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ROTARY WORLD UNDERSTANDING MONTH
DG Rupert reminds us that
February is ROTARY WORLD UNDERSTANDING month
District 7020 theme for 2008-2009

Rotary International
The Joy of Rotary
District 7020
2008 - 2009

RUPERT RECENTLY VISITED
ST. THOMAS AND ST. JOHN

District Governor Rupert's Official Visit to St. Thomas and St. John

DAVID BECK, CHAIR OF THE DISTRICT CONFERENCE,
wishes to let you all know that
YOU CAN NOW REGISTER ONLINE
for the District Conference in St. Croix.

Log in to the District website (www.clubrunner.ca/7020) and see the
information on the main page. Click on the title District Conference 2009
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**Assistant District Governor**

US Virgin Islands North<br>(St. Thomas & St. John) - Don Chandler<br>(St. Croix) – David Beck
Tariq Davis is an active 11-year old boy who loves caring for animals, singing, dancing, drawing, writing stories, shooting hoops, playing video games, swimming, eating ... and the list goes on. He also enjoys annoying his 4-year-old sister, Tianna - something he considers to be his duty as an older brother.

It is hard for many people to imagine that less than two years ago, after being hit by a car and suffering extensive trauma to his brain in addition to other bodily injuries, Tariq was in a vegetative state for almost three months. The then, once active 9-year-old was unaware of his surroundings and could not control his body. He was unable to talk, eat, walk, or respond to his family. After regaining full consciousness, Tariq had to relearn how to do practically everything.

Tariq still has effects from his Traumatic Brain Injury (TBI) which include Ataxia (or tremor) of his left arm, which makes it challenging for him to use his left hand for fine-motor activities such as typing, unscrewing caps, or buttoning a shirt; Trunk Ataxia, which affects his balance when walking or running; Dysarthria, a weakness of the speech muscles; and some cognitive challenges, which affect his short-term memory and the rate of his mental processing.

Tariq, however, continues to make tremendous progress. Last school year, just one year after his accident, Tariq fulfilled a dream of making a model of an erupting volcano. He won Second-place in his category in Bowsky Elementary School’s Science Fair.

During the second half of last school year, Tariq spent three to four months in a Special Needs class at Bowsky. At the beginning of this school year, he was mainstreamed into a regular Third Grade class, his grade level at the time of his accident, and receives his therapies at school as part of his services.

When the Director of Community Service for the Rotary Club of Charlotte Amalie, Dolores Parker, attended a conference on special needs assistance, Tariq’s story was presented, and she thought this might be a way for the club to Make Dreams Real for Tariq. Rotarian Dolores spoke to Tariq’s parents to learn more about him.

Through that conversation, she learned that a laptop computer would help him get back on track and on the same level as his peers in reading, spelling and homework. The Club Board and members were enthusiastic
about the idea, and a Think Pad X61 Tablet, which doubles as a Laptop and Notepad, was presented to Tariq during a recent visit from the District Governor.

The joy at this meeting was palpable, and everyone in the room was moved by the simple Thank You received from Tariq. Since that event, the following has been received from Tariq’s mother:

“As parents, juggling family, work, and other commitments, we appreciate your contributing your time, energy and financial resources to fulfill a wish for our son among all the other things you do for our community. The gift of the Tablet PC and Lexia Learning software will give Tariq additional writing accommodations and ongoing improvement in his reading abilities and cognitive development. Thank you, Rotary Club of Charlotte Amalie, for being a part of Tariq’s recovery journey.”

The members of the Rotary Club of Charlotte Amalie will continue to monitor Tariq’s progress and hope they have been able to Make Dreams Real for him and for his family.

**ROTARY CLUB OF ROAD TOWN - 19TH ANNIVERSARY**

*January 7, 2009*

**Road Town, Tortola** – In the presence of a proud District 7020 Governor Rupert Ross of St. Croix, USVI, the Rotary Club of Road Town on Wednesday observed its 19th anniversary with a special luncheon meeting at the Moorings Mariner Inn Restaurant.

The main highlight of the celebration was the presentation of Paul Harris Fellowship Awards to Charles Crane and Yvonne Crabbe. The ceremony was presided over by DG Rupert, Assistant Governor Vance Lewis and President Stephanie Benn.

