Rotary

Rotarian Action Groups
2014 Annual Report

Content

Introduction 1
RAGs at a Glance 1-2
Alzheimer's/Dementia Rotarian Action Group 3
Rotarian Action Group for Blindness Prevention..... 4
Global Network for Blood Donation, a Rotarian Action Group 7
Rotarian Action Group Against Child Slavery 8
Rotarian Action Group of Dental Volunteers 7
Rotarian Action Group for Diabetes 8
Rotarians for Family Health and AIDS Prevention 9-10
Food Plant Solutions Rotarian Action Group 11
Health Education and Wellness Rotarian Action Group 12
Rotarians for Hearing, A Rotarian Action Group 13
Rotarian Action Group for the Alleviation of Hunger and Malnutrition 14
Literacy Rotarian Action Group 15
Rotarians Eliminating Malaria, a Rotarian Action Group..... 18
Rotarian Action Group for Microfinance and Community Development.....17
Rotarian Action Group for Multiple Sclerosis Awareness 18
Rotarian Action Group for Peace 19
Rotarian Action Group for Polio Survivors and Associates.....20
Rotarian Action Group for Population & Development 21-22
Water and Sanitation Rotarian Action Group 23-24

Introduction

Rotarian Action Groups (RAGs) provide assistance and support to Rotary clubs and districts in planning and implementing community development and humanitarian service projects. They are organized by committed Rotarians, Rotarians' family members, and Rotary program participants and alumni who have expertise and a passion for a particular type of service.

Every year RAGs submit a report of activities and finances to Rotary International. These annual reports summarize the groups' membership statistics and highlight their humanitarian service activities. The following report provides an overview of the work RAGs are doing to advance the Object of Rotary worldwide.

Additional information about RAGs can be found online, www.rotary.org/actiongroups.

RAGs at a Glance

Since RAGs were first recognized by the RI Board of Directors in 2005, their popularity and impact have grown around the world. The following provides a broad look at membership, finances, and general highlights for RAGs in 2013-14.

Membership

In 2013-14, 19 RAGs reported a combined membership of 28,731 in more than 100 countries worldwide. Excluding the Rotarian Action Group for Population Growth & Sustainable Development, which reported the largest membership of any group at 20,000 members, the average size for each RAG is around 485 members.

Finances

Together these groups reported a combined income of US$944,469 from membership dues, grants, and other charitable contributions. In 2013-14, 19 groups required members to pay either annual or lifetime membership dues. The average annual membership cost was US$20 and average lifetime membership cost was US$100. RAGs reported expenses of US$ 892,222 for international humanitarian service projects and other activities. At year end, RAGs reported combined net assets of US$417,414.

Highlights

At its June 2014 meeting, the Rotary International Board of Directors decided to expand membership eligibility in Rotarian Action Groups. In addition to Rotarians and family members of Rotarians, anyone who has participated in a Rotary or Foundation program at some point in their lives is now eligible to join a Rotarian Action Group. This broader category includes Rotaractors as well as participants and alumni of all other Rotary and Foundation programs, past and present, including (but not limited to):

- Interact
- Rotaract
- Rotary Youth Exchange

- Rotary Youth Leadership Awards (RYLA)
- Rotary Peace Fellowships
- Global Grant Scholarships
- Vocational training teams (members and leaders)
- District Grant scholarships
- New Generations Service Exchange
- Rotary Foundation awards to individuals in former TRF programs, such as:
    - Ambassadorial Scholarships
    - Grants for University Teachers
    - Group Study Exchange
    - Rotary Volunteers

Fourteen Rotarian Action Groups exhibited at the 2014 RI Convention in Sydney, Australia and nine of these participated in breakout sessions.

In October 2014, the World Health Fairs Rotarian Action Group regained its active status after a year of hiatus. The group expanded its scope of activity by adding health education and training projects to health fairs and the Board of Directors approved the group's new proposed name, Health Education and Wellness Rotarian Action Group.

Summary of Annual Reports

Alzheimer's/Dementia Rotarian Action Group

Topic: providing information and support to Rotarians on dementia and Alzheimer's disease

Membership
In 2013-14, ADRAG reported 35 members in 15 countries.

Annual Membership Dues: US$25
Lifetime Membership Dues: None

ADRAG was recognized by the Board of Directors in June 2013. As of December 2014, it is still our newest Rotarian Action Group and has spent the most of the past year planning. RAG representatives actively worked with clubs to explain the service goals of the RAG. Several clubs invited RAG members to present at club meetings. ADRAG had a booth in Sydney and was able to add hundreds of new names on its mailing list. The group has been sending email updates to its members while also working to create an established format for its official newsletter. Even though ADRAG's website is up and running, the group will be working to improve its functionally and outlook in the upcoming year.

The RAG board met several times this year, confirmed bylaws and board membership, and secured financial support to create its web site and Facebook page. ADRAG visited RI Headquarters in June 2014 to meet with General Secretary Hewko and briefed him on its progress. The group reserved a booth at the Rotary Institute in Toronto where it had opportunity to introduce ADRAG to Rotarians in Zones 24 & 32. ADRAG has already sparked collaborative efforts for Rotarians who are in the field of Alzheimer's patient care to meet and share best practices. This will also be one of the most important goals of the group moving forward.

Contact Information
Chair: Dave Clifton, diclifton@comcast.net
Website: http://adrag.org
Social Media: Facebook

Rotarian Action Group for Blindness Prevention

Topic: preventing blindness and promoting eye health and vision worldwide

Membership
In 2013-14, RAGBP reported 294 members in 43 countries.

