



# Rotaract Newswire

## RI Rotaract Committee News

Volume 1, Issue 2

January 2009

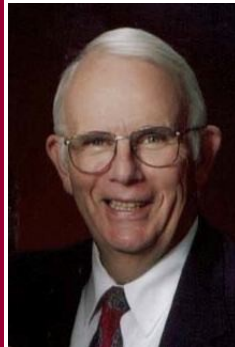
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Rotaract  
Preconvention  
Meeting 2009

18 - 21st June  
Birmingham, UK

Will you be there?

Register today!



### Message from Chair Terry Phillips

Happy New Year to Rotaractors around the world! My best wishes to you and your clubs as 2009 unfolds. Our Rotaract/Rotary Year is already half over. Current events continue to remind us of those who need service from Rotaract and Rotary. Worldwide economic problems make providing help to others more of a challenge. Using a sports quotation for teams facing adversity, "*When the going gets tough, the tough get going,*" seems to fit our present situation.

Your Club President should have received, or will shortly receive, a request from John Germ, Chair of Rotary's US\$100 Million Challenge Committee, and from me. We are asking Rotaract Clubs to help Rotary meet the Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation challenge grant to **END POLIO NOW**. The Rotaract Committee at the Committee Meeting at Rotary International Headquarters held in November, 2008, set a goal of US\$100 per year for each Rotaract Club for 2008-2009, 2009-2010, and 2010-2011. Please help us ensure that all Rotaractors are aware of this effort by passing this newsletter, our second, onto as many Rotaract Clubs and individual Rotaractors as you can. There are now only four countries in the world where the wild polio virus originates in those countries. Until it is eliminated from those four countries, the entire world must continue to immunize against polio at a cost of billions of dollars per year. Your Club and individual contributions can help us eliminate this disease worldwide. We know this goal will not be easy for some to attain, but for many clubs it can be significantly exceeded.

This is an opportunity to be part of a project of worldwide significance. Success with this effort will have historic consequences. Rotaract's efforts to **END POLIO NOW** will strengthen our image and our connections in the family of Rotary. Raising public awareness of Rotary's eradication efforts will help in fundraising and in attracting new members for Rotaract and Rotary.

As a reminder, please submit your club's 2009-10 contact information so that the data can be included in next year's Worldwide Rotaract Directory. Submit this information to Rotary International online no later than **1 May**. If you are not sure if your club is officially certified, e-mail the Rotaract program coordinator at [rotaract@rotary.org](mailto:rotaract@rotary.org).

I hope many of you will be able to join us in Birmingham, England at the Rotaract Preconvention Meeting, 19-20 June, and will stay afterwards for the RI Convention. At that meeting we should be able to celebrate our progress towards meeting the Rotaract and Rotary goals. The Committee is working on making the preconvention exciting and informative. We hope to see many of you there.

Linked in Rotaract and Rotary



## Rotaractors: Learn How to Find the Answers



I often get questions from Rotaractors around the world on various topics. Sometimes I don't know the specific answer to the question, but I do know where to find the answer.

It doesn't take much to become a Rotaract "expert." It is just a matter of taking the time to educate yourself. If you want to become a more informed Rotaractor, here are some top tips:

**First, the basics:** The first thing you should do is read the Rotaract Handbook from front to back, and that means every word! Even if you have read it before, read it again. Every time I look at it, I am surprised at how many questions it actually DOES answer, and I seem to always find something that I had overlooked before. You can find the Rotaract Handbook on the RI Website via this link: [http://www.rotary.org/RIdocuments/en\\_pdf/562en.pdf](http://www.rotary.org/RIdocuments/en_pdf/562en.pdf)

Read the The Rotaract Statement of Policy (SoP). The SoP is a summary of almost all the Rotary International (RI) policies relating to Rotaract. These are the rules, folks... read them, know them. The Rotaract SoP is contained within the Rotaract Handbook, and it is also available on the RI Website via this link: [http://www.rotary.org/RIdocuments/en\\_pdf/660en.pdf](http://www.rotary.org/RIdocuments/en_pdf/660en.pdf)

Read the Standard Rotaract Constitution and Bylaws. Every club must adopt and follow the Rotaract Constitution, and this is a pre-requisite to be a Rotaract club. An individual club cannot change anything in the constitution, period! Only the Board of Directors of RI can change the constitution.