The Paul Harris Fellowship Award is one of the highest honors Rotary can bestow on a person. Recipients are Rotarians and community professionals who have made outstanding contributions and exemplified the highest ideal in Rotary by placing “Service Above Self”. The Paul Harris Society is named after Paul P. Harris, founder of Rotary International. Paul Harris formed the world’s first service club, the Rotary Club of Chicago, on 23 February 1905. His intention was to recapture in a professional club the same friendly spirit he had felt in the small towns of his youth.

In delivering opening remarks, President Stephanie said the occasion of the anniversary is a time to review the past and contemplate the future. “It is the time to express appreciation to those dedicated Rotarians, Past Presidents and Chartered members who have devoted their time to the development of this club,” she said. “I also appeal to each of you (members) to consider the benefits of fulfilling your individual responsibility of bringing one new member into our club”.

DG Rupert mentioned several highlights of the Rotary year so far, including the BVI producing the first ever outbound Group Study Exchange team to the U.S late last year; a District calendar; and a monthly newsletter in English and French. “I am also excited about your initiative to endeavour to start a breakfast club,” he said. “This would give the community another opportunity to get involved in this movement.”

During the meeting, presentations were made by founding President Ronnie Skelton and 10th anniversary President Tim Peck, who both reflected on the accomplishments of the club over the years. These include the adoption of the Enis Adams Primary School; erection of street signs; sponsorship of the Primary Schools Spelling Bee; hosting of the Kiddies Fiesta, Kite Flying Competition, Health Expo, Christmas
Lighting at the Wickham’s Cay Roundabout and the Chief Minister’s (now Premier’s) Cup Regatta; and the club’s relationship with the National Parks Trust.

Past President Ronnie recalled that the Rotary Club of Road Town was borne out of the Rotary Club of Tortola and started with 25 energetic young men, who within two years opened up the membership to women. He threw out a challenge for members to come up with creative ways to guide young people into a better future and help to improve the society in which we live.

Another highlight of the meeting was the induction of a new member – Jenifer David.

Wednesday’s luncheon was attended by members of the Rotary Club of Tortola and charter members of the Rotary Club of Road Town Paul Webster and Hubert O’Neal, who are no longer active Rotarians.

The celebration was organized by a committee headed by new Rotarian Thalicia Blair.

President, Stephanie Benn, of Rotary Road Town
Reminds us all – Member Get Member

This is the premise of the 'member-get-member' initiative which RI President, D. K. Lee has been promoting this Rotary year. I am, therefore, appealing to each of you to consider the benefits of fulfilling your individual responsibility of bringing one new member into our club:

- One more to do Rotary's work and strengthen our club's service;
- One more to embrace Rotary's core values and bring help and hope where needed;
- One more who will not only experience the 'Joy of Rotary', but
- One more to allow Rotary to "Make Dreams Real".

Disaster in India

From and

D.K. Lee, President, Rotary International
Jonathan B. Majiyagbe, Trustee Chairman
The Rotary Foundation

We are deeply saddened to hear of the recent Kosi River and related flooding in India. Past RI President Raja Saboo has been working with Rotarian leaders in India to assess the situation and assist in coordinating relief and recovery efforts. To learn of this catastrophe that has taken the lives of more than 350 people and has affected the lives of millions is devastating.

We understand that this has been a time of numerous disasters, and we are touched by the commitment of Rotarians to assist affected communities in Haiti, Turks and Caicos, and Texas and Louisiana with relief and recovery efforts following Tropical Storm Fay and Hurricanes Gustav, Ike and Hanna. We thank you for your dedication to helping these communities during a time of such need.

We realize that news of the Kosi River and related flooding after torrential rainfall from heavy monsoons that caused a dam to burst in southern Nepal was not widely reported in some countries due to these other disasters.
However, Rotarians in India are calling out for assistance, and given the challenge of sending contributions to India due to currency restrictions, we are writing with information about how you may work through Rotary to make a contribution toward alleviating this humanitarian crisis.

To learn of the magnitude of this disaster and how local clubs are assisting with relief efforts, we encourage you to read the news story that RI Communications staff has posted to the RI Web site – www.rotary.org.

