

Friends of Christmas Island - *Fish Tales*”

July 2009 – Volume 3 - No. 2

KIRIBATI FLAG JOINS OTHERS ON RI CONVENTION STAGE

On 21 of June, the 100th Rotary International Convention convened in Birmingham England. Opening Session was spectacular with Korean singers, dances and presentation of each Rotary country’s flag. We and others waited patiently through the alphabet as each county’s flag was announced, no special flag came in either the K’s for Kiribati or the R’s for Republic– what a disappointment. The US of A’s flag arrived and several more, then at last, the announcement came the Newest Country in the Rotary World is....The Republic of Kiribati.



The Kiribati flag was proudly furled across the stage. Small cheers were heard from the large crowd. Commerce City Colorado Rotary, District 5450, Suva East Rotary of Fiji and District 9920 are proud to announce that Rotary is active on Christmas Island in the Republic of Kiribati.

3rd ANNUAL ROTARY CAR SHOW PROVIDES FUNDING FOR WCS PROJECT

On Sunday, May 31 over 80 gorgeous vehicles, all makes and models, streamed into the 3rd Annual Commerce City Rotary Charity Car Show and Concours d’ Elegance at Mile High Racing and Entertainment Park. Sixty-some cars, trucks, bikes, trikes and tractors were judged by several clubs qualified judges.



Left Photo: Ken Meze received Best of Show with “A Perfect Score” of 100 points for his 1969 Chevy ElCamino, Right Photo: While the People’s Choice Best of Show went to Jim White for his 1930 Ford Coupe. Many other awards and ribbons were presented.

Over \$6,000 was raised from the car show and will go toward the Commerce City Rotary’s World Community Service (WCS) project, Friends of Christmas Island. George Maybee, WCS Chairman, states “The people of Christmas Island thank you for your support. Today’s event proceeds will help ensure toilets

and hand-washing stations to the primary & secondary schools on the island. Tom Schrah, Rotary car show chairman states, "The committee and I want thank all of the people that brought their cars today, we hope to see you again next year on May 23, 2010."

NEW KIRITIMATI ROTARY OFFICERS

The following individuals are the 2009-2010 Officers: President – Moanafua Kofe, fishing guide; President Elect – Ielu Inantaake, Video Rental Owner; Vice President – Naitiniwa Teitiaki, Port Authority Manager; Secretary – Aroita Naare, High School Coordinator; Treasurer – Biita Kairaoi, Guiding Service Management.



Left Photo: Newly elected Rotary President Moanafua Kofe with a happy angler shows off his talent. Moana is excited to be the new President of Kiritimati Rotary and has many plans to help the island. Right Photo: Members of the Kiritimati Rotary Club made retaining wall mats for the Hospital's Maneaba, a place for the families to stay while those ill can have family members close. Other projects that have been completed are book bags, hygiene kits and dictionary delivery to schools, repair of the Banana Village medical clinic and several fund raisers.

PROPOSED RI MATCHING GRANT:

The proposed Rotary International Matching Grant project sponsored by Commerce City Rotary and Co-sponsored by many Rotaries was introduced by the Kiritimati Island Club. It will consist of constructing toilets and hand washing stations for three primary schools and one secondary school on the island. The schools are located in the island villages as follows: London primary and secondary; Banana primary; and Poland primary. Sanitation facilities are non-existent causing many of the island's children to have severe diarrhea. Currently the four schools on the island do not have toilet and hygiene facilities; therefore this project will provide these facilities to 800+ students and 80 teachers. It is estimated that the project will take eighteen (18) months and over \$38,000 to complete once the project is approved and funds are made available.

The majority of the work required to construct the project items will be provided by Kiritimati Rotary and community volunteers. After completion of the project the facilities will be maintained by a combination of schools personnel, community volunteers and Kiritimati Rotarians. The Kiritimati Rotary Club will provide initial training on the use and maintenance of the facilities and will coordinate support for future sustainability of the project.

In the event that additional funds are obtained, the Kiritimati Club will expand the project's scope and budget to include one or both of the remaining schools on the island.

For more information on the Rotary's WCS "Friends of Christmas Island" project, please contact George or Sharon Maybee at 303-655-9831 or email: gkmaybe@aol.com. If you would like to join in with a tax-deductible contribution it can be sent to our 501c (3) foundation care of:

**Friends of Christmas Island Project - WCS
Commerce City Rotary Foundation, Inc.
PO Box 1882
Commerce City, CO 80037**