

DISTRICT 5170

TRF NEWS TODAY

OCTOBER, 2012

CURRENT NEWS OF DISTRICT 5170 AND THE ROTARY FOUNDATION

Rotary.org Home Page: District 5170 Vocational Training Team in Thailand



Global grant provides drinking water for remote village in Thailand

By Arnold R. Grahl

Rotary News -- 4 October 2012

http://www.rotary.org/en/MediaAndNews/News/Pages/121004_news_vtt.aspx

Rotary District 5170 (California, USA) is providing safe drinking water to 800 people in Lamchoke, Thailand, a remote village about 250 miles north of Bangkok, through a Rotary Foundation global grant.

The US\$72,000 project was completed in August through District Designated Fund allocations, contributions from participating Rotary clubs, and a match from The Rotary Foundation. It involved three separate vocational training teams (VTTs): two led by California Rotarians to help launch and complete the project and one from the host club of Sawankhaloke North, which visited California to learn how to run a small water system.

According to Roy Russell, District 5170's vocational training team chair and a member of the Rotary Club of San Jose, the project shows how VTTs foster cultural exchange while allowing Rotarians to use their vocational skills to benefit people in another country.

"I've been involved in Group Study Exchange (travel grants for teams from two countries to exchange visits) for the last eight years and have had a lot of experience in Southeast Asia. But I am very, very happy to see a project that has demonstrable results," Russell says. "There's nothing equal to turning on a valve and getting water where you didn't have it before. And there's still an exchange as the teams visit their counterparts."

"I am very excited about VTTs," says Roger Hassler, past governor of District 5170, "because they link the experience and knowledge of Rotarians and non-Rotarians together to do significant programs throughout the world."



Top: **Michael Hyman**, a member of the **Rotary Club of Los Gatos Morning, California**, and leader of the vocational training team to Thailand, and **Mongkol Pichanaharee**, a member of the Rotary Club of Sawankhaloke North, look over the progress of the water system. Bottom: Members of the training team inspect the pipeline.

District 5170 VTT in Thailand (cont.)

Hassler wanted to do a water project in Asia and recruited Russell, whose wife is Vietnamese, because of Russell's connections and experience as a water professional. The idea was to drill a well. But when the exploratory team arrived in Thailand looking for an ideal site, they learned a valuable lesson in sustainable projects: always ask the local community what it needs. As it turns out the village had a long history of digging wells that ran dry.

"We were getting all negative vibes from the village because they had had experience that drilling wells wasn't good. And frankly, at that point I was pretty demoralized," Russell recalls. "But then we were just chatting with the villagers, when suddenly we discovered that there was a treated water pipeline two or three miles away. The whole project changed. We would never have understood that if somebody hadn't asked a question."

The first VTT helped install pipeline from the existing water main to a water tank built on a hill above the village. The water then flows downhill to the village, where it branches off to individual homes. A water meter at each house monitors usage, with families paying a small monthly fee to maintain the system. A four-person team from Thailand led by a Rotarian from the host club traveled to California in June to train in pipeline construction and sanitization and small water system management. They also accompanied an inspector for several days, learning how similar water systems in the United States work. Another team from California visited Lamchoke in early August to finish the project, but two breaks in the existing main prevented them from completing their work. The breaks were repaired, and the Thai team finished the project a few weeks later.

"For the first time, they will have a safe and reliable water supply," Russell says. "In the past, in the dry season, they've even had to truck in water. Now they can turn on a tap, use the water for drinking and cooking purposes, and live a much more comfortable and healthy life."

Your Personal Foundation: Rotary's Donor Advised Fund

Have you ever dreamed of having your own foundation but didn't want to do all the paperwork? Well The Rotary Foundation has an answer for you. Rotary's Donor Advised Fund makes philanthropy simple. Open a charitable giving account with \$10,000 or more and recommend grants to your favorite U.S. based charities at your convince. You advise how you want account funds invested and how and when to make grants to IRS approved charities. Rotary provides professional asset management and takes care of all the administrative details. Contributions are U.S. tax deductible in the year they are made, allowing you to maximize your deductions in years when they are most beneficial. You may also avoid capital gains taxes on gifts of appreciated securities.