Annual Membership Dues: US$50, US$100/3 year
Lifetime Membership Dues: None

International Service Projects and Activities

- **Cataract Surgeries and Refraction Screening with Glasses** – RAGBP worked with the RC of Lagos-Palm Grove Estate, Nigeria (D9110) and the RC of Blythe, CA (D5340) to provide cataract surgeries for 1,200 patients and 3,000 pairs of eyeglasses in Lagos, Nigeria. A $2000 grant was provided by the Blindness Prevention Donor Advised Fund (DAF). DAF funds are matched $.50/$1.00 by TRF, thus providing $3000 to the overall project.

- **377 Cataract Surgeries Project**– RAGBP worked with the RC of Lahore Midtown, Pakistan (D3272), and the RC of Delhis Chanakyapuri, India (D-3010) to provide 377 free cataract surgeries at the LRBT Hospital in Lahore, Pakistan. A $2000 grant was provided by the Blindness Prevention Donor Advised Fund. DAF funds are matched $.50/$1.00 by TRF thus providing $3000 to the overall project.

- **Eye Education and Basic Skills Training** – RAGBP worked with District 3450 (Indonesia) and District 1600 (Netherlands) to help provide eye education and basic skills training to local nurses and to provide cataract surgeries to economically disadvantaged groups in Bali, East Java, Sulawesi, and Nusa Tenggara Timur, Indonesia. A $2000 grant was provided by the Blindness Prevention Donor Advised Fund. DAF funds are matched $.50/$1.00 by TRF, thus providing $3000 to the overall project.

Notable Collaborations

Informal Collaborations: American Academy of Opthamology, Lahore, Pakistan LRBT Hospital, SEE Internations, ALCON, Bausch and Lomb

Contact Information
Chair: Shehzad Ahmed**,** rotary@promark.com.pk
Website: www.rag4bp.org
Social Media: Facebook

Global Network for Blood Donation, a Rotarian Action Group

Topic: blood donation projects

Membership
In 2013-14, GNBD reported 1,727 members in 89 countries.

Annual Membership Dues: None
Lifetime Membership Dues: None

International Service Projects and Activities

- **Cowboy and Indian Challenge (AKA Governor' Blood Drive)** – GNBD worked with Districts in Zones 4, 5, 6, 21b, and 27, as well as Community Blood Centers within these districts (In the United States, the Association of Donor Recruitment Professionals also participated) to hold a very successful blood drive for local blood banks that encouraged voluntary blood donations amongst Rotarians and the general population.

- **Mon Sang pour les Autres –** GNBD conducted a countrywide blood drive in France that involved all districts in the country. The blood drives in Toulouse resulted in the largest collection of donors at one time in Europe. 2883 donors registered overall. Turnout was strong throughout France's major population centers.

- **Governor's Challenge Blood and Vampire Ball** (awards banquet)– GNBD worked with clubs in District 6890 and One Blood Florida to encourage voluntary blood donations among Rotarians and the general public; and recognition of those clubs with the highest levels of participation.

Notable Collaborations

Formal Collaborations: Association of Donor Recruitment Professionals

Informal Collaborations: One Blood Florida, I' Establishment Francais du Sang

Contact Information
Chair: Cees Smit Sibinga, c.sibinga@planet.nl
Website: www.ourblooddrive.org
Social Media: Twitter

Rotarian Action Group Against Child Slavery

Topic: raising awareness and supporting programs, campaigns and projects to address child slavery

Membership
In 2013-14, RACSRAG reported 113 members in 14 countries.

Annual Membership Dues: US$32
Lifetime Membership Dues: US$130

International Service Projects and Activities

- **Kalimpong Project** – In partnership with Rotary clubs in England, Scotland, the Czech Republic, and India, RACSRAG constructed a vocational training center (VTC) in East Bengal, India, to help women and children who were caught up in human trafficking rebuild their professional and personal lives. The project cost about US$69,000, half of which is a Rotary Foundation global grant. The other half was contributed by 13 Rotary clubs, 3 Rotary districts, and 4 individual contributors. RACSRAG will move forward with the second phase of this project in the upcoming Rotary year, which is to build a shelter home on top of the VTC with an estimated cost of US$72,000.

- **Punarnawa Ashram: Heightening of Boundary Wall of Trafficking Shelter** – In partnership with American, Australian, and English Rotary clubs, and the Free the Slaves of Manav Sansadhan Evam Mahila Sansthan (MSEMVS), RACSRAG worked to improve the security of Punarnawa Ashram, a recently constructed restoration and rehabilitation shelter near Purnea, Bihar, India. This shelter accommodates up to 50 girls and a need for enhancing security in the facility rose after former slave masters had made attempts to snatch some of the girls back. The first stage was to install 12 solar lamps to light up the boundary wall at night time, which cost US$7,500. The second stage was to raise the perimeter wall of the facility all the way around, which was completed in March 2014 with an estimated cost of $18,000.

- **Schools for Freedom** – In partnership with American, Australian, and English Rotary clubs, and the Voices for Freedom, RACSRAG has been planning a project, which will improve schools and education for child slaves in Uttar Pradesh, India. The project is estimated to be completed within three year term. The project goals include providing permanent roof for the school, additional teachers, hot lunches and educational supplies for students, and vocational training and education on human rights for adults. The cost of the project is about US$36,000 and RACSRAG plans to start as soon as all the funds are raised. US$9,000 has been raised so far.

