



Annual Reunion of Rotary International Past Officers San Diego, 16-18 January 2016

San Diego Rotary International Assembly - 18-24 January 2016

The Reunion Wheel

Sunday Afternoon, January 17, 2016

[Editor's Note: Plenary Sessions VII – IX have been supplemented with materials from the Presenters and/or the Rotary website]

Plenary Session VII: RI General Secretary



PDG Tom Bos introduced John Hewko, the general secretary of Rotary International and The Rotary Foundation.

From 2004 to 2009, John was vice president for operations and compact development for the Millennium Challenge Corporation (MCC), a U.S. government agency established in 2004 to deliver foreign assistance to the world's poorest countries. At MCC, he was the principal United States negotiator for foreign assistance agreements to 26 countries in Africa, Asia, South America, the Middle East, and the former Soviet Union. During his tenure, he completed the negotiation of assistance agreements totaling \$6.3 billion to 18 countries for infrastructure, agriculture, water and sanitation, health, and education projects.



PDG Tom Bos

Prior to joining MCC, John was an international partner with the law firm Baker & McKenzie, specializing in international corporate transactions in emerging markets. He helped establish the firm's Moscow office and was the managing partner of its offices in Kyiv and Prague. While working in Ukraine in the early 1990s, he assisted the working group that prepared the initial draft of the new Ukrainian post-Soviet constitution and was a charter member of the first Rotary club in Kyiv.

John has been a public policy scholar at the Woodrow Wilson International Center for Scholars, an adjunct professor of law at Georgetown University and a visiting scholar at the Carnegie Endowment for International Peace. He has published papers and articles in leading U.S. and international publications, and he has spoken extensively on political and business issues dealing with the former Soviet Union, Central Europe, Africa, and Latin America. He is also a member of the Council of Foreign Relations.

John holds a law degree from Harvard University, a master's in modern history from Oxford University (where he studied as a Marshall Scholar), and a bachelor's in government and Soviet studies from Hamilton College in New York. He is a member of the Rotary Club of Kyiv in Ukraine and he speaks five languages.

As general secretary, Hewko leads a diverse staff of 800 at Rotary International's World Headquarters in Evanston, Illinois, USA, and seven international offices. Hewko is a Paul Harris Fellow. He and his wife, Margarita, live in Evanston.

John emphasized there are several projects critical to Rotary's future, each balancing "commerce" with "cause:"

1. **Need to finish our efforts to rid the world of polio.** The goal of the 2013-2018 Polio Eradication and Endgame Strategic Plan is to complete the eradication and containment of all wild, vaccine-related and Sabin polioviruses, such that no child ever again suffers paralytic poliomyelitis.
 - a. Continue our fundraising efforts. The Gates Foundation will match 2 for 1 every new dollar Rotary commits to polio eradication up to \$35 million per year through 2018. To date, Rotary clubs worldwide have contributed \$1.5 billion to the polio eradication effort.
 - b. Advocate with governments that have not continued vaccination efforts and are at risk for importing new cases of polio. Polio eradication is within reach, but vaccination efforts must continue to wipe out the disease once and for all. Success also hinges on who's in charge. The efforts of organizations such as [UNICEF](#), [Rotary International](#), the [World Health Organization](#), the [U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention](#) and the [Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation](#) — the core partners in the global eradication movement — can only go so far in a country battling polio without the commitment and leadership of that country's own government. When India took ownership over its own anti-polio program, this was the game changer that enabled success in eliminating the disease in 2014. Recent progress in Nigeria — which as of July 2015 had achieved its first polio-free year — also would not have happened without the dedication and drive displayed from the head of state all the way down to the lowest administrative level. (
<https://www.devex.com/news/polio-on-the-brink-of-eradication-87156>)
2. **Membership:** some parts of the Rotary world are growing their membership; however, in North America, especially in the United States, membership is down by 30% of the total world membership figures. Average age of Rotarians is progressively getting older.
 - a. What must we do to develop a membership model that appeals to the younger generations AND to the older generations as well?
 - b. How do we promote the concept of continuity (retention)? We should focus on the idea of "Perfect engagement" rather than "Perfect Attendance."
 - c. We need to tap our potential membership sources. Only 5% of Rotaractors worldwide, for example, become Rotarians. Why? We seem to spend a lot of time talking to ourselves. We need to add positive participatory activities to attract non-Rotarians. For example conducting conferences/forums/etc... on a university campus
3. Rotary's Website is evolving. We have been developing the Brand Center and strengthening, so now 15% is "Visual Identity" and 85% is devoted to "Messaging." The latter involves
 - a. Joining with other Rotarians and with our Rotary leaders.
 - b. Exchanging ideas with them.
 - c. Taking action.