Individual and Family Accounts offer the benefits of a family foundation without the burdens of administration. You receive the same tax benefit without start-up cost or mandatory 5% distributions.

Enjoy Convenience. Manage your charitable giving and tax receipts through a single account. You can access the account online to check the balances, make grant choices and view quarterly statements.

Provide for your legacy. Individual accounts give you a flexible way to make a legacy gift to The Rotary Foundation without changing your will.

Give Anonymously. You can choose to have a grant made anonymously. This may help keep you off of mailing list and avoid unwelcome solicitations.

How to get started?

Go online to Rotary.org and type in Donor Advised Fund. You will be able to download The Quick Guide for an overview or Program Circular for a more detailed description.

For more information contact [Mike Kearns](mailto:mike.kearns@nmfn.com), District Major Gifts Chair at: (408) 535 5738 or mike.kearns@nmfn.com.

D-5170 TRF REPORT FOR OCTOBER

Congratulations to the first three 100%-of-Goal Clubs for 2012-13: Almaden Valley, Mountain View and STAR! Honorable mention to Sunnyvale, which is close behind. Leaders in Per-Capita are Sunnyvale, Almaden Valley and Mountain View. Alert: we are \$30,000 behind last year's pace, and we have 14 Clubs with ZERO donations! Don't let yours stay among them!