Notable Collaborations

Informal Collaborations: Anti-Slavery International (based in London, England), Free the Slaves (based in Washinton DC, USA), Maiti Nepal, Asha Nepal, Dawns Place, USA, Covenant House, Philadelphia, (and their anti-human trafficking outreach program), The Mekong Club, Oasis International, International Justice Mission Australia and the UK, Anti-Slavery Australia, RC Diocese of Allahabad, Uttar Pradesh, India , Manav Sansadhan Evam Mahila Vikas Sansthan, Bihar, India, Polaris

Contact Information
Chair: Mark Little, mark.little@btinternet.com
Website: www.racsrag.org
Social Media: Facebook

Rotarian Action Group of Dental Volunteers

Topic: providing humanitarian dental service throughout the world

Membership
In 2013-14, RAGDV reported 418 members in 140 countries.

Annual Membership Dues: None
Lifetime Membership Dues: None

International Service Projects and Activities

- **Kenya Smiles** – RAGDV worked with 71 Rotary clubs in Northern California and Arkansas, USA, and the Rotary Club of Karen-Nairobi, Kenya, on a comprehensive public health and dental care project in Nairobi. In addition to the sponsorship and participation of Rotarians in Districts 5160, 9200/9212, and 6150, RAGDV also worked with leading experts in the United States including UC Berkeley/UC San Francisco Joint Medical Program, UOP Arthur A. Dugoni School of Dentistry, the California Dental Association, Aseptico, and more. The project's multiple goals include enhancing the skills of dental care professionals, distributing dental care supplies to children, providing nutrition education to mothers and heath care providers, and sponsoring vocational training teams.

- **Beautiful Teeth, Healthy Children: Dental Prophylaxis Project** – In partnership with district 2241, as well as Romanian government, Romanian private and non-profit organizations, RAGDV implemented a country wide project aimed at improving the dental health of 13,000 children living in 23 cities in Romania by educating them about dental hygiene, providing them with free toothpastes, motivating them for healthy eating and tooth brushing through awards programs and contests.

- **Spreading Smiles** – RAGDV worked with the Rotary Club of Aundh and the Sai Shree Hospital Pune, Maharashtra, India to provide management and financial support to 72 children from poor families with cleft lip and palate. RAGDV and its partners will continue to help more children with this problem while also developing a comprehensive program which will bring all the services regarding cleft lip under one roof.

Notable Collaborations

Informal Collaborations: UC Berkeley/UC San Francisco Joint Medical Program, UOP Arthur A. Dugoni School of Dentistry, the California Dental Association, Aseptico, Romanian Ministry of Health, Faculty of Stomatology within the Medicine and Pharmacy Universities from Arad, Cluj – Napoca and Timisoara, and Romanian Prophylaxis and Dental Education Society, Sai Shree Hospital, Maharashtra, India

Contact Information
Chair: Cos Ovidiu, cosovidiu@gmail.com
Website: www.ragdv.com
Social Media: Facebook

Rotarian Action Group for Diabetes

Topic: providing service through a strong commitment to education, identification, and treatment of diabetes, especially among children in developing countries

Membership
In 2013-14, RAGD reported 147 members in 30 countries.

Annual Membership Dues: US$25
Lifetime Membership Dues: US$100

International Service Projects and Activities

- **Training Programs for Poor Young Diabetes** – RAG for Diabetes worked with Rotary districts 6940 and 2072 and the International Diabetes Federation (IDF), the Life for a Child Pogram to provide training for young adults with diabetes at the rehabilitation and vocational training center in Jurain, Dhaka, Bangladesh. The project goal was to insure these young adutls' transition from donated support to independent living and self supporting adults.

- **IDF Life for a Child –** RAGD continued to support other NGOs' efforts to increase awareness of the worldwide epidemic of diabetes. In the past year, in partnership with the International Diabetes Federation and Helmsley Trust, RAGD continued to support children with diabetes in approximately 50 countries in the developing world. Insulin, testing, education, and evaluations were provided to approximately 15,000 children. The estimated three year budget for this project is about US$240,000.

- **Insulin for children in India –** RAGD worked with District 3170 and IDF Life for a Child to develop a new diabetes center in Belgaum, India. The total budget for this project was about US$15,000.

Notable Collaborations

Informal Collaborations: International Diabetes Federation, Helmsley Trust

Contact Information
Chair: C. Wayne Edwards, wayne@ragdiabetes.org
Website: www.ragdiabetes.org
Social Media: Facebook, Twitter

Rotarians for Family Health and AIDS Prevention

Topic: helping clubs and districts plan and implement large scale disease prevention and treatment projects

Membership
In 2013-14, RFHA reported 900 members in 49 countries.

Annual Membership Dues: US$25
Lifetime Membership Dues: US$100

International Service Projects and Activities

Rotary Family Health Days (RFHD), the signature program of Rotarians for Family Health and AIDS Prevention (RFHA) entered its fifth year. The program promotes healthy living and disease prevention by implementing a massive, annual campaign in several African countries that provides comprehensive, free health care services to tens of thousands of people in underprivileged communities.

The last program, offered in April 2014, leveraged 564 Rotary clubs (8,151 Rotarian volunteers) who served free health care to 343,622 people at 402 sites across the countries of Nigeria, Ghana, Uganda and South Africa.

Country	# of Sites	# Rotary Vol.	# Beneficiaries Served
South Africa	130	4,000	66,500
Ghana	30	400	23,100
Uganda	88	1,000	113,166
Nigeria	154	2,751	140,856
Total	402	8,151	343,622

Offerings included lifesaving screenings for HIV/AIDS, TB, Malaria (and provision of insecticide-treated mosquito nets), Diabetes, blood pressure and some cancers. Additionally, deworming and vitamin A supplements and lifelong immunizations for polio and measles were provided. The focus was to mobilize the entire family to come, and they do because of the broad range of services provided. The mothers bring their babies for immunizations, but then take advantage of the other offerings while there.

