

Issue 251 - February 2024

Editor's Note

Dear Readers,

Recently, I was invited to a Business Networking event. As always, I was wearing my Rotary pin on my jacket and again, as always, I had a couple of participants asking me about Rotary. It was yet another opportunity to demonstrate pride at being a part of this wonderful organization and to explain how Rotary is the world's oldest and largest social organization. Every member of this organization is a professional leader, but also devotes time, money and resources for Doing Good in the World. Rotary touches every facet of life and each member is on the mission to "Create Hope in the World."



Image courtesy: Debbie Vance

On 23 February this year, our wonderful organization will be completing 119 years. A fantastic journey of service so far...but still miles to go. We are "this close" to eradicating polio, and our efforts in peace building are the most required in today's time.

On this Anniversary of Rotary, let's all recommit ourselves to the service of the community through whichever avenue that engages us the most. Rotary has something for each person's interest and passion for service.

Rotary Regards,



Jeetendra Sharma Editor-in-Chief RGHF's Our Foundation Newsletter

Apply to RGHF Committee

Dear Fellow Members of RGHF,

Thank you for being a valued member of our own Rotary Global History Fellowship!

The Fellowship is constantly looking at gathering interesting and relevant history pieces for the benefit of our subscribers and Rotary members at large.

We invite our fellow members to join us on this endeavor of enriching our repository and provide valuable information to Rotarians.

The following committees are being created for this purpose:

- 1. Content Committee to help gather, review, edit and organize information on the RGHF website
- 2. Technical Committee Website maintenance, structure, data security and privacy, etc.
- 3. Administration Committee $\hat{a} {\ensuremath{\in}}^{\ensuremath{\circ}}$ Member lists, payments, processes, documentation etc.

Request members interested in joining any of the above committees to send a note of interest to any of the below. Kindly mention the committee you would be interested in joining.

Please write to either of the following Board members:

- 1. Nurul Kabir: <u>nurulkabir.rotary@gmail.com</u>
- 2. Irv Kaplan: PDGlkaplan@aol.com
- 3. Steve Hellersperk: <u>steveh@acsit.biz</u>
- 4. Jeetendra Sharma: jeeturotary@gmail.com

We look forward to your response.

Warm regards,

RGHF Board of Directors

Rotary partners with Bahçesehir University to establish Peace Center in Turkey

New center will train regional peacebuilders through a one-year Rotary Peace Fellowship



Rotary is dedicated to building a more peaceful world, and we've taken that mission a step further with the opening of the Otto and Fran Walter Rotary Peace Center in Istanbul, Turkey, at Bahçesehir University (BAU).

Rotary International and Bahçesehir University (BAU) announce a partnership agreement to establish the Otto and Fra Walter Rotary Peace Center, offering a professional development certificate program for peace and development professionals in the Middle East and North Africa (MENA) region. The center is located at the university's Future Campus outside of Istanbul, Turkey.

Realizing a vision that has been years in the making, the new peace center will equip community leaders with advanced knowledge and skills in peacebuilding that focus on pivotal issues pertinent to the MENA region. These include land and identity disputes, climate change, food insecurity, refugee integration, and community development.

With a strong focus on <u>Positive Peace</u> $\hat{a} \in$ as defined by attitudes, institutions and structures that create and sustain peaceful societies, students will engage in a comprehensive curriculum in peacebuilding and conflict resolution. The fellowship will include academic studies, field visits, and seminars and workshops offered by the United Nations Institute for Training and Research (<u>UNITAR</u>) through its local training center $\hat{a} \in$ <u>CIFAL Istanbul</u>. Students will use their experience to implement a nine-month social change project within the region and conclude their fellowship with a capstone seminar to present the results.

Read more here.

Click here to know more.

Apply for a Rotary Peace Fellowship by 15 May



Rotary offers fully funded masterâ€[™]s degrees and professional development certificate programs for young professionals with three to five years of experience in peace and development. They study at premier universities around the world, gaining knowledge, skills, and global networks to be effective peacebuilders. <u>Learn more</u> about this unique opportunity and <u>apply now</u> or in future years.

Global partners for peace



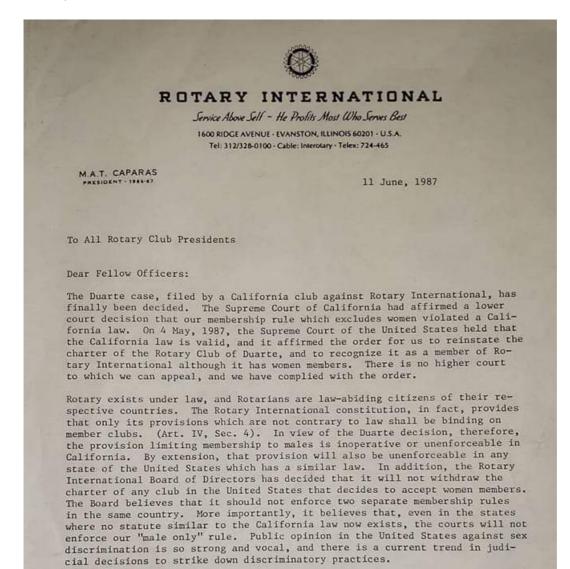
Linda Low, a graduate of the Rotary Peace Center at Duke University and the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hil began meeting online with other Rotary Peace Fellow alumni in 2020. She was looking for connection during the isolation of the pandemic. The peace fellows discovered they shared a unique bond which allowed them to have meaningful conversations on a wide array of topics and contribute to each other's work. The resulting <u>Global Partners in Peace</u> is now in its third year and providing a pathway for other alumni to join Rotary.

Read the story here.

History: Women in Rotary

The original letter sent to all Club Presidents worldwide in 1987 announcing that women can become Rotarians. What would we do without the great ladies that have joined and become Leaders of this great organization?

Courtesy Charles Minton



The Duarte decision did not affect our usual selective procedure except the exclusion of women. It said, in effect, that a woman who would have been admitted as member by a club in California if she were a man may not be denied membership by the club simply because she is a woman. It did NOT say that a woman, simply because she is a woman, must be admitted even if she would have been turned down if she were a man because of her lack of the qualifications that we look for in a man. Clubs should therefore consider all candidates for membership without regard to sex, but they should not relax the other requirements.

Our Foundation Newsletter



This newsletter is published by the Rotary Global History Fellowship. The comments and stories in this newsletter do not reflect the opinions of Rotary International, The Rotary Foundation of Rotary International or any other Rotary related organization.

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