



BE A GIFT

ROTARY INTERNATIONAL DISTRICT 3850
GOVERNOR'S MONTHLY LETTER
APRIL 2016



**CELEBRATING
DISTRICT
PARTNERSHIP!**

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CLUBS IN FOCUS

ON THE COVER

DG Oliver and DG Kim Jeung Im of D-3610, Korea, pulling-off the famous *One Shot Friendship Drink*.



Be a GIFT
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monthly newsletter
of District 3850

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After the conclusion of our District Conference, I was on the belief that the month of April will be a light and easy month for DG Oliver. I was wrong in my own assumption. DG Oliver became busier than ever with his Club visitations. Indeed, being the District Governor is a unending cycle of service to the community.

I received a text message from DG Oliver, “*would my photo with DG Kim crossed-arm drinking be a good cover photo for April GML?*” Without batting an eyelash—without a tinge of hesitation, I replied, “*...please do send me that photo; great for a nice cover of GML April.*” As they say, “*the rest is history.*”



Our District 3850 has a long standing relation with our fellow Rotarians from Korea. In fact, I have never meet many Koreans in my life until I became a Rotarian. They regularly visit our District—forging sisterhood agreements with Clubs in the District, doing projects, or simply the pleasure of visiting.

As always, Club and District Sisterhood agreements with our fellow Rotarians from Korea are commemorated with a courtesy drinking— popularly known as the One Shot Friendship Drink. Such celebratory culture of Korea is very much reflective of their social practice, lifestyle and traditions.

Koreans are always supportive of Filipinos. They have no qualms in extending assistance in all forms, in very nook and cranny of our archipelago.

It can be recalled in the early 50's that Korea, through United Nations, sought military assistance at the onset of the Korean War. Philippines was the first Asian country to respond to that call in sending combat troops-- the Philippine Expeditionary Forces to Korea (PEFTOK), to defend Korea against a colossal communist invasion. Filipinos displayed extreme bravery and combat skills in aiding the Koreans.

In point of fact, what goes around comes around.

RI PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE



Many years ago, in Kolkata, India, I had the chance to meet Mother Teresa. She was an incredible woman with an incredible force of personality. When she walked down the street, the crowd parted in front of her like the Red Sea. Yet when you talked to her, if you mentioned the tremendous things she had done, she almost did not engage in this topic at all. By many reports, if you asked her what her greatest achievement was, she would answer, "I am an expert in cleaning toilets."

The answer was both humorous and absolutely serious. Her business was caring for others. Toilets had to be cleaned, so she cleaned them. There was no question of a job being beneath her. Helping people who needed help was her work, and there was nothing higher, nothing in the world more important than that.

So one day, when an elegantly dressed man came to Kolkata looking for Mother Teresa, the nuns who answered the door informed him that she was at the back of the house, cleaning the toilets. They pointed the way, and indeed he found Mother Teresa scrubbing the toilets. She said hello, assumed he was there to volunteer, and began explaining to him how to hold the toilet brush correctly and how not to waste water. Then she put the brush in his hand and left him standing there, in his expensive suit, alone in the lavatory.

Later, the man came out, found Mother Teresa again, and said, "I have finished; may I speak with you now?" "Yes, certainly," she said. He took an envelope out of his pocket and said, "Mother Teresa, I am the director of the airline, and here are your tickets. I just wanted to bring them to you personally."

That airline director told that story again and again for the rest of his life. He said

those 20 minutes spent cleaning toilets had filled him with the greatest joy he had ever known – because by putting his hands to Mother Teresa's work, he became part of that work. For those 20 minutes, he cared for the sick just as she did: with his own hands, his own sweat.

That is exactly the opportunity that Rotary gives us. We might not do what Mother Teresa did – give up our lives, our homes, our families. But for 20 minutes, 20 hours, 20 days of the year, we can be like her.

We can do the work that others will not with our hands, and our hearts, and our sweat, and our devotion – knowing that what we do is the most important work in the world.

“ We can do the work that others will not with our hands, and our hearts, and our sweat, and our devotion – knowing that what we do is the most important work in the world.”

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Ravi". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style with a long horizontal line extending from the end of the name.