Plenary Session VIII: Seoul Promotion



POR Chairman and member of the Seoul Convention Committee, PDG Philippe Lamoise introduced **RI Director SangKoo Yun** who showed attendees a short video promoting the upcoming RI Convention in Seoul, South Korea. He encouraged everyone who had not as yet registered to consider attending. To date there have been over 35,000 Rotarians registered for Seoul. The Convention dates are from 28 May 2016 to 01 June 2016.

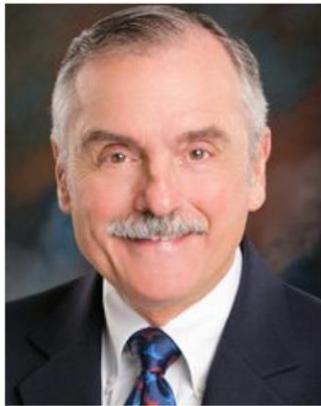
Go to: <http://www.riconvention.org/en/seoul>



PDG Philippe Lamoise



Plenary Session IX: Disaster Relief in Nepal



PDG Sandy Goodsite introduced Don Mebus, past Board Member of Rotary International.

Don was invited into the Rotary Club of Arlington, Texas in December of 1974 by his father, past club president, Jerry Mebus. Don's grandfather, Bob Cooke, was also a past president of the club. Following two stints on the club's board, Don became club president in 1989 and the club sent him to RI Convention in Seoul Korea. It was an eye-opening experience for him giving him a better understanding of the international impact of Rotary.



PDG Sandy Goodsite

Following his year as club president, Don was invited to be District Secretary and that experience allowed him to learn more about the clubs and Rotarians of District 5790. He became District Governor in 1994-95.

A few of his Rotary jobs included serving on the Lone Star PETS board where he remains as an advisor, COL Delegate in 1998 and 2013, several International Committees, RRFC and an International Training Leader. He has been an Official Representative of the RI President at 15 district conferences.

After completion of two years on the RI Board of Directors (2006-08) he continues service to Rotary on the Operations Review Committee, Endowment/Major Gift Advisor, and COL Review Committee Chair.

Don and Carolyn have been married 47 years; have one married daughter Pat and two grandchildren, Sam and Hannah. Don and Carolyn work together in their insurance business and their hobby is a vineyard just outside of Memphis, Texas.

On occasion, Don (a wannabe banjo player) has been known to play the guitar at Rotary functions.

In his own words, Don's presentation follows [with minimal editing]:

"On April 25, 2015, a devastating earthquake struck fourteen districts in the center of the country of Nepal causing a horrific loss of life and injuries as well as complete destruction of over 600,000 houses and over 700,000 schools. It also destroyed 240 health clinics and damaged many more.

"The following video has some disturbing scenes, but we felt like it was necessary to include this information to give you a feeling for the situation.

"This video is available to be seen on the Disaster Network Assistance- RAG at www.DNA-RAG.com

"A group of Rotarians here in the US decided to create a Donor Advised Fund for the purpose receiving funds and overseeing them for aide to the affected area. The Rotarians were PRID Barry Rassin, PRID Bob Stuart, RID Michael Colasurdo, Rtn. Phil Lustig, Rtn. Rob Rose, RI Staff Nancy Hoffman, as well as Leigh Readdy from the Disaster N A and I was invited to be a part of the group.

"In addition, current District 3292 Governor Keshav Kunwar was invited to contribute as well as PRID Yash Pal Das- President Ravi's Special Presidential Representative to the Nepal crises.