If a club wants to set specific rules for itself, this should be done within the bylaws. Sample bylaws are given for Rotaract clubs as a guideline. The club can change the bylaws or add to them, so long as nothing they state contradicts the constitution or any other RI policy. You can access the Standard Rotaract Constitution and Bylaws via this link: [http://www.rotary.org/RIdocuments/en\\_pdf/661en.pdf](http://www.rotary.org/RIdocuments/en_pdf/661en.pdf)

**Now for the more advanced stuff:** If you really want to become a Rotaract expert, you need to read the official RI policy documents. These documents are mainly the Manual of Procedure and Rotary Code of Policy.

The Code of Policy is longer and more inclusive, and the Manual of Procedure, to me, seems to be more succinct and is based on the Code of Policy. The Code of Policy contains everything that the Board of Directors or the Council of Legislation has ever approved. Both documents are available on the RI website via this link:

<http://www.rotary.org/en/Members/PoliciesAndProcedures/PolicyDocuments/Pages/ridefault.aspx>

**Manual of Procedure - (MoP)** Start by reading Chapter 8, which is the chapter on New Generations. Then, go to the start of the document, and use the "search" feature in Adobe Reader and search for the word "Rotaract". Read the information that you find everywhere the word Rotaract is mentioned. Some of the information will be more interesting than others, but I guarantee you will learn something new.

**Rotary Code of Policy - (CoP)** Start by reading section 41.020, which is the section that deals with Rotaract. You will actually see the Rotaract Statement of Policy here. Then search for the word "Rotaract". Read the info that you find everywhere the word Rotaract is mentioned.

**And you can even take it a step further:** If you really want to expand your knowledge, look at some other documents such as:

- The District Governor Training Manual - [http://www.rotary.org/RIdocuments/en\\_pdf/233en.pdf](http://www.rotary.org/RIdocuments/en_pdf/233en.pdf)
- The District Training Manual - [http://www.rotary.org/RIdocuments/en\\_pdf/246en.pdf](http://www.rotary.org/RIdocuments/en_pdf/246en.pdf)

And there are so many other Rotary documents available to you for free on the RI website. You just have to take some time to look around the website and find them. There are even manuals for various Rotary club and district officers that may be helpful to Rotaract club and district officers.

**When there is an issue and there is not a specific Rotaract policy to address it:** There are always new and unique circumstances that arise, and sometimes there is no clear-cut answer. There are times when you have to use your good judgment. Of course, the test for everything is always the 4-way test. If your decision or action doesn't fit the 4-way test, then you shouldn't be doing it. And if someone else has violated the 4-way test, that doesn't mean you should disregard the 4-way test when dealing with the issue.

However, when I have a question and there is not a clear answer in Rotaract documents, I always go to the RI website and look at the Rotary Manual of Procedure and Code of Policy. On many items, there are guidelines for Rotary, but Rotaract is not specifically mentioned. (For example, there is a section on elections.) Whatever it says, I usually try to apply that to Rotaract, since that is the best guidelines we have.

Written by Mary Kathryn DeLodder

## Who are the 2008-2009 Rotaract Committee?

Below are your representatives on the 2008-2009 Rotaract Committee, if you have any questions please do not hesitate to contact any of them.

### Rotary Representatives



Chair: **Terry N. Phillips** (USA)  
(Term ends 30 June 09)

**Member of Rotary Since: 1978**

**Special Interests:** Golf, travel - I've visited all but one of the US States and all but one of the continents of the world!

**Email:** tphilli1 [at] nycap.rr.com



Vice Chair: **Dong-Joon Lee** (USA)  
(Term ends 30 June 2011)

**Member of Rotary Since: 1984**

**Special Interests:** Reading and Travelling

**Email:** rotary7230 [at] msn.com



Member: **Héctor A. Boffelli** (Argentina)  
(Term ends 30 June 2010)

**Member of Rotary Since: 1989**

**Special Interests:** I enjoy reading and love to travel. I also enjoy training Rotarians, Rotaractors, Interactors, RYLarians etc about Rotary.