CLUB	ANN. GOAL	ACTUAL	% TO GOAL	\$ PER CAPITA	% EREY	
Alameda	\$ 10,450	\$ 5,035	48.2	\$ 54.73	26.1%	
Almaden Valley	\$ 9,500	\$ 9,568	100.7	\$ 227.81	69.1%	★
Alviso	\$ 1,500	\$ 514	34.3	\$ 36.71	7.1%	
Campbell	\$ 8,000	\$ -	0	\$ -	0.0%	
Capitola/Aptos	\$ 9,400	\$ 3,405	36.2	\$ 83.05	36.6%	
Castro Valley	\$ 12,000	\$ -	0	\$ -	0.0%	
Cupertino	\$ 60,000	\$ 2,301	3.84	\$ 12.51	4.9%	
Dublin	\$ 16,000	\$ 2,900	18.1	\$ 65.91	25.0%	
East Oakland	\$ 3,000	\$ -	0	\$ -	0.0%	
East Palo Alto Bayshore	\$ 1,500	\$ 200	13.3	\$ 11.76	5.9%	
Freedom	\$ 5,000	\$ 1,390	27.8	\$ 33.90	7.1%	
Fremont	\$ 7,009	\$ 1,200	17.1	\$ 31.58	15.8%	
Fremont Warm Springs SR	\$ 5,200	\$ 2,200	42.3	\$ 104.76	33.3%	
FUN	\$ 1,000	\$ -	0	\$ -	0.0%	
Gilroy	\$ 17,655	\$ 6,450	36.5	\$ 62.62	17.5%	
Gilroy South County	\$ 3,600	\$ 1,875	52.1	\$ 104.17	50.0%	
Hayward	\$ 7,800	\$ 2,825	36.2	\$ 35.31	15.0%	
Hollister	\$ 7,900	\$ -	0	\$ -	0.0%	
Livermore	\$ 27,500	\$ 9,650	35.1	\$ 74.23	14.6%	
Livermore Valley	\$ 10,000	\$ 288	2.9	\$ 5.65	2.0%	
Los Altos	\$ 21,875	\$ 2,107	9.6	\$ 12.25	1.2%	
Los Altos Sunset	\$ 1,700	\$ 80	4.7	\$ 5.71	7.1%	
Los Gatos	\$ 17,000	\$ 11,213	66	\$ 100.12	28.6%	
Los Gatos Morning	\$ 15,000	\$ 2,480	16.5	\$ 35.42	11.4%	
Milpitas	\$ 3,500	\$ 1,050	30	\$ 24.42	14.0%	
Mission San Jose	\$ 6,448	\$ -	0	\$ -	0.0%	
Morgan Hill	\$ 22,400	\$ 8,085	36.1	\$ 74.86	29.6%	
Moutain View	\$ 5,000	\$ 5,150	103	\$ 156.06	57.6%	★
Newark	\$ 4,100	\$ -	0	\$ -	0.0%	
Niles Fremont	\$ 21,400	\$ 5,000	23.4	\$ 56.17	16.9%	
Oakland	\$ 31,000	\$ 735				
Oakland	\$ 4,000					
Oakland	\$ 4,000	\$ (735)	0	\$ -	0.0%	
Oakland Sunrise	\$ 4,000	\$ 1,600	40	\$ 106.67	26.7%	
Palo Alto	\$ 18,000	\$ 1,500	7.5	\$ 10.56	5.6%	
Paol Alto University	\$ 20,000	\$ 10,835	60.2	\$ 116.55	35.5%	
Piedmont/Montclair	\$ 2,370	\$ 1,500	63.3	\$ 83.33	27.8%	
Pleasanton	\$ 6,375	\$ 1,400	21.9	\$ 16.67	15.5%	
Pleasantron North	\$ 5,500	\$ 75	1.4	\$ 4.17	1.9%	
San Jose	\$ 45,000	\$ 475	1.1	\$ 1.08	50.0%	
San Jose East/Evergreen	\$ 4,000	\$ 3,340	83.5	\$ 15.90	61.9%	
San Jose North	\$ 11,120	\$ 4,330	38.9	\$ 105.61	46.3%	
San Juan Bautista	\$ 3,600	\$ -	0	\$ -	0.0%	
San Leandro	\$ 11,000	\$ -	0	\$ -	0.0%	
San Lorenzo Valley	\$ 1,800	\$ -	0	\$ -	0.0%	
Santa Clara	\$ 10,000	\$ 1,100	11.1	\$ 14.10	3.9%	
Santa Cruz	\$ 15,600	\$ 2,900	18.6	\$ 22.41	7.8%	
Santa Cruz Sunrise	\$ 20,000	\$ 2,580	12.9	\$ 26.33	12.2%	
Saratoga	\$ 25,000	\$ 10,019	40.1	\$ 77.06	29.2%	
Scotts Valley	\$ 10,000	\$ 3,600	36	\$ 83.72	18.6%	
STAR	\$ 850	\$ 900	105.9	\$ 56.25	31.3%	★
Sunnyvale	\$ 16,450	\$ 14,535	88.4	\$ 234.43	54.8%	
Sunnyvale Sunrise	\$ 3,600	\$ -	0	\$ -	0.0%	
Tri-Valley	\$ 1,800	\$ -	0	\$ -	0.0%	
Watsonville	\$ 14,000	\$ -	0	\$ -	0.0%	
zTotal	\$ 623,502	\$ 144,920	23.2	\$ 38.19	12.9%	

ROTARY'S AREAS OF FOCUS



BASIC EDUCATION AND LITERACY

Literacy project promotes reading, writing in Burkina Faso



By Charlie Wasser, a member of the Rotary Club of Sunnyvale, California, USA

About 18 months ago, I transferred my membership to the Rotary Club of Sunnyvale, California, USA. I was excited when my new club embraced a literacy effort I had been involved in, receiving a global grant from The Rotary Foundation for a new media center in Hounde, Burkina Faso.

Through the literacy project, residents in villages surrounding the town of Hounde will learn to write their own books and print them using computers in the media center. Our club is partnering with the host club of Ouagadougou-Savane and [Friends of African Village Libraries](#), which has built seven libraries in surrounding villages.

