

The Organising Committee of  
The ICC Presidential Conference  
of October 25th, 2003  
in Antibes Juan-les-Pins, France  
has the honour and pleasure of welcoming

**The President of Rotary International, Mr. Jonathan B. Majiyagbe**

**The Foreign Secretary, Mr. Renaud Muselier**

**The Member of the French Parliament and Mayor of Antibes Juan-les-Pins, Mr. Jean Léonetti**

**The Director of Rotary International, Mr. Gennaro Cardinale**

**The Director of Rotary International, Mr. Constant Tempelaars**

**The Directors of Rotary International**

**The President of the Executive Committee of ICCs, Mr. Onder Bilginer**

**The Director-Elect of Rotary International, Mr. Serge Goutheyron**

**The Governor of District 1730, Mr. Lucien Elegant**

**The Governor of District 1760, Mr. Bernard Bonnes**

**The speakers at this conference**

**The participants coming from around the world**

The President of the Organising Committee, Dr. Stéfanski

You will find in this brochure texts and photos of the speakers in the order of their speeches.

# Welcome Remarks from the Governors of District 1730 and 1760



## District Governor, 1730

**Lucien Elégant** emeritus professor.

Mr Elégant has taught sciences at the Faculty of Sciences and Medicine of Nice. He is in charge of the DEA and postgraduate studies in energy physics at the University of Nice Sophia Antipolis and at the Ecole des Mines of Paris.

He has been member of the Rotary Club of Antibes Antipolis since 1991.

He was Club President in 1998-1999.

He was in charge of the district RYLA programme for 2001-2002.



## District Governor, 1760

**Bernard Bonnes** received a Master's Degree in Literature and a DEA in Social Sciences–Communications.

He is currently an insurance agent in Marseille.

He is adviser in technological teaching for the Aix-Marseille academy.

He sits on the board of the University of Provence (Aix-Marseille 1).

He was member of the Rotary club of Roubaix Sud in 1991, then joined the Rotary Club of Marseille in 1993.

He was President of the Club of Marseille in 2000-2001 and in 2001-2003.

The Mediterranean, cradle of our civilisation, far from separating the peoples of its shores, reunites them in a North-South dialogue, a dialogue as necessary as it is essential.

Indeed, meeting together and learning about each other, becoming aware of our differences and yet respecting them: realising our common ties and strengthening them – that is the first step towards establishing a world at peace, the principal aim of Rotary International.

It was with honour, enthusiasm and pride that Districts 1730 and 1760 answered with a resounding «YES» when asked to organise this International Conference of a Presidential Celebration of Inter Country Committees, chaired by Jonathan B. Majiyagbe, the first RI President from the Continent of Africa.

Throughout this day you will be able to listen, see and discover what humanitarian and educational projects have been successfully achieved between Clubs and Countries.

You can join with eminent panellists and discuss peace and friendship between nations and study the difficulties which prevent us from attaining our objectives, and perhaps help to find solutions.

You are going to make useful and fruitful contacts which will enrich all those attending this international meeting.

Rotarians, this day gives us the opportunity to strengthen our faith in mankind, and in peace.

Thank you for being here today, thank you for joining us, thank you for what you are going to do – spread the message you have discovered today, share this spirit amongst your clubs so that the international aspect of Rotary may develop and thrive..

**Bernard BONNES and Lucien Elégant**

## **Jean Leonetti, MD**

Mayor of the City of Antibes Juan-les-Pins  
Member of the Parliament for the  
Alpes-Maritimes Region



## Remarks from the Mayor at the Presidential Celebration of RI Inter-Country Committees

Antibes Juan-les-Pins is pleased and proud to welcome the Inter-Country Committee Presidential Conference of Rotary International.

With more than 2,600 years of history, Antibes Juan-les-Pins boasts a rich military, maritime, historic and cultural heritage. A progressive town, Antibes Juan-les-Pins was able to combine modernity and tradition while preserving its quality of life. With the largest pleasure yacht harbour in Europe, Antibes Juan-les-Pins, member of the Sophia Antipolis town community, has always been a cosmopolitan and a cultural crossroad where many nationalities meet and live in harmony and in the respect of others.

