

# Rotary Alumni Association of Greater New England

Newsletter 8, November / December 2013

ROTARY  
ALUMNI ASSOCIATION  
of  
GREATER NEW ENGLAND  
— est. 2013 —



## Message from our President

Dear Alumni and Friends,

Much has happened since RAAGNE was chartered in September. Our extended Board now has over 11 highly-motivated alumni and supporting members. Most recently, we identified a new Project Consultant, because we are actively looking for service projects that we can support or initiate around the world.

Some of you may be familiar with promising service projects due to your participation in Rotary or Rotaract, so we have created an online project survey that you can complete to help us make a difference. [www.raagne.com/committees](http://www.raagne.com/committees)

*"We are actively looking for service projects that RAAGNE can support or initiate."*

We will soon choose a date for our first General Meeting! For now, I can tell you that it will take place in the Northeast of the USA over the summer. Further, we have redesigned our official web page, which is available now at [www.raagne.com](http://www.raagne.com). You can also check out our Facebook fanpage at [www.facebook.com/RotaryGreaterNewEngland](http://www.facebook.com/RotaryGreaterNewEngland).

Finally, I hope you will enjoy our last newsletter of 2013. In this edition, we provide details on planned Rotary activities in 2014, share an inspiring story about a former Ambassadorial Scholar, and update you on Typhoon Haiyan relief efforts in the Philippines.

Merry Christmas and Happy New Year!

Christopher Uschnig



RAAGNE President Christopher Uschnig  
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## 2014 Rotary International Convention, Details from Development Chair Nicholas Bell



2014 Rotary International Convention  
Sydney, Australia  
June 1 to 4

Discounted Registration for Rotary Foundation Alumni

This summer, Rotarians from around the world will converge on Sydney, Australia for the 2014 Rotary International Convention. The convention schedule is packed with speakers, entertainment (including an Australian Rules football match), breakout sessions, and the opportunity to socialize and network in the House of Friendship.

The convention will also feature a Rotary Alumni Celebration on May 31. Recent Rotary Foundation alumni (2006-2007 or later) are eligible for a discounted ticket.

Registration and information is available at <http://rotary2014.com.au>.

Register Today!



Photograph Courtesy of the Rotary Foundation

## 2014 Rotary World Peace Scholarships

In 2014 all Rotary Foundation alumni should keep an eye on the Rotary Peace Fellowship program, which was first established in 2002. The program promotes tolerance and cooperation around the world by training service-oriented professionals in conflict resolution and prevention, as well as other peace-related areas of study.

The program gives up to 50-60 fellows per year a full academic fellowship (also covering room and board, transportation, and other education-related expenses) for graduate study at one of the five Rotary peace centers. These centers are located at Duke University (US), North Carolina Chapel Hill (US), International Christian University (Japan), University of Bradford (UK), University of Queensland (Australia), and Uppsala University (Sweden).

Along with a master's degree, fellows receive real world training through a practical internship to be completed during academic breaks.

Further, a second type of peace fellowship is available in which participants receive a professional development certificate in peace and conflict resolution at Chulalongkorn University in Bangkok, Thailand. This program requires three months of study, including 2-3 weeks of field work.

More information about the Rotary Peace Fellowships can be found at <https://www.rotary.org/en/peace-fellowships>

For more details you can also watch this excellent YouTube video on the Peace fellowships: [www.youtube.com/watch?v=s99s9oJ1Ei4](http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=s99s9oJ1Ei4)



## Alumni Relations Update

*Below please find an inspiring update from Rotary Alumni Relations regarding former Ambassadorial Scholar Hannah Warren.*

Rotary changes lives. Nobody knows that better than Hannah Warren, a former Rotary Ambassadorial Scholar. Hannah traveled to the ancient city of Maheshwar, India, in 2005 to photograph female weavers producing saris. After she arrived, she learned that these women, who had toiled for hours, couldn't afford even one of the saris they made. This inspired Hannah to found Jhoole, a not-for-profit fair trade business that offers impoverished women in Maheshwar a way to earn a living wage and create a brighter future for themselves, their families, and their community.

With help from a Rotary Foundation grant, Hannah acquired looms, cloth, and funds to cover training costs for weaving and sewing. She also created a market for dresses, skirts, and handbags by cultivating partnerships with designers and distributors worldwide. [Watch a video highlighting Hannah's work.](#)

Hannah's business gives 20 percent of its profits to an organization that aids elderly women and people with disabilities. Additionally, it funded a computer lab with 10 computers to help the often illiterate and undereducated workers read and write in Hindi. To date, hundreds of people's lives have been changed – including Hannah's.

This is just one example of the life-changing work done by Rotary alumni. As you reflect during this holiday season on which charities deserve your financial support, please consider a gift to The Rotary Foundation. You know from your own experience with Rotary what an incredible impact your gift will have. You can make a one-time or recurring gift by going to [www.rotary.org/give](http://www.rotary.org/give).

Happy holidays!

Sincerely,

John T. Osterlund  
General Manager at The Rotary Foundation of RI  
1987-88 Ambassadorial Scholar, Stockholms  
Universitet

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## Super Typhoon Haiyan in the Philippines, Update from Chloe Heung

With winds over 200 mph, Super Typhoon Haiyan was one of the strongest typhoons to ever hit land. It caused tremendous damage to the Philippines and its people. According to the UN, up to 10 million people have been affected. The BBC also reports that the death toll has surpassed 5,700. And an estimated 4.5 million people have been displaced.

*What is Rotary doing to help the victims?*

Rotary clubs worldwide and in the Philippines have responded forcefully to the typhoon, including clubs in Rotary District 3680 and Rotary District 9685. Check out the District 3680 Facebook page to find out more [www.facebook.com/RotaryDistrict3860](http://www.facebook.com/RotaryDistrict3860)



*Rotary Australia World Community and Team Source: Rotary District 3860*

Rotary's international partner, ShelterBox, is helping thousands of families. In the immediate aftermath, ShelterBox helped families in affected areas by delivering over one thousand tents and aid boxes, with thousands more scheduled to be delivered by mid-January 2014. Also, the ShelterBox Australia appeal fund has received over \$350,000 in donations.

Other relief agencies on the ground include the World Food Program and UNICEF.