"The committee of these individuals decided to place funding emphasis on rebuilding homes and helping to furnish schools. Since this is a DAF, it can fund housing; however, it is not eligible for global grants in housing construction. It can be a part of funding for a global grant for furnishing rebuilt school buildings with such things as books, computers, desks, blackboards, and toilets. There is a huge amount of needs and the government has received pledges and some rather large amounts of money; however, they have just now begun to plan how reconstruction will move forward. Generally speaking, governments move rather slowly on disbursement of funding.

"The committee under PRID Bob Stuart as elected chair believed that an onsite visit would be in order to fully understand the ramifications that the Nepalese Rotarians are facing. As a result, Chairman Bob, Rtn. Rob Rose and I visited Nepal on November 16-24, 2015- at no cost to Rotary, the district or the Donor Advised Fund. The trip was successful as we learned much more by visiting with the government officials, the Chamber of Commerce, the affected local people and the Rotarians.

"District Governor Keshav has made it a district wide goal to rebuild 1,000 homes for the very poorest people in the 14 affected districts and support the outfitting of the schools in those same districts. It is important to know that he is an engineer and understands the construction requirements for the homes. The amount of funding for these projects will be about \$ 8,000,000 USD. The district has received almost \$ 1,400,000. USD in contributions and \$ 200,000 USD has already been spent in emergency relief projects. This fund is will be audited by Price Waterhouse to insure proper use of the funds. It was set up in agreement with DG Keshav by PRID Yash Pal Das.

"We found the people of Nepal to be hospitable, hardworking and proud. We were told that even the very poorest of their population owned their own homes and took care of them with great pride. The number that we were given was that 92% of the population owned their own homes. The homes

are rather small and basic by Developed world standards, but they have been in their families for generations and have deeds and titles to the property. And as we were making our site visits, you could not help but see the hard manual labor of agriculture work many people were doing. Since part of Nepal north of Kathmandu is very hilly to mountainous, the dry land rice and grain fields are terraced on the sides of the mountains. The fields were hand carved out of the side of a mountain- so many of them were very long and very narrow with steep drops on the side. So, even if they could afford motorized equipment with the expense of fuel, there simply is no way to use it. We saw the people harvesting the grains by hand, putting it on their backs (mostly the women) and carrying it up or down the slopes and on into their villages. Then, they manually separated the grains from the chaff. It was incredible to see how hard they were working and how much product they had produced. As a result, Nepal is actually close to self-sufficiency on foods.

"Most of us have been to developing countries where many people ask for a hand out. Not so here. It was interesting that Bob, Rob and [I] were obviously westerners; and no one that we met out in the project sites or even in the urban environment asked us for anything. In fact, the [residents of] villages we visited all greeted us with flower leis, often a colorful scarf, hot tea, bottled water and so on.

"When we arrived, we were met by a welcoming committee AG Yadav, District Secretary MK and Rotarian Chittamani. We met with DG Keshav the next day and began our site visits and meetings.

"Many of the roads had been cleared, so we were able to drive to the various meetings and sites. We did see a large amount of unrepainted destruction, collapsed building and monuments. But the thing that tugged at our hearts the most was the number of people without any shelter except some frayed tents. After all, the tent has been erected about 6 months previously. We were also shown a number of temporary corrugated metal temporary shelters that the Rotary clubs and some other NGO had erected. While they keep the rain, blowing dust and wind off, they are no match for the winters. Since so many permanent shelters are needed, they just cannot be built quickly enough; so two weeks ago, an urgent call went out for blankets- 6000 of them. Fortunately, a number of Rotarians in Australia contributed the funds needed for the blankets.

"While we were there, we were given the high opportunity to give keys and one blanket per family on behalf of the clubs to people who were just now getting their temporary shelters. We were all moved by the generosity of the Rotarians and allowing us to participate in such a meaningful program for the recipients.

"We met with government officials who outlined their rebuilding program which is to 'Build Back Better.' The Ministry of Urban Development gave us an overview of the new building codes that will be required for new construction and the Ministry of Education gave us an overview of the school situation- a large number of schools damaged or destroyed and the admission that they are going to need outside funding to replace them; which brings us to our meeting with the Federation of Nepal Chambers of Commerce and Industry (FNCCI). The FNCCI is nationwide organization and very well-funded by local business people. Many of the FNCCI members are also Rotarians. They have pledged to rebuild 140 schools- 10 in each of the 14 affected districts.