...Excerpted from a bulletin to 2008-09 District Governors

Click the link below to access the RI story on Bill Gates’ visit to India.

http://www.rotary.org/en/MediaAndNews/News/Pages/081222_news_gatesindia.aspx

A little history - 23 February, 1905

Rotary is founded on 23 February when Paul Harris, Silvester Schiele, Gustavus Loehr, and Hiram Shorey meet in Room 711 of the Unity Building, 127 Dearborn Street, in Chicago. The name derives from the practice of rotating meetings among members’ places of business. Meetings at restaurants for lunch or dinner are later initiated. Rotarian Harry Ruggles begins the tradition of singing at Rotary meetings.

When you wake up in the morning complete the following statement:
My purpose is to ______________ today.

Each night before you go to bed complete the following statements:
I am thankful for ................
Today I accomplished .................

RLI TRAINING – SUNSHINE DIVISION

RLI Sunshine Division (RLISD) has posted a video on YouTube.

- A link to the video is also available on the home page of the RLISD at www.rlitraining.org.

- This is a perfect tool for us to use to encourage our members to participate. Please encourage all your clubs to make full use of it.

- Click on the link below to activate it.

http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=okvXmwiOkCc
RLI TRAINING – St. Thomas – January 10, 11

St. Thomas hosted a very successful Rotary Leadership Institute Training on the weekend of January 9, 10, and 11, 2009.

Classes were held at the Antilles School on the island on both Saturday and Sunday.

Parts 1 and 3 were held on Saturday.

Part 2 and Discussion Leaders session were held on Sunday.

Shown at left are RLI Sunshine Division Faculty - RLI East Caribbean Coordinator – PP Mary Finley-Jones, RLI St. Thomas Coordinator – AG Don Chandler, and RLI Director, District 7020 – DGN Diana White.

AG Don organized this weekend which was an excellent and very successful one for all concerned.

At right, Ishwar Vaswani, St. Croix Mid-Isle Sunriser Club, and AG David Beck, also from St. Croix, attended the training.

Here they are taking a short break – probably discussing plans for the upcoming District Conference in St. Croix. David is the Chair for the District Conference.

AG David wants to let you know that you can register online for the District Conference in May in St. Croix. Go to www.clubrunner.ca/7020.
MESSAGE - 2008 Polio Challenge Report
Excerpts from a report by Lyden D. Trevor Heaven [mailto:heavent@cwjamaica.com]

My fellow Rotarians:

First of all, please think of the many across the world that do not have the opportunities that has been bestowed on us, think of how fortunate we are to be able to get this message – something we take for granted – then consider our purpose in this great movement – ROTARY – that has brought us together in friendship and service – think of our motto, our objectives, our purpose.

Christmas presented us with the time for family and friends – it comes one week before we close out the year and look to the challenges and opportunities the new year will bring – I really believe that God made it this way – a chance for us to reflect. But as we do, remember the gift that we, as Rotarians, have given the world:

Since 1985 we have reduced the Polio-endemic countries from 125 to 4 – India, Pakistan, Afghanistan and Nigeria

Since 1985, more than 2 BILLION children have received the oral polio vaccine. Five million children destined to be polio victims are walking today and enjoying a better life.

Since 1985 reported polio cases have dropped 99.8% - from 350,000 a year to fewer than 2,000 a year today.

You, we, have done a great job – we are on the brink of total eradication – help us, along with the Bill and Malinda gates foundation and our partners to complete the job.

The next ½ year of the current administration, the District needs your contribution of US$1,000.00 as part of the commitment to this cause. We are way behind but we can catch up.

Below, I have cut and paste the current standing of the districts in Zone 34 – take a look and as you rebound in the New Year, let this be a priority to close the gap.

Attached is an excerpt from the November 30, 2008 Polio Challenge Report so all of you can view. It shows as a Zone we are $1,207,000. This is 33% of the goal you set. We are about at the 1/3 mark of the time we have been given to match this generous grant from the Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation.

So, with 12 months gone, we are on target. With 25 months to go until December 2010, we need to keep the focus on!

YIR
Trevor Heaven
District $100M Challenge Chair

In summary, the message is to take some time to look back and reflect:

What have we done? Another year over. A new one just begun!

What can we do this year?
The 2009-10 RI theme acknowledges the important role individual Rotary clubs will play in shaping the future of Rotary.

