



**Rotary District 5300**  
***The Highlighter***  
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**From the Governor**  
**Roy York**

Centennial Governor 2004-05  
District 5300  
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I find it hard to believe that half of our Centennial Year is gone and we are on the home stretch toward Celebrating Rotary and celebrating the extraordinary accomplishments of Rotarians across this globe.

There is much to be done before the rest of the Centennial Year is finished. We have goals and obligations to meet. We have upcoming Club and District Events and the wrap up of many Centennial Projects.

Don't forget to start planning now for the District Conference to be held in Laughlin, at the Flamingo Hilton, May 20, 21 and 22, 2005. (I can't resist a plug here. It will only be \$39 per night and we will be celebrating the end of 100 years of Service Above Self. Let's make it a special event and have members from every club in the district and make it 100% for the first time in District history. Remember, we only have room for 1000 people and I'm expecting a big crowd.) District Chair Jerry Mead will have all of the information on the website right after the first of the year on how to register. Your club presidents will be returning from President's Retreat with all the information you are going to need.

Many of us have just finished celebrating the Holidays and by the time you read this, will have already celebrated the coming of the New Year. It is a special time for most families and friends to reflect on years past and the year to come.

As I write this, it is with great sadness that I note the Tsunami that hit Asia the day after Christmas will affect all of us immediately and in the years to come.

Undoubtedly, (although I have no way of proving this), I would imagine many fellow Rotarians were caught up in this event and lost family members, had family members injured or lost their own lives.

This would be a good time to stop and reflect for a few moments if you are one of the fortunate Rotarians who didn't lose any friends or family to this global tragedy. While this may have been on the other side of the globe from District 5300, it is a tragedy to all of us in this world when so many innocent lives are lost.

In any event, I know that Rotary will do whatever possible to help those in need, and indeed, this district is already reaching out to find those areas in greatest need and you have probably already heard some of our plans, and how we can help. We can't alleviate the heartache, but we can help

ease their pain and suffering. In case you haven't heard, go to the District Website and it will be on the front page.

Consider this a wake up call and remember to tell your loved ones you love them. Life is precious and we don't get a timetable telling us when it will end. Otherwise, we only get to regret tomorrow that we didn't say what needed to be said today.

### ***District Governor Roy***

### **From the Editor**

**Rose Ann Rabiola Miele**

**Rotary Club of Boulder City**



For the sixth year in a row, the Kideract Club at Martha P. King School in Boulder City delved into making Christmas a bit merrier for the kids in Boulder City that would otherwise have to do without. Each year since the Club's inception, the members have gathered shoeboxes, wrapping and gifts for their annual shoebox day. It was because of Chris and Frank Carroll introducing me to Dave Beltran that this Kideract Club began. What a gift!

Each year these kids and their sponsors keep on giving a wonderful gift to the children of Boulder City. More than 700 gifts have been given by these kids, with a little help from parents and donations from Rotarians. While each year is special, I felt 2004 was just a bit extra special since we saw Ashleigh (left) and twin sister Amber Smith (second from the right) become the first two Kideract members to remain in the ranks from third grade through eighth grade. Ashleigh and Amber are now members of the Jr. Interact Club at Garrett Junior High School. The original sponsors of the Club, Joy O'Neill (second from the left) and Julia Bush (on the right) have guided these youngsters through six shoebox days and much, much more.



I am so proud of these kids and their sponsors that I talk about them as much as possible and usually feature them in at least a column or two that I write for the City of Boulder City. They deserve our admiration and thanks. They ask for nothing and give so much. They give parties for our Senior citizens and read to our pre-schoolers at local day care centers. They plant trees and plants to beautify our town and clean our air. They visit the patients at Boulder City Hospital and these are our third, fourth and fifth graders! Can you imagine what they will accomplish as teenagers?

I love all of them and the Rotarians who were instrumental in bringing Kideract to Boulder City.

On another note, I would like to encourage all of you to spend some time on the District 5300 website which is kept up-to-the-minute by the ***Best Webmaster Anywhere, Chris Datwyler***. Information on the disaster in Asia was no sooner written by Governor Roy than it was posted by Chris on the District website. Please take a few minutes each week to check the district website for news we can all use.

I'd also like to thank all the clubs that send me their newsletter and information about their clubs. Not to single any one newsletter out, but every time I see The Joshua Tree from the Victorville Club, I can't help but chuckle when I see the section: "What's In Margaret's Can?" For those of you who haven't seen this, the club is referring to money collected for doses of polio vaccine. The Margaret referred to is PDG Margaret Cooker. As of the December 28, 2004 newsletter, the club collected \$3,030.34, which equals 30,303 doses. Thanks to Dave Tisthammer, editor of The Joshua Tree, for keeping us up to date!