**Email:** beblo [at] sme.com.ar



Member: **Eva Brodehl** (Germany)  
(Term ends 30 June 2011)

**Member of Rotary Since: 2005**

**Special Interests:** Helping people to maintain & improve their vision.

**Email:** eva.brodehl [at] gmx.net



Member: **Donald Craighead** (USA)  
(Term ends 30 June 09)

**Member of Rotary Since: 1978**

**Special Interests:** Rotaract, networking and socialising

**Email:** dcraighead [at] iopener.net



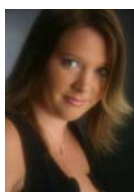
Member: **Michele D. Guy** (Canada)  
(Term ends 30 June 2010)

**Member of Rotary Since: 1992**

**Special Interests:** Michele is passionate about friends, likes to help people as well as socializing and contributing to social events. She also likes to read the newspaper front to back

**Email:** mguy [at] courtscrane.com

### Rotaract Representatives



Member: **Lisa Burnett** (England)  
(Term ends 30 June 2009)

**Member of Rotaract Since: 2000**

**Special Interests:** Lisa enjoys swimming, Taebo boxing and visiting new countries.

**Email:** lisa [at] rotaract.org.uk



Member: **You-Sun Lee** (Korea)  
(Term ends 30 June 2009)

**Member of Rotaract Since: 2002**

**Special Interests:** Travelling and meeting new people.

**Email:** yiyusun [at] hotmail.com



Member: **Mary Kathryn DeLodder** (USA)  
(Term ends 30 June 2009)

**Member of Rotaract Since: 2000**

**Special Interests:** Spending time with my husband, recycling, fish keeping, Rotaract education

**Email:** mkdelodder [at] gmail.com



Member: **Lawi Sultan Njeremani** (Kenya)  
(Term ends 30 June 2009)

**Member of Rotaract Since: 2003**

**Special Interests:** reading, music, volunteerism, travelling, and exposure to world cultures.

**Email:** lawisultan [at] gmail.com



Member: **Krishnakumar Narayanan** (India)  
(Term ends 30 June 2009)

**Member of Rotaract Since: 1998**

**Special Interests:** Travelling

**Email:** nkrishna [at] visteon.com



Member: **Juan Jose Martinez Rivas** (Mexico)  
(Term ends 30 June 2009)

**Member of Rotaract Since: 1996**

**Special Interests:** Music - I have very eclectic tastes!

**Email:** juanjosevadeq[at]prodigy.net.mx



## New Generations E-Newsletter

Rotary International have started producing a New Generations e-newsletter each month.

New Generations is a monthly e-newsletter designed to inform program participants and Rotarians about news and developments in Interact, Rotaract, and RYLA and to give you ideas on how to get more involved with these programs in your communities.

The RI Rotaract Committee would like to encourage as many of you as possible to subscribe to this e-newsletter to hear about the success stories from around the World.

To be added to the distribution list for the e-newsletter,

please click on this link: <http://visitor.constantcontact.com/d.jsp?m=1101424972933&p=oi>

When the web page has loaded enter your email and click on submit. On the next page select New Generations\_Rotaract from the list and complete the other information, following the instructions on the screen.

## How the Committee Communicates with You

It seems that every year at the annual Rotaract Preconvention Meeting Rotaractors ask the question, "What does the RI Rotaract Committee do? Why haven't we heard from them?" Hopefully by now you know the answer to the first part of the question.

The Committee's job is to advise the RI Board of Directors on matters related to Rotaract and to plan the Preconvention meeting. While communication with Rotaractors isn't a part of our job description, it can certainly make our job easier. As a committee, we want to know what's going on throughout the Rotaract world, and we want you to know what we've been up to.

RI provides no official tools for the RI Rotaract Committee to communicate with Rotaractors worldwide, but the committee does utilize a number of unofficial communication channels. Below is a summary of these tools. Most of these tools also allow Rotaractors to communicate with each other around the globe.

**Facebook-** [www.facebook.com](http://www.facebook.com)  
The social networking site Facebook offers Rotaractors several ways to connect with each

other, as well as ways for the RI Rotaract Committee to communicate with you.

- The Rotaract Club group- <http://www.facebook.com/home.php?#/group.php?gid=2204778486&ref=ts>
- The Rotaract page- <http://www.facebook.com/home.php?#/pages/Rotaract/12371810796?ref=s>
- The Rotaract cause- [http://apps.facebook.com/causes/4438?fb\\_page\\_id=12371810796&m=75537ad2&recruiter\\_id=13539395](http://apps.facebook.com/causes/4438?fb_page_id=12371810796&m=75537ad2&recruiter_id=13539395)

Members of the RI Rotaract Committee send out Rotaract update messages through the "The Rotaract Club" group as well as the Rotaract page. In addition, there are Facebook "events" for the Preconvention in Birmingham, World Rotaract Week, and other special worldwide Rotaract events.