**RI President-elect John Kenny, pictured at left,** unveiled the theme, *The Future of Rotary Is in Your Hands,* on Monday, January 19, during the opening plenary session of the International Assembly, an annual training event in San Diego, California, USA, for incoming district governors.

"The future of Rotary will not be shaped at RI headquarters -- it will be shaped in each and every Rotary club," Kenny said, "because it is for each of us -- as Rotarians -- to do what is necessary to keep Rotary strong."

Kenny acknowledged the foundation established by past Rotary leaders and laid the responsibility for building upon that success on every Rotarian.

"Each one of us is standing on the shoulders of generations of Rotarians past, and it is our responsibility to determine Rotary’s future," Kenny said.

"The goals we set, whatever our action plan, it is in our hands to accomplish or not," said Kazeem Mustapha, governor-elect of District 9125 (Nigeria). "Everybody has to be involved."

Kenny emphasized that every Rotary club is and must be autonomous.

"Everything begins and ends with our clubs," he said. "Our clubs can and do work together; they work through their own districts, in cooperation with other clubs and districts, and with the support of our Foundation.

"But at the end of the day, everything that we accomplish is done through the strength of our clubs. And so each club must have autonomy to serve where and how it can serve best."

Kenny concluded his remarks by sharing a favorite saying from his homeland, Scotland: "We must look beyond our own parish pump."

"It means that we must look beyond our own home and our own community," Kenny said. "We must look beyond our own needs, and we must be aware that ours is only one community, of one country, of the many communities and countries in this world."
The Hurricane – still the Big Story!

...submitted by John Lawson, Rotary Club of Providentiales

Hi Mom it's me. Remember that hammer you gave me for my 9th birthday? Well I am going to need another one.

The picture was taken by Larry Agee, one of the ShelterBox SRTs sent to TCI.

It was taken on Grand Turk, Turks and Caicos Islands after Hurricane Ike. We were in front of the Bible Baptist Church examining where the second floor had gone. The two photos below show what we were looking at. Note the stairs going up to nothing and the furniture still on the second floor but no walls or roof.

Eric from Samaritan Purse (shown in top photo), Traci and Larry from ShelterBox, and I decided that a visual inspection was required since communication with the other islands was either unreliable or non-existent.

Our Club convinced a local pilot that we should take his plane into the disaster zone. Commercial planes were not flying yet and the airports were closed. We got permission from the Minister to land the plane.

That day, we did a reconnaissance of Grand Turk, Salt Cay and South Caicos.

The information we collected formed the basis for the ShelterBox deployment and allowed us to coordinate urgently needed relief supplies.

We discovered, through this exercise, that accurate information is critical. Thousands of people and incredible resources were available to help, but all of it needed to be guided by accurate, up-to-date information, and this was very scarce.

Curiously, in the initial stages of providing relief, there was a nagging question about "Should the Rotary Club pay for flights for Rotarians?" In normal times, which is all our club had ever had, the club did not
pay for travel expenses for our members. In the aftermath of Hurricane Ike, this policy was not appropriate. It took a lot of convincing to allow it. Even now some members are confused.

This seemingly trivial matter, should have been addressed in a Disaster Plan.

| Wherever there is a human being, there is an opportunity for kindness. —-Seneca |
| LEADERSHIP & SUCCESS |

A leader's role is to raise people's aspirations for what they can become and to release their energies so they will try to get there.

—-David Gergen

| INSPIRATION & MOTIVATION |

Life is like a game of cards. The hand that is dealt you represents determinism; the way you play it is free will.

—Jawaharal Nehru

| Upcoming Rotary Dates |

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| LEADERSHIP & SUCCESS |

Big thinking precedes great achievement.

—Wilferd Peterson

| INSPIRATION & MOTIVATION |

Don't bunt. Aim out of the ballpark.

—David Ogilvy
A NEW ROTARY CLUB in 7020  

Rotary Club of Trafalgar New Hights-Kingston  

Kingston, Jamaica

The Rotary Club of Trafalgar New Hights-Kingston, Kingston, Jamaica was admitted in Rotary International on 17 December 2008.

Congratulations to you, to all the members of this new club, and to everyone who contributed to its organization. On behalf of General Secretary Ed Futa, please convey to the club our best wishes for success as The Rotary Club of Trafalgar New Hights-Kingston initiates what will no doubt be a long history of dedicated service to its community.