"District 3292 has formed a Steering committee known as the Earthquake Relief Reconstruction and Rehabilitation Program (ERRRP) composed of Past District Governors and other district leadership. The agreed 5 year chair of the committee is PDG Tirtha Man Sakya who is the former Chief Secretary for the Government of Nepal. He is politically well connected, very knowledgeable of Nepal and

extremely well organized. The committee will oversee the five year plan of reconstruction of the 1000 houses and support to the 140 schools that will be built by the FNCCI.

"We visited the village of Sindhupalchok to see the first of the 1000 homes being built with the Thai-Nepali Association and we also had the opportunity to visit with the new village being built, Burunchili where we were privileged to be a part of laying the first stones of the foundation. This will be a planned village with an elevated water supply, fifty-five houses, a school and a community house. It will also have a small 'get-away' house for the women of the village.

"Chair Bob's conclusion in his report said, 'Down to the basics of our trip on behalf of the Nepali Earthquake Relief Donor Advised Fund, I believe that we met and exceeded our objectives: we have met the leadership with communities affected; we have met the Rotarians and Partners such as the FNCCI and South Asia Regional Cooperative; we have met with key officials of the Government of Nepal. The plans and projects for 1000 new homes and 140 new schools are viable and well-conceived under outstanding leaders who have already given us credible evidence of success through Sindhupalchok and Burundhili. All that needs to happen from our perspective is the communication of these opportunities to the rest of the Rotary world and the contribution of funds!'

"You, your club or district can help with a global grant to supply new school structures in any amount. Each school needs at least \$ 20,000.00 for equipment or you, your club or district can build a house for \$ 4,000.00.

"Information on how to contribute to the NERI-DAF is on one side of the handout.

"In conclusion, I can only add that here is our chance to be a Gift to the World, to be a gift of helping to return these hardworking, gentle and giving people to the security and dignity of their homes and look to the future with their children being educated in an appropriate learning environment.

Please consider a gift." [**\[Editor's note: See next page for handout information\]**](#)

Nepal Earthquake Relief Donor Advised Fund

A group of Rotary Senior Leaders including Past RI Directors Bob Stuart, Michael Colasurdo and Don Mebus have opened a Rotary Donor Advised Fund account to support LONG TERM RECOVERY AND RECONSTRUCTION in Nepal. Robert Rose, a Rotarian from Seattle, WA, with extensive experience working with Rotarians in Nepal is also acting as an advisor to this account.

We encourage Rotarians, Clubs and Districts to donate to this account as it will get needed funds where they will do the most good. We have endorsed District 3292's project to build 1000 new homes (at approximately \$4,500US each) and to equip 140 schools being built by the FNCCI (Nepal Chamber) (at approximately \$20,000US construction cost and \$20,000US equipment cost). In November 2015, 3 members of the DAF visited Nepal and investigated the viability of the projects and its leadership. We participated in handing over a new community hall and saw 47 new homes close to completion, while breaking ground for over 57 more new homes. Work is underway for our DAF's first global grant.

Our experience with Donor Advised Fund (DAF) accounts set up after Hurricane Katrina in New Orleans (USA) and the 2010 Earthquake in Haiti taught us valuable lessons, including:

- Needs assessment by LOCAL Rotarians is imperative. No matter how much experience one may have had in a foreign land, we do not know what local folks need as well as local Rotarians do.
- Buying locally sourced materials stimulates the local economy rather than disturbing it, making local sourcing preferable even when it may be DRAMATICALLY more expensive.
- Project oversight by a task force of local Rotarian Leaders gives important credibility and accountability by:
 - Assuring donors that local Rotarians who have a stake in the game will identify needs and prioritize projects.
 - Making sure the funds are utilized correctly because it is their community and their reputations on the line.
 - Lending gravitas to the projects, since local Rotary leaders are leaders in their community and in their country.
 - Accessing local networks--they know who to call on to get the job done.
- The local task force may recommend to the DAF account advisors what projects are needed in what order. Prioritizing projects gives focus to the process.
- A DAF account can support construction projects; Global Grants may then be used to furnish the building or place needed equipment into the building.