K.R. "Ravi" Ravindran
RI President 2015-16
Rotary Club of Colombo
Sri Lanka

GOVERNOR'S MESSAGE

THE BEAUTY OF INTERNATIONAL PARTNERSHIPS

The months of March and April are *exciting* time for District Conferences. It is a much-anticipated event in our Rotary calendar and is also considered a “graduation rites” for District Governors. As it is a nice long-standing practice, classmates visit and support one another and I was just too happy to host 4 classmates who came to enjoy our Zambo Discon immensely with us.

I was delighted to know that one of my foreign classmates was so inspired by how we conducted our fellowship program that she decided to include dance presentations in their opening ceremony which raised eyebrows among the senior leaders, but was well received by the audience.

As your District leaders saw the importance and the wisdom of reciprocal visits, we decided to return the courtesies and in so doing, ***we have effectively built further goodwill and better friendships with them, having strengthened international partnerships in global grants and in other undertakings.***

The presence of DGND Lindon See Diet and PP Dug Christopher Mah at the Discon of D-3590, Korea last March 25-26, 2016 was much appreciated that a sister club agreement was hatched instantly, while PDG Mark Ortiz made old friends happy in D-3600, Korea, our sister District, last April 1-2, 2016.

I likewise travelled to Korea from April 12-16, 2016 and visited DG Jung Man Hwa of D-3600 and DG Kwang-Sup Kil of D-3690 to convey my warmest greetings before taking a 4-hour bus trip together with Rtn. Mark Hongjae Jeong to D-3610 in Gwangyang for its District Conference last April 15-16, 2016.

The land travel afforded me the opportunity to see the beauty of the countryside and how Korea transformed herself from the ravages of war into one of the 10th world's largest economies in only less than 50 years. What an enviable accomplishment as a nation.

While I was in Korea, DGE Ronnie Gabalda proudly represented



“As your District leaders saw the importance and the wisdom of reciprocal visits, we decided to return the courtesies and in so doing, we have effectively built further goodwill and better friendships with them, having strengthened international partnerships in global grants and in other undertakings.”

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Oliver 'Ver' Ong".

Oliver “Ver” Ong, MPHF
District Governor 2015-16
Rotary Club of Zamboanga City

our District and enjoyed himself at the District Conference of D-3480, Taiwan, our newest sister District, where PRIP Gary Huang belong to.

I was busy like a bee. Locally, I attended the District Conference of D-3790 at Clark, Pampanga on April 1 and rushed back the following day to Manila in time for D-3810 at the Manila Hotel.

Upon arrival from Korea on April 16, I went straight to Sofitel to attend the Discon of D-3830. My travels though, were put on hold when my mother suffered a mild stroke until she started recovery 3 weeks later. Thank God and it allowed me to resume travel and to Baguio last April 29-30 to attend the Discon of 3770. Baguio has retained its charm through the years and the weather at great and comfortable at 18C to 25C.

In all our visits in Korea, Rtn. Mark Honggae Jeong and Rtn. Helen Inhye Kim were with us as D-3850 Ambassadors, assisting us in every way, being our negotiators, translators and our travel buddies. Thank you so much!

This Rotary year saw great interest in Global

Grants among the clubs and I am happy to inform you that we have a total of 15 applications, 13 to benefit our District and 2 supporting our Korean partners. Please see detailed project listings on the next page.

With a current DDF of only US\$32,030.35 and the unused DDF of the previous year of US\$24,426.57, we will reap a total of **US\$860,817.18 in District and Global Grant projects** when all are approved. On top of these, we also supported 2 Korean Global Grant projects worth \$119,640 with US\$7,000 from our DDF.

We see our contributions to the Annual Fund Giving put into good use and reaping exponential results. We see the generosity of our international partners helping us to improve lives. With its synergistic effect, we see international partnerships creating big impact addressing serious community concerns with the match from TRF.

Thank you so, so much for your generous support to The Rotary Foundation and for **being a gift to the world.**

OUTSTANDING QUOTE FROM PAST RI PRESIDENT HUGH M. ARCHER

1989-90 Hugh M. Archer (electrical engineering), Rotary Club of Dearborn, Michigan, USA.