The 2014 program is valued at $18,872,596, calculated as follows:

- $6,869,000 343,622 clients : free health care valued at $20/person
- $8,250,000 8,151 Rotarians volunteer time calculated by independent monetization tool and Price Waterhouse salary table
- $578,596 Grant from Coca-Cola for mobilization costs
- $175,000 The Rotary Foundation grants
- $3,000,000 Media support/pro bono

RFHA has created a unique public/private partnership wherein each partner has a specific, clear and distinct role. Data collection is a valued outcome of this program. RFHA has led the way in creating a data collection sheet in collaboration with the CDC and the South Africa Department of Health. That sheet was used by all countries in the April 2014 program. Inputs tracked include:

1. Total number of people reached, per country including region
2. Total number of people reached, per service, per country
3. Total number of people that tested positive to an illness, and how they were forwarded to follow on care.

Additionally, RFHA's team has put together a template for a 90 day Impact Analysis, using the data collection process as a baseline. This analysis was piloted in Uganda in 2013, and proved positive impact and sustainability. The Analysis will be done in all countries in 2014 at randomly selected sites.

RFHA's international board of directors has a strategic plan with a vision of saving and improving 5 million lives by 2020. The mission is to save and improve the lives of children and families who lack access to preventive health care and education by taking health resources to places they have never been before.

RFHA intends to continue the expansion of Rotary Family Health Days across Africa in 2015; and it will hold a pilot of this program in India at the end of 2015.

Notable Collaborations

Formal Collaborations: The Coca-Cola Africa Foundation, Family Health International (FHI) 360, Office of Global AIDS Coordinator, South Africa Broadcasting Corporation/SABC

Informal Collaborations: South Africa Department of Health, USAID, Centers for Disease Control (CDC), Ministry of Health Uganda, Minstry of Health of Nigeria, Ogun State Ministry of Health, Lagos State Ministry of Health, Kaduna State Government, Society for Family Health, Olaniba Memorial Hospital, Nigeria, Coca-Cola Nigeria, Institute of Human Virology (IHV) Nigeria, The Malaria Consortium, the SABC and Caxton in South Africa (media partners)

Contact Information
Chair: Joan Firkins, jfirkins@shaw.ca
CEO & Founder: Marion Bunch, marion@rffa.org
Website: www.rfha.org
Social Media: Facebook, Twitter

Food Plant Solutions Rotarian Action Group

Topic: helping people, particularly in developing countries, learn about and grow the best local foods to match their nutritional needs as a sustainable solution for hunger and malnutrition

Membership
In 2013-14, Food Plant Solutions reported 292 members in 31 countries.

Annual Membership Dues: US$20
Lifetime Membership Dues: US$20

International Service Projects and Activities

- **Field Guides** – Food Plant Solutions' focus has been to write country specific field guides on request to help people learn about their local foods and sustainable ways of practicing agriculture. To ensure authenticity, the RAG works with local experts and Rotarians to develop these guidelines. In partnership with Learn Grow Services Inc., Food Plant Solutions developed and refined filed guides for Solomon Islands, Swaziland, China, N. E. India, Kenya, Lesotha , Nepal , Papua New Guinea, Sri Lanka, Timor Leste, South India, Haiti, Bangladesh,• Sierra Leone, Cambodia , Guinea, Vietnam, Nigeria, Philippines, Uganda, Western Pacific Islands, Tanzania, North Korea, Mozambique, Indonesia, South Africa, and Northern Thailand.

  In addition to field guides, Food Plant Solutions have produced handbooks and posters, all of which are available on their website free of charge.

- **Collaboration with NGOs and Involvement in China** – FPS has been benefiting from communicating with non-Rotary aid providers. A fruitful rapport was built with the Australian Centre for International Agricultural Research (ACIAR) through Bruce French's involvement with an ACIAR funded project in Papua New Guinea which aimed at exploring potential uptake of FPS programs. The RAG will also continue to explore collaborative links with the Tasmanian Institute of Agriculture (TIA), the World Vegetable Centre, Bioversity International, Crops for the Future, ECHO, Oxfam and World Vision.

  In addition, FPS has developed strong links with the Rotary Club of Shanghai and the HuaQiao Foundation for work with ethnic minorities in China and in two provinces in North Korea.

Notable Collaborations

Formal Collaborations: Tasmanian Institute of Agriculture (TIA)

Informal Collaborations: Australian Centre for International Agricultural Research (ACIAR), the World Vegetable Centre, Bioversity International, Crops for the Future, ECHO, and Oxfam

Contact Information
Chair: Dr. John G. Thorne, thorne.hobart@gmail.com
Website: http://foodplantsolutions.org
Social: Facebook

Health Education and Wellness Rotarian Action Group

Topic: improving world health thorough health promotion, education, and disease prevention

Membership
In 2013-14, HEWRAG reported 35 members in 14 countries.

Annual Membership Dues: US$20
Lifetime Membership Dues: US$100

Health Education and Wellness Rotarian Action Group, formerly known as World Health Fairs Rotarian Action Group, went into an inactive status for the first half of 2014. The group's leaders met in June 2014 at the RI Convention in Sydney and decided to reactivate and reorganize the RAG with an expanded focus on health education and training. In October 2014, the RI Board of Directors approved group's name change to Health Education and Wellness Rotarian Action Group. Moving forward, HEWRAG's scope of activity will not only be health fairs but also health education, training, and other health-related projects. HEWRAG reserved a booth space at the São Paulo Convention and also will be holding a breakout session on "Successful and Effective Strategies and Resources for Health Education Projects and Community Health Fairs".