Because they promote values such as solidarity, understanding and friendship between people, Inter-Country Committees play a key role in world peace. Their mere existence renews our hope for a more unified and peaceful world. Every inhabitant of our City, whether long-time residents or newcomers, join me to wish all members of the Inter-Country Committee a wonderful stay in our town.

ANTIBES JUAN-LES-PINS

*Jean Leonetti*



## **Gennaro Cardinale**

Director of Rotary International

Member of the Board, 2002-2004

Treasurer of Rotary International, 2003-2004

*Cardinale owns Albatros International Graphics and is a former editor in chief of the Italian regional magazine, Rotary. He began his career as an attorney, joined the Ministry of Industry, and later became an oil company manager and member of the provincial and regional Petrol Union committees. A Rotarian since 1971, he is currently a member of the Rotary Club of Firenze Brunelleschi. Cardinale has served RI as district governor, committee member and chairman, International Assembly training leader, zone institute trainer and trainers' chairman, task force member and zone coordinator, RI president's representative, and delegate to the Council on Legislation in 1995 and 2001. He also served as regional chairman of the Polio Eradication Private Sector Campaign. He is a Paul Harris Fellow and a Benefactor of The Rotary Foundation. [Spouse: Maria Luisa].*

Dear Friends,

As one of the 2003-04 Presidential Celebrations, decided upon by Rotary International President Jonathan Majiyagbe, this important meeting will discuss the roles and programs of Inter-Country Committees.

The objective of this event is to encourage the meeting of opinions and ideas, strengthening the ability of Rotary International to support and promote commitment to world understanding.

I am grateful to President Majiyagbe for choosing a geographical area that is so rich in deep cultural roots that can help to generate new and interesting ideological and operational ideas.

We will meet and listen to representatives of various countries, both from the Mediterranean and other European regions. They will confirm that these cultures are ready and willing to offer the much-needed mobilization of the Rotary world in defence of our great values.

Without values it is impossible to build the future. Without values it is impossible for the new generations to grow. Without values it is impossible to promote world understanding and peace.

Rotary International's commitment makes it possible for us to support and to promote these essential and unrenounceable values.

The times we live in are not so different from the times of Paul Harris. Such historical recurrence should neither surprise nor discourage us.

In his time, Paul Harris wanted to establish a functional purpose based on simplicity and on the awareness that those who conduct themselves in a manner above self-satisfaction and personal interest are the real architects of a better future.

The Intercountry Committees are the rightful bearers and promoters of such principles and we encourage them to strengthen their commitment and make their work even more actual.

# Welcome Remarks from **RI President Jonathan B. Majiyagbe**

*Kano, Nigeria  
President of Rotary International 2003-2004*

*President-Nominee 2001-02  
Chairman, African Regional PolioPlus Committee 2000-02  
Chairman, African Regional PolioPlus Committee 2000-02  
Chairman, World Affairs committee 2001-02  
Member, International PolioPlus Committee 2000-01  
Trustee, The Rotary Foundation, 1993-96  
Director, Rotary International, 1988-90*



Jonathan B. Majiyagbe, a Senior Advocate of Nigeria, is principal counsel in J.B. Majiyagbe & Co., with a wide commercial law practice in Nigeria. Born in Lagos, he is a graduate of the University of London.

Mr. Majiyagbe is a member of the Honourable Body of Benchers, a former member of the interim judicial service committee, Kano State, a past vice president of the Nigerian Bar Association, and a member of the International Bar Association. He has served as a trustee of the Kano Lebanon Club and the Kano Club. He was a long-time Chancellor of the Anglican Diocese of Kano and is currently the Chairman, Nigerian Red Cross Society, Kano Branch. Mr. Majiyagbe is also a member of the Kano Chamber of Commerce, Industry Mines and Agriculture.

A Rotarian since 1967, Mr. Majiyagbe is a member and past president of the Rotary Club of Kano. He has served Rotary International as district governor, International Assembly instructor, committee member, director and trustee of the Rotary Foundation. He is a recipient of the Rotary Foundation Meritorious Service and the Distinguished Service A wards.

