's story and career by visiting her Women's Wireless Leadership Forum spotlight at [http://www.wwlf.org/fellowship/christine\\_2013.cfm](http://www.wwlf.org/fellowship/christine_2013.cfm).

- **Update on our President, Christopher Uschnig**



After an enriching year as Ambassadorial Scholar in which he received training in Immunology, Global Health, and Translational Medicine at Harvard Medical School, Christopher said goodbye to his friends at Harvard Square at a farewell party in early July.

Before returning to his home country (Austria), Christopher is starting clinical rotations in a local hospital in Honduras (with support from the "Healthy Horizons for Children for Families", [www.hhcf.ca](http://www.hhcf.ca)) and the university hospital in Santiago de Chile (Chile) as part of his M.D. studies during the summer of 2013.

RAAGNE co-founder **PDG Klaus Hachfeld** and **PP Ron Goodenow**, a Rotary advisor to our team who provided this photograph of Klaus, in his capacity as District Alumni Chair and Chris signing the RAAGNE charter application, also attended the celebration.

- **Update from cofounder Past District 7910 Governor Klaus Hachfeld** on the Chartering of our Alumni Association

The annual NORTHEAST LINK scholar orientation always has an alumni reunion as its dinner event. This year's event (on Saturday September 28<sup>th</sup>) will be special, as we will have the Alumni Chartering Ceremony as part of this dinner. The venue will be the Holiday Inn in Boxborough, Massachusetts, USA, which is about 30 miles northwest of Boston.

The program will have several elements:

- An alumni networking event before and after the dinner
- A keynote speech by Vice-Chairman of the Rotary Foundation Michael McGovern
- A presentation of the 'Karen Swaim Babin Alumni Service Award'
- A speech by RAAGNE President Christopher Uschnig and presentation of the association charter document.
- A group photo of all attending RAAGNE members with the charter
- Speech by Alum Peter Kyle of the World Bank

Please contact Klaus Hachfeld ([klausdh@charter.net](mailto:klausdh@charter.net)) with what you would like to have as a networking event. Other ideas are also welcome.

To register for NORTHEAST LINK, please visit the following site: <http://www.northeastlink.org>

We are creating a flyer to promote this event and will ask that you pass this information to other alumni in your circle of contacts. More information in the next RAAGNE newsletter.

- **RAAGNE Membership Chair Opportunity**

Our Membership Chair Patricia has resigned due to new chairing commitments placed on her at Penn State University. She continues as a member and will help, but we need to be considerate of her new time constraints.

- **Update from Treasurer Dave Gau**

My name is Dave Gau, treasurer of the RAAGNE. My role is to oversee our funds and keep our budget up-to-date. As of now, there is nothing for me to report on the financial side. I am also currently working on our association's website. This site is a WordPress.org powered website which is hosted currently for free by Byethost. The site may be viewed at: [www.raagne.byethost10.com](http://www.raagne.byethost10.com). This is the working page for our site. If there are suggestions for the site, please feel free to let me know by using the "Contact Us" tab or emailing me at [recalled@gmail.com](mailto:recalled@gmail.com). I currently need help with filling the content for the tabs. I look forward to hearing your feedback on the website and will continue to work on it.



## Event Calendar

July 27, 2013

Rotary Board Meeting at 11:00 am EST

September 28, 2013

Rotary Alumni Association of Greater New England Charter Night at the Boxborough Holiday Inn