### RotaractNET-

<http://groups.yahoo.com/group/rotaractnet/>

RotaractNET is a Yahoo! group set up by Rotaractors for Rotaractors. It is a listserv with over 3600 members from around the world. It

is a great way to share and gather information from a global Rotaract audience. Members of the RI Rotaract Committee periodically send out messages

and reminders of important Rotaract events, deadlines, and other information. You can join Rotaract-NET by visiting the link above. RotaractNET is high volume mailing list, so you may want to elect to receive a daily digest of messages.

### RI Rotaract Committee Blog- <http://rirotaract.blogspot.com/>

This blog was set up a few years ago by a member of the RI Rotaract Committee and it still periodically used to share information with Rotaractors. Feel free to follow the information posted on the blog!

### RI Rotaract Committee Newsletter- You're reading it!

Finally, this newsletter is another way the RI Rotaract Committee is trying to stay in touch with Rotaractors this year. This newsletter, while an informal communication channel, allows the committee the opportunity to share important information with Rotaractors around the world.



## Rotaract Club Recognition and Awards

As you help the Rotaract clubs in your district exemplify this year's theme, we encourage you to familiarize yourself with the awards and recognition available to Rotaract clubs throughout the 2008-09 year. Please review this information and all relevant deadlines carefully, sharing it with all those involved in your programs.

### Rotaract Presidential Citation

RI President Lee encourages Rotaract clubs to Make Dreams Real through creating a better future for children in their communities and throughout the world. Clubs that answer his call can earn the 2008-09 Rotaract Presidential Citation. To qualify, Rotaract clubs must complete any four activities from the categories listed in the Presidential Citation Brochure ([http://www.rotary.org/RIdocuments/en\\_pdf/900a\\_en08.pdf](http://www.rotary.org/RIdocuments/en_pdf/900a_en08.pdf)).

The Sponsor Rotary Club President must sign the Rotaract Citation Form and submit it to the District Governor no later than **31 March 2009**.



### World Rotaract Week Recognition

During the week of 9-15 March 2009, Rotaract will celebrate the founding of the first Rotaract club on 13 March 1968. Rotaract clubs around the world are encouraged to partner with their sponsor Rotary clubs and increase community awareness of the program through performing the following activities:

- Making a presentation about Rotaract to a Rotary club that doesn't yet sponsor a Rotaract club
- Inviting Rotarians to attend a Rotaract club meeting
- Attending a Rotary club meeting
- Conducting a joint Rotaract-Rotary club project

Those that join this celebration and tell the world about Rotaract will receive recognition for their work from Rotary International.

Interested clubs can download the World Rotaract Week Celebration Recognition Form from: [www.rotary.org/RIdocuments/en\\_pdf/rotaweek\\_03.pdf](http://www.rotary.org/RIdocuments/en_pdf/rotaweek_03.pdf)

The submission deadline is **15 April 2009**.

### RI Recognition of Outstanding Rotaract Projects

Each year, hundreds of Rotaract clubs submit details about their exceptional community or international service projects to Rotary International.

In the 2007-08 Rotary year, seven clubs were selected by the Rotaract Committee to receive international and regional awards.

To learn more about developing a great community or international service project, download the Communities in Action publication from: [www.rotary.org/RIdocuments/en\\_pdf/605a\\_en.pdf](http://www.rotary.org/RIdocuments/en_pdf/605a_en.pdf)

To submit a project for the 2008-09 Rotary year, download the Outstanding Projects Form from:

[www.rotary.org/RIdocuments/en\\_pdf/rotaract\\_outstanding\\_projects.pdf](http://www.rotary.org/RIdocuments/en_pdf/rotaract_outstanding_projects.pdf)

Submit your project to RI no later than **1 February 2009**.



## Submit your Data to RI by 1st May

Did you know that your club needs to report its current contact information to Rotary International every year? Having current contact information ensures that your club will receive important communications from RI and helps to keep RI records up to date.

To date, 2,368 Rotaract clubs (out of a current total of 7,442 clubs) have submitted 2008-09 contact information. At the time the Worldwide Rotaract Directory went to print in July 2008, 1,929 clubs had reported (out of 7,396 clubs overall at that time).