As Chairman of the African Regional Polio Plus Committee and member of the International Polio Plus Committee, Mr. Majiyagbe is dedicated to the global effort to eradicate polio. Rotary's Polio Plus program, launched in 1985, is an aggressive public/private partnership to assist international health agencies and governments to certify the world as polio-free by the year 2005, Rotary's centennial anniversary. By that year, Rotary will have committed nearly a half billion US dollars to the eradication effort. To date, more than two billion children have been immunized against the deadly polio.

**October 2003**

## To All Participants in the Presidential Celebration Highlighting Inter-Country Committees

Dear Fellow Rotarians and Guests:

My dear friends,

It is my pleasure to welcome you to this Presidential Celebration where we will be focusing on Inter-Country Committees. The purpose of this event is to celebrate the success of inter-country committees in various part of the world and to provide a forum for the exploration of ways in which the development of inter-country committees can contribute to international understanding and the furtherance of the program of Rotary throughout the world. Inter-country committees consist of country representatives who usually meet at least once a year, alternating from one country to the other. Such committees serve in an advisory capacity to the governors in the districts of countries involved and function without financial support from RI. These committees often facilitate participation by clubs and districts in joint international service activities. My goal is that this event will increase the know-

wledge of the participants about the benefits and opportunities for service made possible by participation in inter-country committees and extension of inter-country committees to all parts of the Rotary world.

I am confident that our activities today will be enjoyable and enriching. The organizing committee has worked long and hard to make this program a success. Along with the presentations that you will hear, will be opportunities for you to share your own stories, questions and ideas and to hear the suggestions and concerns of other participants. Your enthusiastic participation in today's activities will be key to the success of this Celebration.

I extend to each of you my best wishes as we work together this year to Lend a Band through Rotary service in our clubs, in our communities and around the world. I am counting on you to share what you have learned and experienced today with other Rotarians in your club and district. I want today to be the start of something dynamic and exciting in this part of the world.



## Serge GOUTEYRON

Rotary Club of Denain-Bouchain

Director-Elect of Rotary International  
France National ICC Coordinator

# The Role of Inter-Country Committees

Inter-country committees have been a part of Rotary International for 53 years now. The first committee was a Franco-German initiative created in Strasbourg in 1950. Using Rotary as an intermediary, it sought to rekindle the ties of friendship between France and Germany and, once again, bring together Rotarians who had suffered the burden of two world wars.

Such were the motives of 2 governors: Robert Hausmann and Roger Coutant who initiated this rapprochement. Out of their ideas blossomed Inter-country Committees, ICCs – one of Rotary International’s programmes to promote peace and world understanding

**Today, 200 inter-country committees are active in Europe, Africa and the Middle East, lending a hand to Rotary International and its Foundation, spreading our influence around the world.**

### An imperative and a necessity

#### A Necessity

The “necessity” behind the creation of a committee merits closer attention.

While we are certainly all working toward goodwill among peoples in each of our corners of the world, it is when two teams (one in each country) come together to achieve this goal that it becomes a genuine mission.

Representatives meet once yearly (alternately in each country). These ICCs are generally incorporated as an association, complete with a board of directors and supporting officers. Districts, clubs and member Rotarians provide financial support.

The Rotarians working in an ICC keep an open ear to the needs of the country, bringing along with them their unique professional experience. As they share their expertise, their ideal of service becomes contagious, just as with the Rotary Volunteers.

An ICC is created to respond to certain needs that change over time. As associations, their structure is ideal for building ties with Chambers of Commerce, universities, and hospitals. These contacts afford them a special status in relation to these entities.

Although the work of an inter-country committee may vary over time, it is always the same idea that guides it.

A number of committees have been established in Europe: behind each of them is a desire to build direct, personal relations between Rotarians from two different countries. ICCs work much like Friendship Exchanges, but with a more precise goal: Twin Clubs.

#### Africa

In the sixties and seventies, ICCs focused their attention primarily on the African continent. Many young nations were just beginning to enjoy the benefits of their newfound independence. Here, ICCs focused on building ties and working toward social and economic development through humanitarian and educational projects that called upon the competences of Rotary Clubs and the Foundation. Rotarians at project sites would determine what help was needed and would ensure that Rotary aid from the north was channelled to the right areas. Consequently, valuable assistance was provided to northern, central and western African countries. ICCs act as an indispensable tool in project completion, supporting projects launched by clubs or districts.