By Check

Made Payable to: The Rotary Foundation DAF

In the Memo line: Nepal District 3292 Earthquake Relief Fund #539

Contributions of US \$1,000 or more may be mailed to:

Rotary DAF
 c/o NRS
 12 Gill Street, Suite 2600
 Woburn, MA 01801

Contributions of less than US \$1,000 may be mailed to:

Past RI Director Michael Colasurdo
 18 Sawgrass St.
 Jackson, NJ 08527

By Credit Card

Contribute online at <https://www.your-fundaccount.com/rotary/HowToContribute.asp>.

You will be asked to enter the account name: Nepal District 3292 Earthquake Relief Fund and the account number: 539.

Wire Instructions

In addition to authorizing the wire, you must **fax a copy of the wire authorization to (781) 658-2497** to complete the transfer.

Please wire funds to: Boston Private Bank & Trust Company

ABA Number: 011002343
For credit to: The Rotary

Foundation

Account number: 943423732
For Further Credit: TRF DAF
Account Name: Nepal Earthquake Relief Fund #539

Stock Instructions

In addition to authorizing the trade, you must **fax a copy of the trade instructions to (781) 658-2497** to complete the transfer.

DTC Shares to: SEI Private Trust Company

DTC Participant ID: 2039

Agent Bank ID: 94952

Credit to: Rotary Clearing/
 Liquidation Account

Account Number: 755Z0007

Agent Internal STC

Account Number: 11110-C

Please note:

- All accepted contributions are irrevocable assets of The Rotary Foundation.
- Contributions must be made in U.S. dollars and cannot be by money order or cashier's check.
- Donors will be issued a U.S. charitable tax receipt.
- The Rotary Foundation does not award recognition for contributions to this account; contributions do not earn Foundation Recognition points (toward Paul Harris Fellows) or count toward Paul Harris Society, Major Donor or Arch Klumph society status or district giving goals.
- Non-U.S. contributions may be subject to additional information to meet U.S. guidelines for international fund transfers.
- Contributions sent to the Rotary Foundation lock-box will benefit the Annual Fund-Share.
- For more information about the Donor Advised Fund, please visit www.rotary.org/daf or contact the Planned Giving Team at planned.giving@rotary.org or (847)866-3100.

NEPAL Devastated by Earthquake on 25th April – 12th May 2015

4 minutes before the clock struck 12 noon on 25th April 2015, an earthquake of 7.9 at Richter Scale lasting over 56 second with the epicenter at Barpak, Gorkha, devastated the central 14 districts of Nepal. Out of 75 administrative districts of Nepal, 39 districts have been affected by the earthquake. The 2nd quake of magnitude 7.4 on 12th April was equally damaging both in terms of destruction of many more buildings, houses and emotionally for the Nepalese people who were traumatized and

fearful of the unexpected turn of the nature. Over 280 aftershocks ranging from 4 to 6.9 at Richter Scale followed throughout the month resulting in additional damages of lives and properties. The damage was extensive both in terms of human loss and loss of numerous heritage buildings, monuments and properties both in the city and rural villages. Many villages in the hilly region were completely flattened and wiped out. Impending danger of the aftermath landslide is another great fear among all, thus necessitating evacuation of the already displaced survivors to safer location in tents or under tarpaulins. These could not withstand even the pre-monsoon thunder shower, what will be the plight of the people when the monsoon begins in full swing?

Hence, the urgency of rehabilitation in stable shelter or housing.



Records till 21st May, 2015:

Total death toll: 8,631

Injured: 16,808

Government buildings fully destroyed: 926

Government buildings partially destroyed: 3093

Public house fully destroyed: 494,717

Public house partially destroyed: 267,373

People displaced/affected: 4.15 million

Schools: 16,475 classrooms and 1,436 toilets at 6,902 public schools are destroyed across the country.

HELP NEPAL !!