The Worldwide Rotaract Directory only prints contact information for Rotaract clubs if it has been reported in the last two Rotary years. In this year's Rotaract directory, 3,838 clubs (out of 7,396) have reported contact information for 2007-08 or 2008-09 and therefore included it in the directory. That also means 3,558 Rotaract clubs were listed with no contact information.

### Is your club info up to date?

One hint is that if your club has not received any communications from RI this Rotary year that may mean they do not have your club's correct contact info.

Submit your club's contact info by visiting this page on the RI website:

<http://www.rotary.org/en/StudentsAndYouth/YouthPrograms/Rotaract/Pages/Updatecontactinfo.aspx> (\*this page now works with the Firefox browser)

\*\*Tip: The club contact person does not have to be the club president. It can be the Rotarian advisor, the communication director, or whoever the club prefers.

### Submit your 2009-10 data by 1st May 2009!

To ensure your club is listed in The Worldwide Rotaract Directory for 2009-10 you **MUST** submit your data to RI by **1st May 2009**. Please put this date in your diary now!



## Swinging Sixties Britain

Firstly **Happy New Year** from all of the Burm09 crew - we hope you had an enjoyable festive season and are rested and raring to go for 2009. With **less than 6 months remaining** until the event of the year, have you registered for the Rotaract Preconvention Meeting and Social Program yet? No, then what are you waiting for?

Join in the **Swinging Sixties** fun, let down your hair and socialise with Rotaractors from all over the world. We've got an amazing social program planned for you that includes:

- An Indian Night - enjoy traditional curry, the UK's national dish, and Indian Dance
- Swinging Sixties Theme Club Night including a free glass of bubbly
- Brindley Place Pub Crawl around the great city canals
- A Medieval Spectacular - Warwick Castle (HOC Ticket Event organised by Rotary)
- Evening visit to the Snowdome - Snow, Ice & Leisure
- Afternoon visit to Cadbury World and Bourneville

It's going to be a superb event but places are limited so get in quick and join the other Rotaractors who have already registered - visit [www.brum09.com](http://www.brum09.com) to book your place.

**Preconvention Meeting:** During the day you can join in the discussions at the Preconvention meetings taking place at the National Exhibition Arena (NEC) covering a wide range of topics relevant to Rotaractors today. Keynote speakers include the leadership of Rotary International.

Remember this is the only "OFFICIAL" Rotary International sponsored Rotaract event for 2009 and the only one where the RI President will address Rotaractors specifically at our own convention meeting. It's truly international, not regional!!

**New Packages Added:** We would like to extend a very warm welcome to all Rotary Family Members and invite you to join in the amazing social events that we've planned for Birmingham 2009. Even though the events have been planned with Rotaractors in mind there's no reason why Foundation Alumni and RYLarians can't join in the fun and fellowship. We've even created some packages especially with you in mind! Visit [www.brum09.com](http://www.brum09.com) to find out more.

**Feeling the penny pinch?** Remember, as stated in the [Rotaract Handbook](#) (page 10), it states that the sponsoring Rotary Clubs/Districts should pay for Rotaract Leaders to receive official training...and the good news is...Birmingham qualifies. So do talk to your Sponsoring Club and ask for assistance with the cost of attending the Rotaract Preconvention 2009.

With more good news for you - it's now **cheaper than ever to come to the UK** as the VAT (Value Added Tax) rate has just been lowered, meaning you pay less for hotels, food, entertainment etc. Its also good news for our American/European friends, with the strong Dollar/Euro compared to the Pound you can travel for less - so take advantage while this lasts!

### How Can You Register?

- Visit our website [www.brum09.com](http://www.brum09.com) and book for the Rotaract Social Program
- Get registered with Rotary International by downloading the pdf [booking form](#).
- Book your hotel - the ETAP International is the official Rotaract hotel but you'll need to book your room now to ensure you get in! [Click here](#) N.B This has been arranged by Rotary International and not the Rotaract Host Committee
- Buy host event tickets online from [www.rotaryconvention2009.com](http://www.rotaryconvention2009.com)

So don't miss out on this great opportunity to visit Birmingham, share ideas and best practice with Rotaractors from all over the world and take part in some great social events. Visit [www.brum09.com](http://www.brum09.com) for more information.

We promise to show you a good time in Birmingham, the Heart of England, with a fun-filled social program and the opportunity to network with fellow Rotary Family members from all over the world.