#### Solidarity Without Interference

#### Central Europe

The fall of communism in Central Europe throughout the 90s led to a birth and rebirth of Rotary. In this region, newly created ICCs have an additional role of promoting Rotary’s expansion by sponsoring new clubs.

Without the help of ICCs, Rotary’s first steps into Poland, Ukraine, Russia, Romania, Bulgaria, Hungary and the Baltic States would no doubt have been far more sluggish. French ICCs were particularly active and dedicated to Rotary’s growth in Ukraine, Romania, Poland and Russia

District 2230, for example, includes 90 clubs and 3,000 Rotarians in Poland, Ukraine, and Byelorussia. Sixty of these clubs were sponsored by clubs in Germany, Austria, Belgium, Holland, Italy, the United States, Canada and France.

These new Rotarians longed to know more about our nongovernmental movement, which is based on freedom and selflessness. ICCs embraced this unique aspect of expansion as

another priority. Conscious of this need, the ICC France / Russia wrote and published an informational brochure adapted to their circumstances.

It was also at this time that ICCs were created in the Middle East with Turkey, Egypt, Lebanon, Jordan and Israel.

I was recently in Alexandria where I saw firsthand how ICCs in the 7 countries of District 2450 have become an essential arm of district international service.

While attending the district 2420 conference in Antalya, Turkey, I saw what high regard these Rotarians hold for ICCs.

In Amman, I saw the hope for peace born out of the work of the Jordan/France committee.

### **The International Spirit of ICCs**

Although the scope of activities conducted by ICCs reflect that of Rotarians and Rotary International, the work of ICCs particularly emphasizes the international character of Rotary:

- They create a virtual embassy in other countries.
- They offer a natural forum for dialogue between different cultures.
- They provide concrete assistance to communities.

There is no doubt that ICCs are effectively partaking in one of the greatest roles that an international nongovernmental organisation can play. A role that is characterized by the shedding of national patriotism to act as ambassadors of peace with:

- An open mind to the beliefs of others. Paired with this tolerance

is the conviction that the application of fundamental standards brings greater richness and fulfilment to life.

- Support of justice for all of humanity, understanding that such principles are essential and must be applied universally.
- A fight against economic disparity and exclusion in the name of cherished human values.

This international spirit has allowed ICCs to bring about the rapprochement of two Europe, one Byzantine and Orthodox, the other Catholic and Reformist: Western Europe having for so long forgotten its Eastern counterpart.

Let us, as Rotarians, also draw on this international spirit in support of the President's programme on the African continent **to fight poverty, illiteracy, illness and AIDS; We as Rotarians should make this fight a priority.**

### **Conclusion**

Inter-country committees are here to act on your behalf, if you so choose.

Because now, more than ever, Rotarians should encircle the globe and convey their message of hope.

I would also like to invite you to take part in the work of inter-country committees and the international spirit of Rotary as we strive to accomplish **Paul Harris' objective:**

**The Happiness of Man in a World of Peace.**

Thank You.

**Serge Gouteyron**

National ICC Coordinator, RI Director-elect

## **Inter-Country Committee (ICC) History**

After World War I, when old demons of nationalism reappeared somewhat everywhere in Europe, and at the time of the first European Conference of Rotary International in the Hague in 1931, Past Governors Otto Bühler (RC Vienna, D73) and George Bernardot (RC Paris, D49) created the "Small Franco-German Committee". This was the precursor of the many European Inter Country Committees that exist today.

Showing a prophetic vision and a stubborn courage, the sheer will of our two Past Governors, belonging each to historically belligerent nations, demonstrated a firm will to reinforce links between Rotarians of their two close districts (49th and 73rd).

The activities of the "Small Committee" provided for reciprocal visits of club members, common press relations, youth exchanges, as well as lecturers and Rotarian reviews.

Four important meetings followed; the Hague, Basle (neutral ground in Switzerland), Stuttgart and Besançon, and that of Nice (1937) during the International Convention of the RI. Maurice Duperrey was elected the President of Rotary International and stated, with regard to ex-servicemen of France and Germany, that they were the first to take part in the reconciliation of their countries because "the hatred of war is the shortest hyphenation between those that did it and those that suffered from it!"

