

ROTARY
ALUMNI ASSOCIATION
of
GREATER NEW ENGLAND

— est. 2013 —



Message from Our President

Dear Alumni and Friends,

In this newsletter we inform you about our upcoming Annual General Meeting that will be held close to Boston on the 1st and 2nd of May. I hope to meet many of you and I am looking forward to be back at my host district (7930). Additionally, this year our AGM counts as official Rotary scholar orientation and we would be more than happy if you also engage current and past scholars to attend our AGM. Our registration fee will be only 12 USD that are partially covering food and drinks for you. If you have any questions, don't hesitate to contact me. You can read more about our AGM in this newsletter. Moreover, long-term RAAGNE consultant PDG Klaus Hachfeld shares his thoughts on RAAGNE with you as well as we report about the President-Elect Training from March 12 to 14 where RAAGNE will also be present.

I hope to meet you in person in May and all people who are living in the Northeast USA, I wish you better weather!

Best regards,

Christopher Uschnig
RAAGNE president
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Remarks from Klaus Hachfeld, RF Alumni Committee Chair

Dear Friends,

RAAGNE, the Internet-based Rotary alumni association was chartered less than 2 years ago, during which time it has been looking to reconnect with Rotary alumni and has asked the members what THEY consider to be of importance to them. Further, the RAAGNE Board has asked whether we are really as effective as we could be while trying to connect with the existing membership. Third, RAAGNE has worked hard at using every Internet tech trick we know to find Rotary alumni, with some success, yet it occurs to me that we have made little use of the most dedicated people who can help, the Rotarians!

We come to our second Annual General Meeting, this time close to Boston, MA, USA. I'm convinced that greater participation in RAAGNE programs by the alumni will be beneficial to them as well as the association. So what have we tried, and what should we do? Certainly we have looked at the Rotary database, expecting to easily find current contact information for past Ambassadorial Scholars, Rotary Peace Fellows, GSE Team Members; the folks who probably have the warmest feelings towards Rotary.

My estimate is that these Rotary alumni will lose contact with them within two years. Also recognize that Rotary's definition of Alumni is no longer restricted to Rotary Foundation program alumni, but includes participants in other Rotary programs, including Rotaract, Interact, Rotary Youth Exchange, RYLA, etc. So RAAGNE membership is open to people we normally consider to be younger than the Foundation program participants, but we all grow wiser and find our way in the world as we grow up, so all of us can choose to participate in Rotary's vision of service to our world community, including through RAAGNE.

We have had greater success by continuing to have a presence with news items on the Internet, and indeed, purely by luck have

come across some alumni who tell us that no-one in Rotary ever contacted them to remain connected to Rotary. How sad!

So my message is that the 2015 RAAGNE AGM will be held, Friday May 1, in conjunction with the District 7930 District Conference at the Double Tree (by Hilton) hotel, located at 50 Ferncroft Drive, Danvers, MA 01923, USA. Program details are still being worked out, but we will have an opportunity to connect with Rotarians in one of the afternoon's conference breakout sessions, specifically addressing the need for Rotarians to do their part to help us, and Rotary, find our alumni.

The AGM follows that afternoon at which I ask attendees to help us identify how we can better serve the alumni and get them engaged with the broader service that Rotary offers the world, whether that is via a RAAGNE humanitarian service project, or directly by working with a Rotary club on their projects. My observation is that the RAAGNE Board members work hard at getting projects and possibly scholarships going, yet we are not getting much input from you, the members. Help us! We are here to make your experience with Rotary better.

From my own experience with Rotary I can tell you that the Good Will and friendships you develop while working on Rotary projects is beyond belief. We can all impact our world in positive ways, so let's go and do it!

**Klaus Hachfeld,
PDG**



Northeast President-Elect Training Session

RAAGNE members Klaus Hachfeld and Ron Goodenow will be at the Northeast President-Elect Training Session (Northeast PETS) from March 12 – March 14. They will be tabling during the training session talking to president-elects about the vision and future of RAAGNE. This will be a great opportunity to connect face-to-face with some members who are highly involved with the organization and the Rotary world.

Northeast PETS is headquartered at the Sheraton Framingham Hotel and Conference Center, in Framingham, MA. The Northeast Presidents-Elect Training Seminar is Rotary's training program for club Presidents-Elect and Assistant Governors throughout New England and parts of Canada.

The goal of Northeast PETS, as it is called, is to prepare Presidents-elect and Assistant Governors for their upcoming roles through provocative plenary speakers, in-depth breakout sessions, discussions with peers from various districts, and informal fellowship and networking with other Rotarians. Northeast PETS is a joint effort of eight Rotary International districts and includes the states of Connecticut, Rhode Island, Massachusetts, Vermont, New Hampshire, southern Maine and southern Quebec.



RAGNE 2nd Annual General Meeting

When: May 1-2

Where: Double Tree by Hilton Boston North Shore Danvers, MA

Join us for an engaging weekend filled with networking, dinner, drinks and more! This year's meeting will be hosted in correspondence with District 7930's District conference. RAAGNE's executive board will host a breakout session during the District conference on Friday May 1st, followed by our AGM. This year's AGM will include alumni guest speakers, discussion of our scholarship project, and a service project with the local Rotaract club on Saturday. In order to host this year's AGM we are asking for a \$12 registration fee in order to cover a portion of the cost for this year's event. More details to follow! We look forward to seeing you in May!

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RAAGNE AGM 2015

The Annual General Meeting
will take place

on **Fri, 1st** and **Sat, 2nd** May 2015

at **Double Tree by Hilton Boston
North Shore**, 50 Ferncroft Rd,
Danvers, MA 01923.

Supported by District 7930.

Registration fee \$12.

Highlights:

- ▶ **Meeting** with RAAGNE Board Members and Alumni
- ▶ **Orientation** Session for incoming and outgoing Rotary Scholars
- ▶ **Networking** opportunities
- ▶ **Dinner** and Drinks
- ▶ **Service Project** with Boston Rotaract Club on Saturday morning

To receive more information, go to
www.raagne.com/



RAAGNE



Rotary Alumni Association of Greater New England