International Service Projects and Activities

Homer Kachemak Bay Health Fair – The group worked with the Homer Hospital and local health organizations to hold the 31st Annual Rotary Health Fair on 1 November 2014, in Homer, Alaska. Homer Kachemak Bay Rotary Club and South Peninsula Hospital co-sponsor this event with several of HEWRAG members volunteering and supporting the health fair. The event provides community members with blood draws and lab results, tests for diabetes, blood pressure tests, booths with health information, and many other health related activities. This health fair is what inspired the start of health fairs in Russia and led to the formation of this RAG.

Myanmar Health Fair and Medical Mission – In partnership with District 5000 (Hawaii) HEWRAG will be holding the 2nd Annual Medical Mission to Myanmar from 29 December 2014 to 6 January 2015 in Yangon, Sittwe, and Mrauk Oo, Myanmar. This mission will include health fairs, dental projects, medical examinations, health trainings, English Language Camps, and other medical events.

Russian Health Fairs and Health Centers – In partnership with District 2225 and Yakutsk City Administration the RAG will be holding an annual health fair in Yakutsk, Russia.

Notable Collaborations

Informal Collaborations: Homer Hospital,

Contact Information
Co-Chairs: Jane Little & Sheila Hurst (rotaryjane@yahoo.com; sheilahurst@mac.com)
Website: http://www.hewrag.org/
Social: My Rotary

Rotarians for Hearing, A Rotarian Action Group

Topic: helping children and adults with hearing loss

Membership

In 2013-14, RfHRAG reported 33 members in 9 countries.

Annual Membership Dues: US$10
Lifetime Membership Dues: US$100

International Service Projects and Activities

- **Hearing Health in NSW Australia –** RfHRAG partnered with District 9685, District 9675, the Rotary Club of Pleasant Valley, NY, USA and Australian NGOs to raise awareness of the wide range of issues around hearing loss and its impact on Rotarians and families. RfHRAG held educational sessions in several locations in Australia as well as at the 2014 Sydney Convention.

- **Hear Our Heart - Ear Bus Project to Screen for Hearing Loss and Otitis Media –** In partnership with Dubbo West Rotary Club in Australia, Australian Deparmtent of Education, Hear Our Heart, and teachers of Dubbo to set up an innovative program that tests any child in the communities to address issues of ototis media and other hearing problems and provide equipment and follow up services. One of the great outcome is that almost every classroom in the city area is now equipped with classroom hearing systems.

- **All Ears Cambodia School of Social Work and Primary Ear Care Audio** - RfHRAG partnered with the Pleasant Valley RC, District 7210, and the AEC School of Primary Ear Care and Audiology to provide two AEC School one year Scholarships of $1,500. The project goal is to increase capacity to give primary ear care and to treat children and adults with hearing loss in Cambodia.

- **Dominican Republic Hearing Mission** - RfHRAG worked with the Rotary Club of La Romano (D4060), the Rotary Club of Portland (Maine, USA), and the Rotary Club of Blairstown (New Jersey, USA) to provide audiometry services and hearing aid fittings to children and adults with hearing loss in La Romano and Santa Domingo.

Notable Collaborations

Informal Collaborations: Australian Hearing (Government Service), Better Hearing Australia (support service - local NGO), Royal Institute for the Deaf and Blind Children (RIDBC), Health Services from Forster, Doctor and Friends of Rotary, Australian Hearing Stafand the Acme Health Care Center in New Dehli, Hear Our Heart, Ear Bus, Department of Education and Community

Contact Information
Chair: Ellen Haggerty, ellenkhaggerty@hotmail.com
Website: www.ifrahl.org
Social Media: Facebook, LinkedIn

Rotarian Action Group for the Alleviation of Hunger and Malnutrition

Topic: enhancing and sustaining local food security and providing nutritious food to the hungry

Membership
In 2013-14, H&M RAG reported 45 members in 9 countries.

Annual Membership Dues: US$20
Lifetime Membership Dues: US$100

International Service Projects and Activities

- **Rotary First Harvest (Seattle, WA)-**Working with Rotary District 5030, Washington State Food Coalition, Northwest Harvest, Emergency Food Network, Food Lifeline, and Second Harvest, H&M RAG collected and distributed nearly 8 million pounds of produce to hunger relief agencies across the West Coast of the United States. Rotarians provided more than 4500 hours and project cost is about US$14,500,000.

- **Harvest Against Hunger -** In partnership with several NGOs and local food banks H&M RAG develops, and builds gleaning and produce recovery models in primarily rural communities in the Western US. In the past year, more than 250 Rotarians are involved in various aspects of volunteering and food waste reduction. The project value was estimated to be $114,000.

- **Stop Hunger Now: Rotary International Convention Repack -** The H&M RAG worked with several districts and clubs and Stop Hunger Now to coordinate a 30,000 meal event with Rotarians who were attending the 2014 RI Convention in Sydney. 10000 meals packed per day for three days. Meals packed were subsequently distributed to several countries through Stop Hunger Now's ongoing international hunger relief programs. The RAG also plans to hold a similar event at the RI Convention in Sao Paulo.

Notable Collaborations

Informal Collaborations: A Food Coalition, Northwest Harvest, Emergency Food Network, Food Lifeline, Second Harvest, Food Forward, Community Services Moses Lake, Corporation for National and Community Service, Senior Corps, AmeriCorps*VISTA, Clark County Food Bank, Hopelink, Olympic Peninsula Community Action Program, MEND Leavenworth, CityFruit, Washigton Food Coalition, NEW Hunger Action, Stop Hunger Now

Contact Information
Chair: David Bobanick, david@firstharvest.org
Website: www.alleviatehunger.org
Social Media: MyRotary, Facebook

Literacy Rotarian Action Group

Topic: alleviating illiteracy

Membership
In 2013-14, the Literacy Rotarian Action Group (LITRAG) reported 58 members in 14 countries.