Unfortunately the Committee ceased its activities at the end of 1937, as the Nazi regime prohibited first the German Rotary clubs, then those of Austria.

In 1950, Past-Governors Roger Coutant and Jean Caroni (RC Lille) renewed a difficult contact on both sides of the Rhine.

In Baden-Baden (on May 18, 1950), Robert Haussmann, who was the first German governor after the Second World War, organised the first post-war conference of his district. Roger Coutant, accompanied by seven French Rotarians, decided to re-establish Franco-German relations, which helped pave the way to a reunified Europe.

On May 20th 1950, in Strasbourg (France) during the Conference of District 70, a Resolution was adopted by twenty-four German Rotary clubs condemning aggressions and actions against "Human Rights". The first France-Germany Inter Country Committee had been born.

Since then, other ICCs have been created, first amongst European countries, then between clubs on different continents. Rotary International, noting the utility of the European initiative in the service of peace on earth, made it an official programme recommended to all Rotarian regions.

### **ICC Aims, Structure, Operations and Financing**

In the latest edition of the Manual of Procedures, which followed the advice of the Council of Legislation of Chicago (2001), is written that Rotarian clubs or districts can form Inter Country Committees by means of the intermediary or agreement of their governors.

**Their aims are as follow:**

- To promote intercultural understanding amongst the peoples of the world by encouraging Rotarians to visit each other's countries and homes; and,

- To strengthen the bonds of friendship so formed by encouraging clubs and districts to link with clubs and districts of other countries in the WCS, or other international projects.

### Structure of the ICCs:

The delegations of an ICC meet in assembly once a year at least, alternatively in each country.

An ICC will be able to act only in the quality of consultative body to the governors. It will be constituted of members from two countries, with more or less affinity and even located on different continents. The delegation members must be able to travel between both countries. The participation of the entire club or districts of the concerned countries will not be an obligation. The name of the committee will include the names of the two countries, and identify the clubs and districts taking part in it. The ICCs in France are structured within the framework of the obligations of the Law of 1901 regulating the establishment of associations.

### Operations:

The governors designate a Rotarian as national coordinator for a 3 years mandate. This coordinator is responsible for the establishment of contacts with the foreign clubs and districts. Creation of a national committee is also suggested, directed by a Council made up of a President, a secretary and a treasurer, each elected for 3 years. After having created or approved the ICC, the concerned governors can participate in order to sponsor or make known the activities of the ICC that contribute to the aims of Rotary International. Or, to ask for the assistance of past governors or experienced Rotarians in the region in order to create inter-district committees in addition to the national committees, the purpose of which is to advise and assist ICCs in their missions. The mandate of the members of these committees cannot be more than 3 years.

### Financing:

Since the organisation and the operation of ICCs are the responsibility of the clubs and districts, they function without support of RI. However, the districts which support the creation of an ICC need often lend assistance, even if this is only a matter of administrative operating expenses.

## Current Situation of French ICCs

**There are:** - Twenty-three active committees: Algeria, Cameroon, Egypt, Mauritania, Tunisia, Poland, Russia, Germany, Italy, Switzerland-Liechtenstein, Turkey, Brazil, Burkina Faso-Mali, Morocco, Senegal, Bulgaria, Romania, Ukraine, Spain-Andorra, Portugal, Lebanon, Jordan; - Two committees which are being «reactivated»: Belgium-Luxembourg and Sweden; - Four committees which are being created: Canada, Madagascar, Togo (for which the exchange of charters will occur in Antibes), Greece (exchange of charter on June 21, 2003); - Four committees which are under study: Vietnam, Kampuchea, Nigeria and later China; - Four committees which apparently did not have any activity during last year: Austria, Benign, Ivory Coast, Great Britain.

ICCs can be classified in two main categories:

- ICCs that rely on a network of inter-club contacts established since many years and linking countries of comparable standards of living. The activity of these ICCs is typically

harmonious and established on the basis of almost equal reciprocity. Also, the undertaking of programme activities is done easily by the clubs concerned. These ICCs are relatively financially autonomous.

