

Rotary Alumni Association of Greater New England

ROTARY
ALUMNI ASSOCIATION
of
GREATER NEW ENGLAND
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Newsletter 15, August 2014

Message from Our President

Dear Alumni & Friends,

The Rotary year 2013/14 has come to an end and we have summarized RAAGNE's highlights in our Final Year Report. We now have 170 members from over 30 countries. Take a look at the graphics in the Final Year Report and you may want to involve more people from your country. If you don't know how to find other Rotary alumni from your country, just get in touch with us and we will help you!

Get active! Join Rotaract or Rotary Clubs in your area!

One of the most important things that you need to be aware of is that you have been selected once to be an Ambassador for your country. Rotarians were convinced that you represent the ideals of Rotary and your country well and that you will help to enforce mutual understanding and goodwill. Every Club would be happy to have you as a member and to learn from your experiences. If you are interested in joining a Club, but you don't know Rotarians in your area, contact us and we will help you out!

Moreover, as noted in this Newsletter, RAAGNE supports the efforts of the Rotaract Club Warszawa Zamek (Warsaw Castle), which is participating in the Shelterbox Challenge until August 24. Please read on to hear more about that project, the new RI President for 2014/15 and the RYLA North America Conference.

Best regards from Bangladesh,

Christopher Uschnig



RAAGNE President Christopher Uschnig
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New RI President Gary Huang: Story from RAAGNE Consultant Ron Goodenow



Rotary International's President for 2014-15 is Gary C.K. Huang of the Rotary Club of Taipei. Long active in Rotoract, convener of Rotary institutions throughout Southeast Asia, he was elected as a RI Vice President in 2001 and Trustee of the Rotary Foundation from 2004-06. He has also held positions on many important international committees.

One look at Gary's resume shows a strong interest in youth, international exchange and Polio eradication. Awards include a Presidential Citation for Service Above Self, the Rotary Foundation Citation of 'Meritorious Service' Award, the Rotary Foundation 'Distinguished Service' Award and the Foundation Trustees 'Distinguished Service' Award. Gary is also a club builder, having formed 13 clubs in Taipei during his tenure as District Governor in 1986-87, while organizing 19 new clubs, including three clubs in Hong Kong and 16 more in Northern Taiwan.

Gary studied in the USA, has been married to Corinna Yao for 38 years, has two daughters and a son as well as two grandchildren, and has a great love of basketball ...though is now an avid golfer. He has been in the insurance business most of his life.

Gary's vision for Rotary is an increase in membership to more than 1.3 million, looking to China, Mongolia, Vietnam and more women. His internationalism and life-long focus on youth is in line with RAAGNE goals.

The above is taken from extensive bios published in The Rotarian Magazine: therotarianmagazine.com

The RYLA North American Conference: Story from April Labaro

Rotaractors from around the world gathered last week in Washington, D.C. for the RYLA North America Conference 2014. This four day leadership training program featured professional development sessions focused on enhancing the leadership, communication, and conflict resolution skills of young professionals from age 18-30. Clubs also had the opportunity to give presentations on their service projects and club activities, providing an opportunity for delegates to exchange ideas and past experiences.

The RYLA conference has grown significantly since its first meeting, which was also held in D.C. in 2009. At this year's conference, there were more than 50 countries represented, and the conference has maintained its international flavor by offering nightly embassy receptions and an international cultural dance and fashion show. **If you attended this conference recently, reach out to us and let us know; we would love to know how it went!**

Here is a snippet about the RYLA Conference from <http://rylanad7620.rylanorthamerica.com/>: "The RYLA Conference...is an intense leadership training program that is designed to recognize, encourage, and further develop the leadership skills of 18-30 year olds who have shown a potential for rendering important service to their local communities.

All Rotaractors, non-Rotaractors, RYLA alumni, former Youth Study Exchange, former Group Study Exchange alumni, former Ambassadorial Scholar alumni, former Interactors and former Peace Scholars between the ages of 18-30 can participate in this conference. **The conference will be in Washington, DC, USA from August 2, 2014 to August 6, 2014.**



The 2014 Shelterbox Challenge in Amsterdam: Details from RAAGNE Treasurer Dave Gau

The Rotaract Club of Warsaw Castle in Poland is raising funds to take part in the Shelterbox Challenge 2014 in Amsterdam (August 23-24).

Shelterbox is a big, lightweight, and waterproof box that contains emergency shelter and vital supplies to support communities around the world overwhelmed by disaster and humanitarian crises. Check out <http://www.gofundme.com/ak9el8> for more information on this initiative.

RAAGNE is proud to support the efforts of the Warsaw Castle Rotaract Club!



Above: an image depicting key Shelterbox features.

Below: Shelterboxes being used in Nepal.