I have been working with Friends of African Village Libraries for the past four years, mostly collecting funds from clubs in our district for books to stock the libraries. Michael Kevane, formerly head of the economics department at Santa Clara University, started the organization and is now its co-director.

During the first few years of the literacy project, students from Santa Clara University, under Kevane's tutelage, will spend a semester in the village as part of an immersion program, writing two books and teaching a villager how to write a book and create images. The books will then be added to the libraries. A great feature of the [Foundation's new grant model](#), which District 5170 is helping test as part of the Future Vision pilot, is the requirement for global grants to be sustainable – for the project to be able to continue benefiting the local community after grant funds have been expended. Our project addresses sustainability in a number of ways.

Villagers who learn to write will teach other villagers to write. In addition, we are making use of local resources. The town of Hounde has agreed to pay the salary of a half-time employee who will work at the new media center.

During the five-year scope of the project, children in the villages will have the opportunity to learn to read and write. The goal of the project is to equip the villages to continue raising the literacy level of the residents. Who knows, one of the children who learns to read and write may someday be the driving force that brings water, electricity, and greater prosperity to the villages.



Children in Burkina Faso at one of several libraries built by Friends of African Village Libraries. Photo courtesy Charlie Wasser

An Open Letter to D-5170 Rotarians

Dear Rotarians,

All around the world, and all around your community, your fellow Rotarians have rolled up their sleeves to bring clean water, medical care, education opportunities and a host of other humanitarian projects to make lives better. How do these projects happen? It starts with a need. It then stimulates an idea about how to fill that need. It next becomes a campaign to transform the idea into reality. This is where the Rotary Foundation comes in...and this is where you come in. You see, most solutions to the needs of humankind require financial support, and the mission of The Rotary Foundation is to provide that support....provided that it can count on you to support The Rotary Foundation. In this day of GPS tracking, that dollar you gave to TRF might be followed to a water purification system in Africa, or a solar lighting installation in rural Mexico, or a cardiac care facility in southern Chile. But if that dollar is not given, those projects do not happen. If that dollar is not given, one of the most fundamental reasons you became a Rotarian is unfulfilled.

Every Rotarian is not asked to be a Major Donor. For some, even the Double Sustainer amount is a little beyond reach. But every Rotarian is expected to give something. Every Rotarian is asked to make a donation that he or she can imagine traveling to that far away (or nearby) place to make the life of someone less fortunate just a little bit better. One of the proudest things a Rotary Club can say is that, in our Club, Every Rotarian, Every Year, gives something in the financial support of the mission of Rotary. Will your Club be able to say that this year? Are you the one that can make that happen?

November is "Foundation Month" on the Rotary calendar for a couple of reasons. By making donations before the end of the year, Rotarians can take a tax deduction this year for their gift. By making donations before the end of January, the gift is placed in in the account that will generate a DDF return to the Club three years hence. By featuring TRF-supported humanitarian projects at an early time in the Rotary year, Clubs still have seven months in which to reach their TRF goals for the year. All of these are good, practical reasons. But for me, the reason for Foundation Month is to give everyone a chance to stop and reflect on why the world needs Rotary, and to ask themselves what they are doing to help fill those needs. Why should you make a contribution to The Rotary Foundation? The answer is very simple: *because you are a Rotarian.*

Best wishes,

Tim Lundell, Annual Giving Chair



Rotary International has made a new funding commitment of US\$75 million over three years to the [Global Polio Eradication Initiative](#) (GPEI). Rotary, which has already contributed nearly \$1.2 billion to the GPEI, announced the commitment at a 27 September high-level side event on polio eradication, convened by United Nations Secretary-General Ban Ki-moon during the United Nations General Assembly in New York. The side event -- "Our Commitment to the Next Generation: The Legacy of a Polio-free World" -- brought together leaders of the remaining endemic countries, and representatives of donor governments, development agencies, the GPEI partners, and the media to underscore the urgent need to finish the job of global polio eradication. Although the wild poliovirus is endemic only in Afghanistan, Pakistan, and Nigeria, other countries are still at risk for re-established transmission of the virus through its "importation" from the endemics.