- ICCs with a low frequency of club contacts and with two sub-groups:
  - ICCs on the African continent,
  - ICCs with countries recently opened to RI and in which Communism has ruled during half a century.

As regards the above category with subgroups, note that the countries of these groups have standards of living that are generally lower than those of Western Europe. It is obvious that the flow of exchanges occurs more frequently from richer countries towards lesser-developed countries that are improving their economies and living conditions.

Note also that the funds necessary for the operation of the ICCs and for undertaking programme activities are important in the above two mentioned sub-groups. Fortunately, the persons in charge have shown great imagination by appealing to possibilities offered by the Rotary Foundation's international programmes; or, even better, by forming partnerships with public or private institutions such as: Chambers of Commerce and Industry, private clinics, hospitals, universities, and even the European Union (Tempus programmes, Socrates, etc.)

### This analysis calls for some comments:

- First of all, heartfelt thanks are owed to all those Rotarians, Governors, Rotary Foundation, and members of the ICCs, who took part in ICC activities. Their actions were both varied and important: Exchanges of both young people and of professionals; Ryla; Scholarships; GSE; Donations of books, drugs, medical assistance and surgical supplies, computer equipment, as well as musical instruments; and Matching grants of the Rotary Foundation.

### • And A Homage:

- To the continuity of ICC actions of our senior members in all the ICCs formed in France since 1950 (about thirty) who bear witness to the success of their French ICCs,
- To the intuitive spirit of Rotarians who in 1991, and again in 1995, formed in Poland and Russia the first two ICCs - France-Poland, and France-Russia - in the countries of Eastern and Central Eastern Europe with a rapid extension to the Ukraine, Romania, and Bulgaria. Let us underscore that the clubs created in these mentioned countries, formerly located behind the Iron Curtain, received an appreciable help from co-sponsorships by the Rotarians of Western countries. This assistance allowed them a rapid expansion which contributed to the stability of Rotarian membership on the European continent.
- To the harmony, the breadth and the balance in the choice of the partner countries in Western Europe, in Eastern and Central Eastern Europe, in the Maghreb, in Africa and soon in Asia and China.

## What Future to Wish for the ICCs?

Two assessments presently come to mind:

- There is a general consensus about the role of the ICCs as effective instruments of promotion of fellowship, international understanding and peace – of which all Rotarians involved are convinced.

■ We must note some regret, however. If the ICCs are well-known and employed in Europe, they have not seen any usage in North, Central, or South America, neither in the Asian Countries nor in Australia.

### What future could one wish for the ICCs?

• The ICCs should be a primary tool of Rotary International to make known and apply its key international programmes. In as much as the ICCs are permanent Rotarian embassies in partner countries, they are vectors for promoting democracy, tolerance, education, and the expansion of Rotary. (ICCs were instrumental in the expansion of Rotary in Eastern Europe.)

• Another ambition, perhaps the most important, would be to develop the ICCs where they do not exist yet in order to constitute within Rotary International institutional means for the promotion of peace in the world, and particularly where there are conflicts. Lastly, the global organisation of the ICCs lends itself as an opening to non-Rotarians for large international-scale projects, with Rotarians supervising the projects, and a lobbying force in favour of the programmes of Rotary International: In this perspective, the ICCs should be attached directly to the Central Council, and delegates for each zone could be designated to ensure the coordination of the ICCs - whilst remaining under the control of the active governors. As for their financing, it would continue to be done by the districts and the clubs, and by the delegates of the participating sections. Achievements in the promotion of peace could be recognized by awards from Rotary International.

In the spirit of this evolution, the ICCs have obviously benefited over several decades from invaluable support from Rotarian personalities:

As early as 1951-52, **Frank Spain**, Past President of RI, claimed that *«the creation of the ICCs is the most important Rotarian event of the post-war period in Europe»*.

For **Paulo Costa** (President 1990-91 of the RI) *«the European ICCs are the true pioneers of the international action of Rotary International because they contribute to insert peace in the hearts»*.

It is also necessary to add to these appreciations the personal engagement of President **Clifford Dochterman** who, with **Albert Auriach** and **Michel Beaux** organised in Montpellier in 1992 a conference dedicated to the promotion of the ICCs.

