



**RI President: Ron D. Burton**  
**President: Gautam Ray**

**District Governor: Rajani Mukerji**  
**Secretary: Debasis Chakraborty**

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## Rotary's unique culture boosts its longevity



By Kim Jae-won

Every organization has its own problems. If it is an international one whose members are from all over the world, it is easy to imagine that tension and conflict may arise between members with different religions and political beliefs.

Ron Burton, president of Rotary International, said that the businessmen's club has flourished for more than a century thanks to its unique professional approach and culture of acceptance and trust.

"I had set a table for a meal with people from five or six different religions, which means they are also from five or six different political regions. We talked about Rotary, what Rotary does, we talked about opportunities Rotary has. No one got upset. No one pointed their finger at the other one. No one accused each other. It was a great forum," said Burton in an interview.

Burton visited Korea to take part in a local Rotary leaders' workshop which kicked off at the MVL Hotel in Ilsan, Gyeonggi Province, Wednesday, for four days.

The lifelong lawyer said the Rotary pin, which all members have, leads to acceptance and trust in each other.

"Rotarians strive to take a professional approach to each other no matter who you are because they recognize the Rotary pin. In their recognition, there come levels of acceptance and trust."

Burton, who retired from the chairmanship of the University of Oklahoma Foundation in 2007, said dialogue and open mindedness are the keys to developing relationships. "We need to have more dialogue. We need to have more face-to-face relationships. And we need to try to understand that you don't have to be shoulder-to-shoulder with others. You can have different opinions."

Burton applauded Korean Rotarians for their contribution to the international fraternity, citing their strong presence in the community, grading it as "A+."

Rotary Korea has some 58,000 members, representing the fourth-largest membership

pool among international clubs. For this reason, it has been chosen to host the annual convention in 2016.

Burton said that the club has spared no efforts in polio eradication and has vaccinated more than two billion children. To implement the project more efficiently, it cooperates with key organizations, such as the World Health Organization, UNICEF and the Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation.

He introduced the club's unique leadership system. The club elects its presidents to serve a one year term. Asked if he was sorry about the short term, he said "no," saying it is his privilege to serve the organization and to extend the term was physically impossible due to its tough schedule and long trips to member countries spread across the world. Currently, there are more than 1.2 million Rotarians from around the world, building their communities and cooperating in humanitarian activities, he added.

## PHS senior outlines trip for Rotary

November 26, 2013

By WAYNE TOWNER

([wtowner@newsandsentinel.com](mailto:wtowner@newsandsentinel.com)), Parkersburg  
News and Sentinel

PARKERSBURG - A Parkersburg High School senior spent much of her junior year studying abroad in Spain through a program offered by Rotary International.

Elizabeth Morgan "Emmie" Martin, 18, of Parkersburg showed pictures and talked about her experiences staying for several months with a Rotary family in Guardamar del Segura, Spain, through the Rotary International Youth Exchange Program.

While the Rotary exchange program normally runs a full school year, Martin said visa issues



kept her from traveling to Spain until last December, when she arrived just in time to celebrate Christmas. She attended high

school in Spain for the rest of that school year and stayed a couple of months beyond, returning home in August to the Mid-Ohio Valley.

Martin said her mother, Lisa Martin, is involved in Rotary's youth exchange programs so she

learned about the program from her and from hearing presentations by students from other countries staying in the U.S. as part of the same Rotary exchange.

"I just thought it was really cool and I wanted to do it too," she said of participating in the exchange program.

Martin spent about a year of preparation before going to Spain, during which she attended meetings, wrote papers and filled out paperwork.

The city she stayed in is on the southeast coast of Spain. Much of her time was spent attending high school, just as she would at home. But Martin said she also had the chance to travel to different parts of Spain and visited Portugal with other Rotary exchange students from the U.S. and other countries.

Martin said what she enjoyed most was the opportunity to learn and immerse herself in another culture.

"Toward the end- it's kind of silly- but obviously the TV is in Spanish and I could watch TV in Spanish, just because I could. I didn't have to turn it to English or anything," she said with a laugh.

Martin said she would like to participate in similar programs in the future, if she has the opportunity. She would recommend it to any younger students who might be interested.

She plans to attend college after graduating from PHS at the end of the current school year, but doesn't have any firm plans or goals at this time. However, she believes her exchange experiences will be helpful in her future.