Annual Membership Dues: US$25
Five Year Membership Dues: US$100

International Service Projects and Activities

- **Train the Trainers workshop for Egypt –** In partnership with District 2451 in Egypt, Egyptian Government, and UNESCO, LITRAG trained key personnel from Egypt in the Concentrated Language Encounter (CLE) methodology in Bangkok, Thailand. The training involved key personnel from primary schools, adult literacy programs, and Ministry of Education. Trainers first demonstrated the CLE teaching methodology by using a sample group of Thai students with beginner level English skills. After the demonstration, the trainees were able to practice what they learned with a different group of Thai students by teaching them Arabic using the CLE method. The trainees also learned how to design effective language tests to evaluate and assess students' language performance. The trained teachers become part of the ongoing "train the trainer" program through which they have an opportunity to train other teachers outside their local areas. They also initiate CLE teaching methodology at their own schools after they return their home country.

Notable Collaborations

Informal Collaborations:
Government of Egypt, UNESCO

Contact Information
Chair: Noraseth Pathmanand, noraseth@csloxinfo.com
Website: www.litrag.org

Rotarians Eliminating Malaria, a Rotarian Action Group

Topic: coordinating efforts to control malaria

Membership
In 2013-14, REMaRAG reported 1705 members in 22 countries.

Annual Membership Dues: US$0
Lifetime Membership Dues: US$100

International Service Projects and Activities

- **Rotarians Eliminating Malaria in Tanzania (REMIT)** – In partnership with District 9211, District 1040, and local hospitals, the RAG equipped a hospital in Mwanza, Tanzania with surgical material including malaria treatment facilities and long lasting insecticide-treated mosquito nets.

- REMaRAG also worked with District 9211, Rotary Districts in Great Britain and Ireland, and Ministry of Health in Tanzania to organize malaria intervention program, which included LLIN's , diagnosis, residual house spraying, seminars, and tree planting in the Villages of Mnduli, Same, Mwanga, Longido. Together with the same partners the RAG equipped a health center in the area of Babati for malaria treatment and early diagnosis and treatment.

Notable Collaborations

Informal Collaborations: Ministry of Health in Tanzania, local hospitals

Contact Information
Chair: Brian Stoyel, brian@stoyel.co.uk
Website: www.remarag.org

Rotarian Action Group for Microfinance and Community Development

Topic:

Membership
In 2013-14, Rotarian Action Group for Microfinance and Community Development (RAGM) reported 589 members in 49 countries.

Annual Membership Dues: US$25
Lifetime Membership Dues: US$100

International Service Projects and Activities

- **Honduras Economic & Community Development (HECD) Program** – In partnership with District 4250, District 5360, and other government and non-governmental organizations from Canada and Honduras, the RAG carried out microfinance and community development projects to alleviate extreme poverty in Honduras. The program has several phases and one of its objectives is to establish an infrastructure of Rotary Clubs and Districts, along with project implementers in Honduras, and re-use these relationships in subsequent projects in the program. Phase I of the program is focused entirely on Microcredit, with funds going to IDH for investments required to carry out business and funds for the loan pool. Part of the funds for Phase I came from the Rotary Foundation. Phase II includes two water projects in the villages of Quebrada and Las Camelias, as well as a new Management Information System required by IDH to set the stage for their expansion into a more complete microfinance service.

- **Esmeraldas, Ecuador Microcredit Project** – RAGM worked with District 5150, the Rotary Club of Quito Occidente, and FUDECE (MFI) to provide 320 microcredit loans to very low income people in Rio Verde, Esmeraldas, Ecuador. New credit groups are to be formed with initial loans given over a two year period. In addition, a Rotary Training Center will be established to provide business skills and vocational training. Sewing machines and an oven for teaching baking are being provided as part of the project.

- **Colombia Microcredit Project** – RAGM is partnering with the Rotary Club of Leyva, Colombia, Rotary Club of South Oklahoma City, and six other clubs in District 5720 to provide small loans and training for low income people in rural and some urban areas in Leyva, Colombia.

Notable Collaborations

Formal Collaborations: Canadian Rotarian Collaboration for International Development (CRCID) Opportunity International Canada
Informal Collaborations: Department of Foreign Affairs, Trade and Development Canada (DFATD), Opportunity International Canada (OIC), and Instituto para el Desarrollo Hondureño (IDH), ECLOF (Swiss-based MFI), FUDECE (MFI)

Contact Information
Chair: Ashok Mahajan, ashokmahajan883@gmail.com
Website: www.ragm.org
Social: Facebook, Twitter, LinkedIn

Rotarian Action Group for Multiple Sclerosis Awareness

Topic: improving the lives of People with MS (PwMS)

Membership
In 2013-14, Rotarian Action Group for Multiple Sclerosis Awareness (RAGMSA) reported 479 members in 23 countries.

Annual Membership Dues: US$20
Lifetime Membership Dues: US$20

International Service Projects and Activities

- In partnership with the Rotary Club of London U.K. and the MS Society UK, (RAGMSA) orchestrated a MS media and broadcast campaign on various platforms including Radio Broadcaster, Facebook, and Twitter.
- The group worked with the Rotary Club of Philadelphia, USA, the Rotary Club of Gisborne, Australia, and MSA, MSIF, NMSS to raised awareness about MS through organizing bike rides, megaswims, marathon, walks, and golf tournaments.

MS Research

- RAGMSA MS Global Dinnerfunds raised pledged $4,000 to Howard Florey Research toward purchase of research equipment.
- In partnership with Australian Rotary Health (ARH), Melbourne University, and Howard Florey Institute,R AGMSA provides scholarships and grants to PhD students and post-doctoral researchers. Last year the RAG also partnered with District 9800, District 9820, and District 9500 to fund the programs of four PhD students.