The Rotary International staff is at the club's disposal for whatever assistance they may need.

Sincerely,

Alicia Pijal

Coordinator, Club and District Support  
Southern Pan America

Congratulations! Well done!

NEW ROTARIAN ACTION GROUP  

To fight the growing epidemic of Diabetes

The RI Board of Directors has approved a new Rotarian Action Group to help fight the growing epidemic of diabetes. (This may have direct relevance for District 7020.)

According to the International Diabetes Federation (IDF), there are currently 246 million cases of the disease worldwide, with a projected 380 million cases by 2025. The greatest increases will likely occur in the developing world.
"It's clear there is an opportunity for Rotarians to help," says Larry Deeb, a physician and director of the Rotarian Action Group for Diabetes. "Rotary has a unique way of engineering awareness, funds, and ground support to growing problems in the world. Our action group will bring visibility to the fight against diabetes."

The disease, characterized by a failure to regulate glucose, or blood sugar, can lead to serious health problems and even death. It occurs in two main forms: type 1, caused by a malfunction of the autoimmune system that compromises the ability of the pancreas to produce insulin, and type 2, often called adult onset, in which the body's ability to produce or use insulin is impaired.

The U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention estimates that diabetes-related deaths will increase by more than 50 percent in the next 10 years without some kind of intervention.

With 44 members, the action group's initial service goals include addressing Type 1 diabetes.

Early roots

The group has its roots in the efforts of Deeb, a member of the Rotary Club of Tallahassee, Florida, USA, and fellow club member Wayne Edwards, president of the new action group.

Since 1995, the pair have collaborated on several Rotary Foundation Matching Grants aimed at raising money for diabetes education. In 2000, they donated funds to Life for a Child, an IDF program that helps children with diabetes in developing countries by providing existing health clinics with insulin and syringes, glucose monitoring machines, and transportation and clinical care for patients.

Deeb and Edwards traveled to Bolivia in 2003 and established clinics in seven cities across the country as part of the first Rotary club-sponsored Life for a Child program. More than 100 children were given free insulin and testing supplies. Projects in Cameroun, Nepal, and Nigeria soon followed.

Edwards, past governor of District 6940, says the group's existing relationship with the IDF will allow it to be more effective in addressing the disease’s increasing incidence among children. Edwards's wife and eldest son have type 1 diabetes.

"There is a real need for Rotary International to participate," he says, adding that the new group "gives interested Rotarians worldwide a chance to get involved with improving the lives of those suffering from diabetes."

Deeb is chair of an IDF committee dedicated to improving insulin availability worldwide. He also has been involved with the American Diabetes Association for two decades, serving in a number of positions, including Medicine and Science president.

"The growing rate of diabetes will cripple countries with incredible costs," Deeb says. "In developing countries, communities are simply unaware of the seriousness of diabetes."

"This action group can be the catalyst for any projects Rotarians dream up."
A personal letter from
Rotary International President, D.K. Lee

9-January-09
Rupert Ross, Governor, District 7020, RI
ross48@usermail.com

Dear Rupert:

I have just reviewed the December membership reports and have noted that your district membership has shown a slight increase. At 31 December 2008 RI records indicate 71 clubs and 2446 Rotarians which is 29.13% of the goal you submitted to RI. I am pleased to see that the trend in your district is moving in a positive direction.

I asked that during your year as governor you personally focus on ways of strengthening the clubs in your district and encouraging these clubs to work hard on membership growth and retention. I also am encouraging you to look at opportunities for growth in new locations by establishing new and viable clubs within your district. It appears from current membership statistics that you are working towards my overall membership goals for the association.

Increasing Rotary membership is key to increasing Rotary's ability to Make Dreams Real through service and fellowship. Success in membership development means there will be more eyes to see the needs, hands to meet those needs, and more hearts to share in Rotary's efforts to make the world a better place for all. Your success in motivating the clubs in your district to increase their membership and extend Rotary to new communities is a most positive contribution to the long term health and effectiveness of Rotary.

We know that, united in Rotary, we can Make Dreams Real for all of the world’s children by reducing the rate of child mortality

Good luck to you in the rest of your year!