"Governments need to step up and honor their commitments to polio eradication if we are to achieve our goal of a polio-free world," said Wilfrid Wilkinson, chair of The Rotary Foundation. "We are at a true tipping point, with success never closer than it is right now. We must seize the advantage by acting immediately, or risk breaking our pledge to the world's children."

"The evidence is clear: if we all do our part, we can and will end this disease. But we must act quickly and give ourselves the very best chance to succeed," said Bill Gates, co-chair of the Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation, one of the leading donors to the GPEI. "When we defeat polio, it will motivate us to aim for other great health and development milestones."

The Islamic Development Bank (IDB), a new donor to the polio eradication effort, announced a US\$227 million loan to Pakistan, which will cover the majority of the country's polio vaccination campaign costs. The IDB also announced a \$3 million grant for polio activities in Afghanistan.

In addition, Julian Fantino, Canadian Minister of International Cooperation, announced a "Three for One Polio Challenge Initiative" with Rotarians in Canada and the Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation. Through the initiative, the Canadian International Development Agency and the Gates Foundation will each contribute to the GPEI C\$1 for every \$1 raised by Canadian Rotarians up to \$1 million. Upon completion, the initiative would generate a total of \$3 million for the GPEI.

These additional funding commitments follow action taken in May by the World Health Assembly, which declared polio eradication a "programmatic emergency for global public health." Polio cases have plummeted by more than 99 percent since 1988, when the disease infected about 350,000 children a year. Although new polio cases are at an all-time low -- fewer than 150 worldwide in 2012 as of 19 September -- the \$790 million funding shortfall through 2013 has already curtailed scheduled immunization activities in polio-affected countries. If eradication fails and polio rebounds, up to 200,000 children a year could be paralyzed.

"Failure to eradicate polio is unforgivable, forever. Failure is not an option. No single one of us can bring this long, hard drive over the last hurdle. But together we can," said Dr. Margaret Chan, Director-General of the World Health Organization.

Don't Miss Out on the 2012 TRF Donor Ticket Drawing!

Your Contribution to the Rotary Foundation Annual fund Makes it all Possible



1. **Each \$20.00 PAID contribution to the Annual Fund entitles the donor to one ticket in the prize drawing.**
Example: a paid Double-Sustainer (\$200) contribution entitles the donor to 10 tickets.
2. **Super Sustainer and Paul Harris Society contributions entitle donors to BONUS tickets:**
Example: a paid Super-Sustainer (\$500) contribution entitles the donor to 25 tickets PLUS a 10-ticket BONUS, for a total of 35 tickets.
Example: a paid Paul Harris Society (\$1,000) contribution entitles the donor to 50 tickets PLUS a 20-ticket BONUS, for a total of 70 tickets.
3. **The Club's TRF Chair is responsible for the distribution of tickets and the delivery of ticket stubs to the District Fundraising Chair.**
4. **The deadline for delivery of ticket stubs for the drawing is Tuesday, December 4, 2012.**
5. **The drawing for prizes will take place at the December Cabinet Meeting at the DoubleTree Hotel on Wednesday, December 5, 2012. All Rotarians are welcome and invited to attend.**

The Prizes

Grand Prize: Trip for two, including economy airfare and five nights' accommodations for the 2013 Rotary International Convention in Lisbon, Portugal

Second Prize: Trip for two, including economy airfare and three nights' accommodations for the Uniendo America Project Faire in Sonsonate, El Salvador

For more information, contact Fundraising Chair, Roger Hassler

(rogerhassler@gmail.com)

or Annual Giving Chair, Tim Lundell

(tlundell@earthlink.net)