I also have to thank Freda Brazier, editor of the newsletter for the Las Vegas Central Rotary and Christine Smith, president of this club for keeping us up to date on their great activities. This club participates in ***Santa Clothes*** and provides much needed items for deserving youngsters. Las Vegas Central had so many activities during December that I felt guilty not participating in all of them!

Jacque Foreman, editor of Sparks Off the Rotary Wheel, from the Rotary Club of Altadena, certainly keeps the sparks flying with all the up-to-date messages she sends and the wonderful website she maintains. I am sure Jacque will send you the same great info. Just send her your e-mail.

For all the rest of you wonderful editors who send me info, please don't feel left out. There are more district newsletters to come.

Reading all this Rotary news is inspiring. It makes me confident that we can solve any problem we tackle!

I've gone on long enough for this issue. Happy New Year and here is wishing all that is good to all of you in 2005!

***Rose Ann***

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## A Christmas Gift to Help Impoverished Arab Youth in Lebanon

From C. Ray Carlson



In recent days, one of our number, who wishes to remain anonymous, made a major contribution to The Rotary Foundation that will not only benefit three recipients with Paul Harris Fellowships but, through designation to a Matching Grant project in Lebanon, will benefit hundreds of Arab high school youth.

Although this anonymous Rotarian says, “It’s no big deal,” this Rotarian has done something awesome that deserves our applause and commendation. The marvel of Rotary’s matching grant program is that this Rotarian’s gift turns into three times plus the original donation because of the addition of matching funds from District 5300’s share account and from The Rotary Foundation. This multiplier effect is what has enabled our International Service committee to use its share of funds from Altadena Rotary Charities to do so much abroad in Armenia, Nazareth, Jerusalem, Uganda, Zimbabwe, South Africa, and now in Lebanon.

The Junior Achievement program in Lebanon was started by Rotary Clubs there. The oldest is the Beirut club, organized in 1932, and now there are 15 other clubs. Baabda Rotary, with only 24 members, is a daughter club in Beirut and has raised funds in Lebanon toward the Matching Grant along with Altadena Rotary and Glendora Rotary, whose president-elect Ray Malki is managing our whole Middle East program. Malki, born in Syria and therefore fluent in Arabic, visited the Baabda club and personally met with the Rotarians who are the overseers for this project. But well before that, Malki and I met several times with Heather Haxo Phillips, Oakland who spent two years in Lebanon to get J.A. launched there.

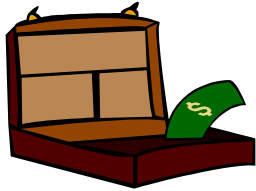
We thank this anonymous Rotarian for the generosity and desire to help impoverished Arab youth. ‘Malignant poverty’ was cited in the *L.A. Times* this week by a prominent civil rights attorney as the main cause of violence in greater Los Angeles, and it certainly applies around the world and in the volatile Middle East. ‘Entrepreneurship education’ is the key to future ‘job creation’ according to all economic development experts. The announcement of this contribution to alleviate poverty in Lebanon will bring joy to the hearts of our fellow Rotarians in Beirut but especially to the youth who will benefit, as we have already seen in Nazareth.



## TRF - HUMANITARIAN GRANTS PROGRAMS

**IMPORTANT IMPORTANT IMPORTANT IMPORTANT**

Phased out grant program reports are due at TRF (The Rotary Foundation) immediately. The original deadline was extended from June 30. Phased out programs include: Children's Opportunity Grants, Community Assistance Program (CAP), Discovery and Helping Grants, Transportation Grants, and New Opportunity Grants.



***Beginning January 2005, failure to submit acceptable reports will result in the following:***

1. New DSG requests will not be approved until all district-sponsored New Opportunity Grants and CAP Grants within the district are closed. That means that District 5300 will not have access to the \$25,000 that is planned for distribution in the District Simplified Grant program of District 5300.
2. New Individual Grant applications (funds towards travel of Rotarians and non Rotarians to areas of planned or active projects) will not be approved for clubs and districts that are international sponsors of open Discovery Grants until those grants are closed.
3. New Matching Grant applications will not be approved for clubs and districts that are sponsors of Children's Opportunity Grants, Transportation Grants and Helping Grants until those grants are closed i.e. until ALL reports are in from ALL active grants then NO club in the district will get ANY money from the Foundation.

***Please ensure all reports are submitted ASAP.***

Many thanks,

***Margaret Cooker***

DFC 2004-2005 pdgcooker@verizon.net

Margaret Cooker, RN

J. Margaret Clark-Cooker

PDG 2001-2002 Rotary International District 5300

District Foundation Chair