Rotary vision: That Rotarians Enjoy Rotary! in every aspect, from simple fellowship to wide-ranging service.

"...There is so much pleasure in Rotary activities. The breakfast, luncheon, or dinner every week brings you in contact with your fellow members. Their diverse interests and knowledge stimulate your interest in your community...The planning for service projects both close by or across some distant horizon carries us out of our own self-interest into the wonderful world of service to others...[and the] pleasing paradox...that we grow in stature when we give of our time and talent to improve the quality of life for someone else. How strange that when we give dignity to someone else, we grow in dignity ourselves...."

— Enjoy Rotary!, THE ROTARIAN, July 1989



The Rotary Foundation's six areas of focus reflect the service interests and activities of Rotary clubs worldwide. See how your club or district can get involved.

The challenge

- Nearly 27,000 children under five die every day from largely preventable diseases and conditions. *(MDG 2009 report)*
- In 2008, 8.8 million children born alive died before their fifth birthday. *(UNICEF)*
- Every year, 536,000 women and girls die as a result of complications during pregnancy, childbirth, or the six weeks following delivery, a rate of more than one per minute. For every woman who dies, an additional 20 to 30 will have short-term and long-term disabilities. *(WHO)*
- Pregnancy and childbirth are the leading cause of death and disability for women in developing countries. *(WHO)*

What you can do

- Support a scholar studying public health with an emphasis on maternal and child health
- Support a vocational training team of medical professionals (specializing in obstetrics) to train community health workers in prenatal care
- Provide updated medical equipment, including incubators, and supplies to a maternity health clinic



Learn more

Global Health Council
www.globalhealth.org

Maternal and Child Health Integrated Program
www.mchip.net

UNICEF
www.unicef.org

United Nations Population Fund
www.unfpa.org

World Health Organization
www.who.int

Goals for Maternal and Child Health

- Reducing the mortality rate for children under the age of five
- Reducing the maternal mortality rate
- Improving access to essential medical services and trained health care providers for mothers and their children
- Supporting studies related to maternal and child health



MATERNAL AND CHILD HEALTH

CHILD HEALTH CARE



TAKE ACTION

Develop or support programs that **provide immunizations and antibiotics**. Measles, malaria, pneumonia, AIDS, and diarrheal diseases are the leading causes of death in children under five.

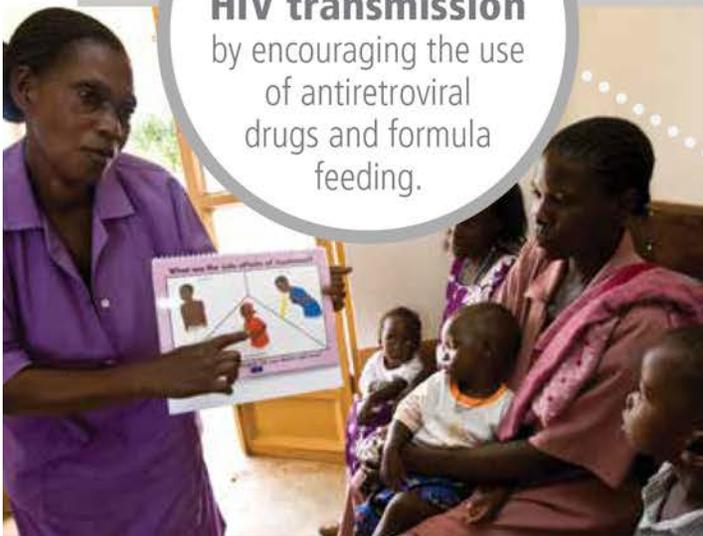
6.3 million children

under the age of five die each year from diseases, malnutrition, poor health care, and inadequate sanitation.

TAKE ACTION

Prevent mother-to-infant HIV transmission

by encouraging the use of antiretroviral drugs and formula feeding.



TAKE ACTION

Promote good nutrition, including encouraging breastfeeding for most infants.

TAKE ACTION

Include water, sanitation, and hygiene efforts

to maximize child nutrition. Diarrheal diseases caused by contaminated water exacerbate malnutrition in children.

ANTENATAL CARE AND CHILDBIRTH

TAKE ACTION

Provide birthing kits to health professionals.