Email Group
RAGMSA has an international email group, through which its members shares MS Research progress, ideas on how to improve living with MS. The group celebrated World MS Day on 29 May 2014 and held the annual MS Global Dinner. The group had a PhD student speak about Brain Matters during these events. The evening raised approximately $A3000. We are not technical experts although four of our prominent members are MS nurses who provide practical information. RAGMSA have 2 new members gained since the Lisbon Convention who are providing inspiration for the rest of the group with their activities.

Notable Collaborations

Formal Collaborations: Multiple Sclerosis International Federation (MSIF)&National Multiple Sclerosis Society (NMSS), MS Research Australia (MSRA), Multiple Sclerosis Australia (MSA) and Australian Rotary Health (ARH), Melbourne University and Howard Florey Institute.

Informal Collaborations: the MS Society UK

Contact Information
Chair: Martin Taurins
E-mail: taurins3@vegas.com.au
Website: www.rotary-rfmsa.org

Rotarian Action Group for Peace

Topic: advancing world peace and preventing conflict

Membership
In 2013-14, the Rotarian Action Group for Peace (RAGFP) reported 1396 members in 45 countries.

Annual Membership Dues: US$30, US$125/5 year
Lifetime Membership Dues:

International Service Projects and Activities

- **Supporting and Promoting Rotary Peace Projects -** During the 2013-14 Rotary year, RAGFP worked with more than 50 Rotary clubs and districts to support the planning and promotion of their peace projects. About a third of this work was done by assisting RAGFP members review the global grants process and helping them to understand the requirements as well as identifying and evaluating NGO and community partners that would lead to sustainable community change. The other two-thirds of project support was in conjunction with Rotary clubs and districts planning community based peace projects, symposiums and events that support building a culture of peace locally.

- **The PeaceHUB Map: Promoting and Connecting Rotary Peace Resources -** RAGFP created an interactive map to help its members connect with each other and other Rotary-related peace resources. It was launched at the Sydney Convention and continues to expand. The RAG is continuously adding new peace organizations, peace education programs, RAGFP members, and the network of Rotary Peace Fellows and other progam alumni is also expanding. To date, the following groups have participated in the PeaceHUB Map:

    - Educational Institutions: 153
    - Peace Organizations: 589
    - Rotary Peace Projects: 258
    - RAGFP Members: 1,389
    - Rotary Peace Centers: 6
    - Rotary Peace Fellows: 800+

- **Educational Resources in Peace and Conflict Resolution/Transformation -** RAGFP has assembled educational resources to help Rotary clubs and districts meet their peace education needs including: curriculum assessment, film and video offerings, bibliographies, definitions and glossaries, training manuals, facilitated reading discussions, access to journals and periodicals, connection to appropriate online peace journalism, materials for Rotary Peace Fellow recruitment and International Peace Day planning. RAGFP's website offers most of the materials gathered to help with individual club and district requests for assistance, and by the end of the Rotary year 2014-15, the RAG will expand that resource into a "PeaceHUB Knowledge Platform" where its members can post and share peace related materials such as PowerPoint presentations, grant applications, conference brochures and planning documents, and more.

Contact Information
Chair: Al Jubitz, al@jubitz.org
Executive Director: Erin Thomas, Erin@jubitz.org
Website: www.rotarianactiongroupforpeace.org/
Social Media: Facebook, Twitter, My Rotary

Rotarian Action Group for Polio Survivors and Associates

Topic: improving the health and wellbeing of polio survivors

Membership
In 2013-14, PSA reported over 357 members in 36 countries.

Annual Membership Dues: None
Lifetime Membership Dues: None

International Service Projects and Activities

- **Wheels of Hope -** PSA worked with the Rotary Club of Traverse City, Michigan, District 6290, and Beautiful Gate Handicapped Peoples Center The Rotary club of Traverse City, Benzie Sunrise and District 6290 raised funds to build wheelchairs for polio survivors in and around Jos, Nigeria.

- **Meet your Local Polio Survivors Group -** PSA encourages its members to meet their local Polio Survivors groups in their area, to share Rotary's message with them, and (for the members that don't have polio) to learn more about polio survivors. The RAG have arranged donation of End Polio Now pins to any clubs that want to participate, and have posted pictures of resulting meetings on PSA's website. This is an on-going public awareness project.

- **Voices of Polio –** PSA, though its website, asks its members for their stories of how polio has defined their life (http://rotarypoliosurvivors.wordpress.com/voices-of-polio/)

Notable Collaborations

Formal Collaborations: Wheels of Hope
Informal Collaborations: Beautiful Gate Handicapped Peoples Center

Contact Information
Chair: Ann Lee Hussey, annlee001@yahoo.com
Website: www.rotarypoliosurvivors.com

Rotarian Action Group for Population & Development

Topic: improving maternal and child health

Membership
In 2013-14, RFPD reported nearly 20,000 members in 75 countries.

Annual Membership Dues: US$25
Lifetime Membership Dues: US$100

International Service Projects and Activities

- **First Scaling Up Project 'Maternal and Child Health' –** In partnership with Rotary districts in Germany and Nigeria, RFPD scaled up the 2005-2010 pilot project in the states of FCT Abuja and Ondo, Nigeria. The purpose of the project is to reduce maternal and fetal mortality through implementation of quality assurance in obstetrics in 20 selected rural hospitals in the states Kano, Kaduna, FCT Abuja, and Ondo. The target group was approx. 64,000 pregnant and childbearing women, who seek care in those 20 selected hospitals. The project deliverables included provision of necessary infrastructure and equipment, statistical data collection in hospitals, educating the population about sexual health, and conducting meetings for results analysis. The Project is co-funded by the German Ministry for Economic Cooperation and Development (BMZ), also received in kind donations from ICA Foundation (Bayer Healthcare), BASF, and Birthing Kit Foundation. The project budget was about US$615,000.