"It's definitely something to bring to the table when you're looking at colleges, that I've studied abroad and I'm bilingual and I can do all of these things," Martin said.

Lisa Martin, a member of Parkersburg Rotary Club's Youth Exchange Committee, said the local exchange program which her daughter participated in is offered through the Ohio-Erie Group of Rotary Clubs, which works with clubs in West Virginia, Ohio and parts of Pennsylvania and other states.

The local district of the Ohio-Erie Group sent three students this year to countries, but she thought Emmie was the first Parkersburg student to participate in the program in about 10 years.

"We would love to send students from Parkersburg through the Rotary program on a regular basis," Lisa Martin said.





Johnny Johnny.. YES PAPA !  
Job in Gulf..YES PAPA !  
Lot of Tension..YES PAPA !  
Too Much Work..YES PAPA !  
Family Life..NO PAPA !  
BP-Sugar..HIGH PAPA !  
Yearly Bonus..JOKE PAPA !  
Annual Pay..LOW PAPA !  
Personal Life..LOST PAPA !  
Promotion Incentive..HA ! HA ! HA !



### Minutes of Meeting

Meeting no. 1208 Dated 22.11.2013  
President Rtn.Gautam Ray calls meeting no. 1208 to order  
National Anthem led by Rtn. Sanjib Kr. Ray  
Minutes of the last meeting confirmed.

#### Discussions

President thanked members who joined the District Foundation Seminar and informed members present about the deposit of matching amount related to District Grant project.

Members present negated the mailed request to the President for 'Aid for Philippines' due to paucity of fund.

Members discussed the proposal to become a partner or sponsor the 'Walk for END POLIO campaign' organized by RC Calcutta South West. Decision pending.

Members present negated the proposal from RCC Ananda to participate in their Blanket Distribution project.

President briefed the members present about the preparations of Awareness camp for Cervical Cancer, Lifestyle Diseases, Mother & child care and requested all members to participate in the same.

Rtn. Sanjib Ray, entrusted to conduct the election procedure for selecting President Elect, Secretary, Treasurer & 6 Service Directors, announced 6<sup>th</sup> Dec. as the last date of filing nomination papers, 11<sup>th</sup> Dec. last date for withdrawing nomination. He also informed that the Nomination papers are available with the President and himself.

In the absence of Secretary, President handed over the business to the Jt. Secretary who announced the receipt of letters, bulletin from neighboring clubs and the upcoming District events before handing back the meeting to the President. There being no other business, President terminated the meeting.

Members present : 9 Sunshine collected : 180

### Love your parents

*We are so busy growing up  
that we often forget that  
they too are growing old*

#### Upcoming District Event

'Intra District Badminton and Table Tennis Tournament' at YMCA, Chowringhee Branch, 25 Jawaharlal Nehru Road, Kolkata 700087 on 15<sup>th</sup> December, 2013 between 10.00 A.M & 4.00 P.M.

### Club Project Report



**Awareness Camp on Lifestyle Diseases, Cervical Cancer, Mother and Child care held on 24<sup>th</sup> November in association with Ashram Anandam was attended by 100s of villagers who also had an interactive session with the Doctors. DRRC Rtn. Ashok Kumar Samanta inaugurated the programme**



### Rotarians around the world donate Rs 800 crore every year

Monday, Nov 25, 2013, 12:09 IST | Place: Indore |

A Rotary foundation seminar of Rotary club district number 3040 was organised by the members of Rotary Club of Indore Malvika at Ravindra Natya Grah on Sunday.

Ex-president, Rotary International, Kalyan Banerjee was the chief guest at the function.

Present district governor of Rotary Club, Nitin Dafria, spoke on various humanitarian services that Rotary International is providing to the needy ones across the globe. He also talked about the various activities of humanitarian services performed by the district 3040 in the previous year.

Nitin also informed the Rotarians present on the occasion about the plans of the club, which includes about hundred Rotary clubs of Madhya Pradesh, Gujarat and Rajasthan.

Later on the occasion, ex-president of Rotary International and trustee of Rotary Foundation, Kalyan Banerjee, spoke about the foundation of the Rotary International and its significance in eradicating many social problems like illiteracy, mother and child health and many more. He said that around Rs 800 crore are being donated every year by the Rotarians around the world.