Sincerely,

[Signature]

Dong Kun Lee
President, Rotary International

Click this link for the
ROTARY FOUNDATION NEWSLETTER
January, 2009
February
Celebration Dates

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2009 RI Convention in Birmingham, England, 21-24 June

Be a part of history and celebrate the 100th Rotary convention, which will take place in Birmingham, the heart of England!

ROTARIANS AT WORK DAY

On April 29, 2006, thousands of Rotarians joined forces to tackle Community Service Projects in their respective neighbourhoods during the first annual Rotarians At Work Day. From planting to painting, from reading to renovating, a total of 86 projects were completed by all of the 60 clubs in District 5340 serving San Diego and Imperial counties. Across the border in District 4100, Rotarians from four states in northern Mexico tallied 46 successful campaigns.
Partnering with a full spectrum of charities, and governmental agencies, projects were carefully selected to help those in greatest need, and to enhance local parks, schools, and open space. Hundreds of high school Interactors and college-level Rotaractors also spent the day on the front lines, joining with their sponsoring clubs, and contributing their many talents and youthful spirit.

Two Group Study Exchange teams were travelling in East and West Africa on that date, and provided valuable assistance to two different orphanages located there. One Rotarian was even working in Iraq that day, providing training in land mine removal to local forces.

On April 28, 2007, the Rotarians At Work Day goal was to go global with districts around the world. This is a tide that raises all boats. Join us this year, April 28, 2009, in showing the world the power of Rotarians At Work. Visit our website at www.rotariansatwork.org.

Rotarians-At-Work Day is the last Saturday in April each year.

Rotarians At Work Day is a day when every club and every Rotarian participate in a hands-on project of their choosing. To date, 25 Districts representing over 70,000 Rotarians have signed up at www.rotariansatwork.org.

...submitted by Andrew Williams, Savanna-la-Mar, Jamaica

Andrew Williams of the Rotary Club of Savanna-la-Mar offers this news:

I belong to a Rotary Online group on the www.linkedin.com website and I posted a discussion asking for help/assistance for matching grants. One of the many Rotarians who belong to the site wrote back with the following advice and website address.

http://www.matchinggrants.org

The above website is a great way to contact other Rotarians around the world who may be interested in helping us and also a way to publicize our work. Check out the website and let me know what you think.

There are millions of professionals around the world that belong to LINKEDIN and like FACEBOOK it is an online tool to connect people professionally similar to the social connections of Facebook. There are many groups/blogs on LINKEDIN and they have just begun to consolidate the Rotary discussions under one official RI Blog. Several hundred Rotarians around the world now contribute to the BLOG. It is how I got the contribution about the Work Day in April.

I'm looking forward to expanding my networking connections through these mediums and if you fellow Rotarians are interested in this new medium or already members of FACEBOOK or LINKEDIN I suggest you subscribe to the Rotary BLOGS. It is a great way to communicate with Rotarians around the world and get ideas from them.

Editor Andrew Williams
Club 6790 District 7020
Rotary Club of Savanna-la-mar

Thank you Andrew!
NEW STRATEGIC PLANNING GUIDE available online

...from Rotary International News

Rotary International announces that new this month is an online tool for clubs to create a strategic plan. The Strategic Planning Guide is available in nine languages and provides worksheets and information to help clubs set goals and develop a plan to implement them.

The process of creating a strategic plan …

- Should be run by a group of club leaders and
- Should involve all members, including past, current, and future club leaders.

The guide …

- Helps clubs to create a vision of where they would like to be in three years and
- Helps clubs to develop long-range and annual goals that support that vision.
- Emphasizes the importance of regular evaluation of the goals and vision
- Emphasizes the important of adjusting the strategic plan as needed.

Although this new tool was created for clubs, it can be adapted for district strategic planning. Clubs are encouraged to align their strategic plans with those of their districts and RI.

Click here for more:


ROTARY INTERACTIVE CROSSWORD

Click on this link for the interactive crossword on Rotary Basics. How well do you know Rotary?


Paul Harris said:

Whatever Rotary may mean to us, to the world it will be known by the results it achieves.

--Message to 1914 RI Convention, Houston, Texas, USA
REFERENCES


Rotary International News. Online.

*Please send Club News and photos (with appropriate IDs) to Kitty at ladykitt@sympatico.ca For inclusion in the District Newsletter*