- **Second Scaling Up Project 'Maternal and Child Health' in Enugu State –** RFPD worked with German, Nigerian, Austrian districts and Rotary clubs to implement a second scaling up project in the past year in five selected rural hospitals in Enugu State, Nigeria. The project started in July 2013, and will run until June 2015. The project is co-founded by the German Else Kröner-Fresenius-Stiftung and CIDJAP (Catholic Institute for Development Justice and Peace) was the project partner. The overall goal of the scaling up project is the incorporation of the model into the state's health system.

- **Saheli Vocational Training Centers –** RFPD partenered with the Rotary Club of Tiruchengode, India and the Rotary Club of Muncie Sunrise, USA on a vocational eduction project, which included training to become a clinical lab technician, training in use of computers and accounting knowledge and other secretarial duties aswell as tailoring classes. Qualified and licensed teachers were employed for these classes. In addition, all students participated in Maternal and Child Health classes organized and staffed by various Rotary clubs in the communities where the centers are located. The volunteer instructors are doctors and other health professionals. These classes covered family planning, reproductive health, child spacing, prenatal and early childhood nutrition. 300 students were enrolled during this first year of operation. The equipment, facilities, and teachers are planned for 320 students to be trained each year. The cooperating local organizations are keeping records on the students, following their education at centers to determine the number of women/girls employed in the area of training, the number who are self employed in the are of their training, information regarding family health and use of education regarding nutrition and reproduction, and their family status - economic and physical health.

Notable Collaborations

Formal Collaborations: BMZ (German Ministry for Development and Economic Cooperation), Maternal Health Project Team in Nigeria, International Federation of Gynecology and Obstetrics (FIGO), Catholic Inisitute fopr Devleoment of Justice and Peace (CIDJAP), Enugu, Nigeria, German Else Kröner-Fresenius-Stiftung, WHO/The Partnership for Maternal, Newborn and Child Health (PMNCH), Geneva, The Population Institute - Washington, D.C., USA, and the Population Media Center, Vermont, USA

Informal Collaborations: ICA Foundation (Bayer Healthcare), BASF, Birthing Kit Foundation

Contact Information
Chair: Rekha Shetty, rekhashetty123@gmail.com
CEO: Robert Zinser, robert.zinser@t-online.de
Website: www.rifpd.org
Social: Facebook, Twitter, MyRotary

Water and Sanitation Rotarian Action Group

Topic: providing safe water and sanitation to communities

Membership
In 2013-14, WASRAG reported 1638 members in 92 countries.

Annual Membership Dues: US$25, US$100/5 year
Lifetime Membership Dues: None

International Service Projects and Activities

- **2020 Water Partnership –** Wasrag partnered with ONE DROP, a Canadian charity founded by Guy Laliberte, on a WASH program with the objective of bringing safe water and sanitation to over 200,000 people in the southern regions of Mali. The program has a major emphasis on behavior change, "software" in WASH parlance, which will empower the local villagers to take ownership of the program. With a budget of $8 million USD, the program also includes irrigation and agriculture in order to alleviate the acute poverty in the country. This agreement with ONE DROP led to a very successful project by the Rotary Clubs of Pomona and Pasadena (District 5300) in Burkina Faso. Rotarians from the USA and Canada are working with the ONE DROP team to prepare a program which will offer clubs everywhere an opportunity to become involved in a truly innovative partnership.

- **Develop Strategy for a Countrywide Wasrag PEP Program in Mexico in Partnership with the National Government –** Working in colloboration with eight Mexican Rotary Districts and several national agencies and universities, TRF/Wasrag Self Funded PPP Team (Project Planning and Performance) completed an organizational assessment and outlined national WASH strategy and partnersip to systematically implement a TRF/Wasrag Mexico WASH program for communities and schools with 2500 or fewer people. An assessment of about 400 most needy communities have been identified and operational and organizational Agreements are being finalized for a $1.0 million Global Grant with 80% funded by the Government of Mexico. The objective is to systematize this program for a countrywide program that includes all of the rural low income schools

- **Wasrag Support for TRF/Wasrag PEP Implementation –** During the first two pilot years of TRF/Wasrag PPP, the more successful PPP Teams have continued to assist the host and international Rotary clubs and Districts refine and use the Wasrag support system. In additon, several non-pilot Districts/Rotary Clubs have begun to follow the Wasrag Model. The Wasrag Model is being refined and expanded to include partnerships with the national government agencies, formation of host country Regional Teams, inclusion of regional strategies to address WASH in schools, the creation of associated Smart Centres to help ensure sustainable operation and maintenance funded support and experimentation of Circuit Rider/Repair Plumbers that are part of the long term program supported by the Regional Team, including the international Rotary clubs and districts. When TRF distributes and supports the upgraded TRF/Wasrag Support system and links the Global Grant protocol to the Lessons Learned, more Clubs and Districts will benefit from this three-year pilot program

Notable Collaborations

Formal Collaborations: Artists of the World, Backyard Brands, Chemonics, Cirque du Soleil, Derrer Marketing, Eau Sans Frontieres, Engineers Without Borders (USA), PNA Group, University of North Carolina (The Water Institute),Wallace Genetic Foundation, Wash Away Thirst (Carwash Dealers Association),One Drop Foundation

Contact Information
Chair: Bill Boyd, bill.boyd@xtra.co.nz
Website: www.wasrag.org
Social: Facebook, Twitter,