

Rotary Club of Kona Sunrise



Be a gift to the world

This Week: Kosovo WASH Project

Dec 2, 2015

Volume 7
 Issue 63

Joining us this week is our own club member Dr. Derek Chignell, who will be updating the club on the progress of our Global Grant Project in Kosovo.

As most of our members know, Derek and Water for Life, are the reason why we applied for our first Global Grant. While many of our club members worked tirelessly to make the grant a reality, Derek has been our primary connection to help provide water and sanitation to several schools in Kosovo, and he has visited the country several times over the past year.



This will be a program that you won't want to miss!

GREETER: KC
DOOR PRIZE: Derek

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Photos of sewers are not necessarily the first thing to bring joy, but attached are the photos of the first school in Kosovo being hooked up to the main sewer line because of Rotary efforts.

Rotary Club of Hawaii Sunrise can be very proud of this beginning in Drenoc, Kosovo.

Derek

The Rotary Club of Kona Sunrise meets every Wednesday at 7:00 am at Humpy's Restaurant (upstairs above the ABC Store), 75-5815 Alii Drive, Kailua Kona HI. For additional information contact Club President Bev Fraser at 936-9965

RI President's Monthly Message

DECEMBER 2015

When the Canadian army liberated the Netherlands in 1945, they found the country on the brink of starvation. Seeing the suffering of so many, and especially moved by the faces of the children, four Canadian privates stationed near Apeldoorn that year decided to make that Christmas special for as many Dutch children as they could.

Together, they made the rounds among their fellow soldiers, collecting chocolate bars and chewing gum, candy and comic books. In their spare moments, they built toy trucks out of wood and wire, sawed scrap lumber for building blocks; one, risking the military police, sold his cigarette ration on the black market, using the money to buy rag dolls. Each thought longingly of his own family at home; each channeled his energies instead toward the children whose Christmas they knew they could brighten.

By 1 December, four sacks of gifts lay ready; the soldiers eagerly looked forward to the 25th. But two days later, they learned the date they were to depart for Canada: 6 December, long before Christmas. With mixed emotions, the soldiers decided that the best plan simply would be to take their sacks over to the local orphanage and leave them there to await Christmas.

The night before they were to leave the Netherlands, the four set off for the orphanage, one of them in a makeshift white beard and red cap. On their way, they were surprised to hear church bells ringing and see houses lit brightly, with Christmas still some weeks away. As they approached the orphanage, boots crunching in the snow, they saw through the windows that the children, two dozen girls and boys, were gathered at their evening meal.

Only a few months after the war's end, food was still scarce; the meal was small, and the children's faces pale and thin.

"Santa Claus" raised the knocker on the door and knocked three times, hard. As if by magic, the chatter of young voices inside fell silent; a priest opened the door. His polite expression gave way to one of shock, as the children behind him erupted into cheers, rushing forward and swarming the private who had dressed for Christmas three weeks early – but exactly on time. For in the Netherlands, Sinterklaas comes on St. Nicholas Eve: 5 December.

For an hour, joyful chaos reigned as packages were opened and exclaimed over, sweets were tasted, dolls caressed. The last wooden truck, the last bar of chocolate, went into the hands of a little boy who had been waiting patiently all the while. After thanking the men, he turned to the priest and said something to him in Dutch, his face alight with happiness. The priest smiled and nodded. "What did he say?" one of the soldiers asked.

The priest looked at them with eyes full of tears. "He said, 'We told you he would come.'"

By sending joy out into the world, we do not sacrifice it for ourselves – we only multiply it. As we enter this season of giving, let us multiply the gifts we have been given by sharing them with others. Through acts of caring, kindness, and generosity, in our clubs and through our Foundation, we become and remain a gift to the world.

K.R. RAVINDRAN

PRESIDENT 2015-16

Club News

After a two week break from our regular meetings, it's going to be great to get back to our regular schedule - at least for the next couple of weeks! We have been busy though...

Everyone who attended the field trip meeting to West Hawai'i Explorations Academy was extremely impressed with what this school has to offer our local students. Here are a few photos:



On Tuesday, November 24th several members and guests joined together at the home of Ann and Norm Goody (in the pouring rain) to put together 30 boxes of Thanksgiving food and then delivered them to local families. The rain certainly didn't dampen anyone's spirit - after all the boxes were delivered we re-grouped for an informal pot luck. Special thanks to Ann and Norm - and for everyone who participated!



Thanks also to KTA for the donation of milk, bread and eggs!

The 31st Annual Kailua-Kona Community Christmas Parade

**Saturday, 5 pm
December 12, 2015**

Announcing Stations:

- West Hawaii Today
- King Kamehameha's Kona Beach Hotel
- Queen Emma Square across from Hulihe'e Palace
- Pancho & Lefty's Cantina
- Hale Halawai at Hualalai Road
- Island Lava Java
- Humpy's Big Island Alehouse at Coconut Grove Marketplace
- Big Daddy's



Presented by
the Rotary Clubs of Kona
and
the Kailua-Kona Community Parade Association

December 2015

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
		1	2 Derek Chignell Kosovo Project	3	4	5
6	7	8	9 Teach for America	10	11	12 Christmas Parade
13	14	15	16 Coalition for Tobacco Free Hawai'i	17	18 Happy Birthday Porter	19
20	21	22	23 Club Christmas Party	24	Mole Kalikimaka	26
27	28	29	30 TBA	<i>lawaoli makahiki hou</i> 2015		

Rotary Club of Kona, Every Thursday at noon, King Kamehameha Kona Beach Hotel
Rotary Club of Kona Mauka, Every Tuesday at noon, Teshima's Restaurant, Honalo
Rotary Club of North Hawaii, Every Wednesday at noon, Anna's Ranch, Waimea
Rotary Club of Hilo, Every Friday at noon, Hilo Hawaiian Hotel
Rotary Club of Hilo Bay, Every Wednesday at 6:45 am, Hilo Yacht Club
Rotary Club of South Hilo, Every Tuesday at noon, Hilo Hawaiian Hotel
Rotary Club of Volcano, Every Thursday 7:30 am, Volcano House, Volcano National Park
Rotary Club of Pahoa Sunset, Every Tuesday at 6:30, Luquin's Restaurant



Paul Harris
Founder of Rotary



KR "Ravi" Ravindran
RI President
2014 - 2015



Del Green
District Governor
2015 - 2015



Donna Hiranaka
West Hawai'i
Assistant Governor



Bev Fraser
Club President
2015 - 2016