REPRODUCTIVE HEALTH

222 million women

who would prefer to delay or avoid childbearing lack access to safe and effective contraception.

TAKE ACTION

Provide information about — and access to — contraceptives. Just filling the unmet need for contraception could reduce the number of maternal deaths by nearly one-third.

TIP FOR SUCCESS

Take time to understand prospective beneficiaries' beliefs surrounding contraception and foster an environment of open, nonjudgmental communication to build good working relationships in the community.

Women in sub-Saharan Africa face a

1 in 39 lifetime risk

of dying of pregnancy- or childbirth-related complications.

80% of maternal deaths

could be prevented with access to reproductive health services and trained health care workers.

TAKE ACTION

Support accredited training programs for health professionals.

TIPS FOR SUCCESS

- 1 Ensure sustainability by empowering the local community to take ownership of health training programs.
- 2 Consult Rotary members who are trained in maternal and newborn health care, such as midwives, obstetricians, and gynecologists.
- 3 Partner with local organizations that have expertise in maternal and child health.





*Vaya!
Zamboanga!*

discon 2016

MARCH 3 - 5, 2016
GARDEN ORCHID
CONVENTION CENTER
ZAMBOANGA CITY

ROTARY INTERNATIONAL DISTRICT 3850













Highlights

Past District Governor Mark Ortiz of RC Roxas represented District 3850, in behalf of DG Oliver Ong, at the District Conference of District 3600 in South Korea.

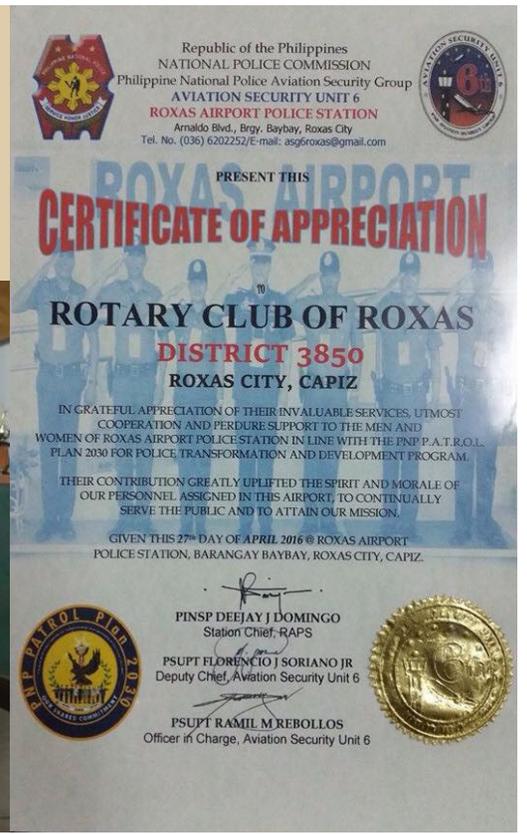


RC ILOILO CITY 41st ANNIVERSARY DISTRICT 3850



RC ROXAS

The Roxas Airport Police Station of Aviation Security Unit 6 received solar lighting system. The donation was made possible thru RC Roxas. Club President Mark Catahay and PDG Mark Ortiz handed over to PInsp Deejay Domingo the solar lighting system in a simple turnover ceremony.





RC METRO KALIBO

In partnership with CityMall of Kalibo, Aklan, RC Metro Kalibo sponsored the 4th Art Exhibition of Original Artworks of Person with Disability dubbed as "The Gift." Club President Ricky Molo spearheaded the event along with other club members sponsors.



RC ZAMBOANGA CITY

RC Zamboanga City and its sister club RCI Gwangyang Heeyang of District 3610, South Korea, distributed goods and other forms of sustenance to the children of an orphanage; held groundbreaking for the construction of Lying-in Maternal Health Center; visited the Special Elementary Department (SPED) of Western Mindanao State University in line with “Rotary for Knowledge Power;” donated eyeglasses to public high school students for the club’s “Bright Eyes, Bright Minds” project; and turned over the Rotary Library corner at the Zamboanga City Public Library. *(Photos culled from the public social archive of Victor Joaquin Bucoy)*



**I'M
A
PROUD
MEMBER**



www.rotary.org