PLEASE BE FRIEND WITH THE NEPALESE
PEOPLE
AT THE HOUR OF NEED.
WE THANK YOU
WHOLE HEARTEDLY!

This earthquake has disrupted the life of the people, especially in the rural villages, whose lifestyle is still based on the agriculture and cattle farming and they are now on the verge of economic decline following the loss of gigantic numbers of cattle that are yet to be recorded. Along with this, the fall of Kasthamandap, which is said to be the earliest monument of its time, and most of the heritages that are damaged partially or completely has left the scar of the earthquake in the mind of all the Nepalese. Apparently, the loss of heritage will negatively affect the tourism industry of Nepal, thereby weakening the economy of the country itself.



LOOKING AHEAD: Plans and Programs of Rotary International District 3292

Right from day one of the tragic event, RI District 3292 has been totally involved in providing immediate relief services.

IMMEDIATE SHORT TERM RELIEF: through Emergency Rescue and Relief Programs. Involvement of Rotarians, Rotaracts, RCC, Volunteers, working with INGOS, NGOS, Armed Police Force, Nepal Army, Nepal Police etc

1st phase: Distribution of relief supplies such as shelter box, tents, tarpaulins, blankets, mattress, food, medicines, safe drinking water, soap etc and Medical care through health camps.

2nd phase: With the monsoon setting in, the urgency is to provide temporary shelter with roofs using corrugated galvanized sheets plus temporary toilets for 1000 families, who are in dire need of a safe shelter.

Cost per temporary shelter = US\$ 350

LONG TERM ACTION PLAN: To construct 1000 plus permanent low cost shelters soon after the monsoon that ends by September along with social infrastructure like schools and hospitals.

Estimated cost per house = US\$ 3000 to

US\$ 5000 depending on location

Total cost of 1000 houses =US\$ 3 to 5 million

Cost for one primary school = US\$ 15,000 – 20,000

Cost per school room = US\$ 3,000

Cost per toilet = US\$ 3,500 – 4,500

8 to 9 Global Grant projects would be required for the above low cost housing. Some Districts from the United States, Thailand and India have shown their interest to participate in the low cost shelter project. However, as Global Grant does not fund for the construction of low cost shelters, school buildings etc, request has been made to RI and Foundation to consider this as a special case, like in other instances eg during the Gujarat Earthquake in India and the Tsunami. In either case, the District grants is a fund that would be required to be mobilized.

RID 3292 recognizes and thanks the effort of the following Rotary Dignitaries: RI President Gary C.K. Huang for circulating the call for help, for moral and advisory support from RIPE KR Ravindran, PRIP Raja Saboo and PRID Shekhar Mehta. Special Thanks to PRIP Kalyan Banerjee, who visited the earthquake affected areas and he also experienced the 2nd quake. Visit of Kamal Sangvi (Regional Public Image Co-ordinator) to remote hills for supply of relief items. 2nd visit of PRIP and Foundation Trustee Kalyan Banerjee along with PRID and Trustee Sushil Gupta , PRID Yash Pal Das to discuss about temporary and permanent low cost shelters.

Rotary fraternity from all over the world have been empathetic towards the situation faced by Nepalese people and they also sent various support .We thank all for their kind concern and gesture.

DONATIONS: to be transferred into the special account for relief. The bank details are as follows:

Name of the Bank: **NMB Bank Limited, Nepal**
Account Holder:
RI District 3292 Disaster Relief Fund
Swift Code: **NMBBNPKA**
Account Number: **00100005455A**

The address of fund receiver RID 3292 is:
Rotary International District 3292,
Rotary Hall, Thapathali, Kathmandu, Nepal
And the address of the bank is:
- NMB Bank Limited Babarmahal, Kathmandu, Nepal

APPEAL !!

Rotary International District 3292 appeals everyone to come together in this dire situation to rebuild Nepal.

For Contact:

Rtn. Keshav Kunwar, District Governor (2015-2016)

Cell Phone: +977-9851020711

Email: k.kunwar@silt.com.np

dgkeshav1516@rotary3292.org

PDG Tirtha Man Sakya, Chair, Steering Committee, ERRP

Cell Phone: +977-9851026534

Email: tirtha_sakya@yahoo.com