Let us point out also the support of Past Presidents of the RI **Bob Barth** and **Bill Huntley** during the creation, in 1991 and then in 1995, of the France-Poland and France-Russia ICCs, and the appreciation of Presidents **Luis Vicente Giay**, **Carlo Ravizza**, **James Lacy** and **Frank Devlyn**.

### **Lille Conference - March 25, 2001**

Frank Devlyn chaired the Lille national conference devoted to the French ICCs in which 450 Rotarians took part - with presentations regarding the activities of the various partners of France, among which were found those of the following ICCs: France-Germany, -Poland, -Algeria, -Spain, -Senegal, -Bulgaria, -Russia, and Switzerland / Liechtenstein.

President Devlyn concluded this conference by affirming that *«In life, when one is not the author of a work, one manages to*

*doubt its existence: This is so for ICCs, which are especially known in Europe, and I would even say that if they did not exist, they would have had to be invented. I see that you all are impassioned Rotarians invested in this beautiful cause, which is that of shared understanding amongst people»*.

### **The Presidential Celebration of the ICCs**

(Antibes-Juan les Pins - October 25 2003)

We are delighted that President Jonathan Majiyagbe (2003-2004 of RI) has expressed his wish to invite a maximum number of Rotarians to join him at the Palais des Congrès of Antibes-Juan les Pins on Saturday October 25 2003 in order to study the various ways the development of the ICCs can contribute to comprehension between peoples and promote the progress of Rotary programmes throughout the whole world.

The goal of the President is that this celebration enhances the knowledge of participants as regards the advantages and opportunities of personal service made possible by belonging to ICCs and their extension throughout all the parts of the Rotarian world.

Whereas we live in a virtual society inhabited by violence, money, image and success, President Jonathan gives us this valuable opportunity to express ourselves in terms of kindness and friendship by means of humanitarian actions in the domains of culture and education, which are the prerogatives of ICC activities.

Fifteen of our Rotarian friends will come from around the whole world to illustrate what they have accomplished in these domains. Several attendees will testify personally how their involvement in cultural undertakings and participative solidarity contributed to the promotion of peace. Attending Rotarians will have also the possibility to propose their own ideas and to make suggestions of ways to support the expansion of ICCs thereby assuring their success.

We address our cordial thanks to Governors Lucien Elégant and Bernard Bonnes and to their Rotarians friends who have accepted the heavy responsibility of organising our celebration. President Jonathan expects us to be numerous in Antibes-Juan les Pins! Let us take heart and lend a hand to those who are expecting a responsive gesture by your attendance.

Serge Gouteyron

Director 2004-2006 of RI - Coordinator of ICCs for France  
President & founder of ICC France-Russia

Marcel Stéfanski

President of the Steering Committee of the Presidential Celebration of ICCs  
Executive Vice-President of IC France-Poland

### **Biography**

- Histoire et histoires du Rotary – Marc Levin
- Compte rendus d'activité des CIP - «Le Rotarien» Christophe Courjon
- Archives des Délégués Inter Pays - Jacques Laurent - Jean Courquin - Paul Santens - Louis Massot Bordenave
- Les Comités Inter pays (organisation fonctionnement) - André Merlin
- Colloque sur les CIP (Montpellier) - Clifford Dochterman - Albert Auriach
- Le manuel de procédure – édition 2001
- Les Comités Interpays: colloque de Lille 25 mars 2001 (Frank Devlyn)
- Courriers du Président Jonathan Majiyagbe



## Onder Bilginer

### European ICC President

Rotary Club of Istanbul

*“If Inter-Country Committees did not exist, we would have to invent them.” These were the words of appreciation of R.I. Past President Frank Devlyn at the Inter-Country Committees (ICCs) symposium at Lille, in March 2001. Likewise RI Past President Richard King declared that “ICCs’ work in supporting world understanding and peace is more critical than ever before. After the events of September 11th promoting Rotary ideals of service, spreading friendship, understanding and peace have been the most important business of Rotary.” RI Past President Bichai Rattakul has also underlined that “ICCs are a great way to increase international peace and fellowship.”*

#### **Why has the work of ICCs become a vital task for Rotary?**

Because the threat to world peace is becoming a growing concern to mankind. As UN General Secretary Kofi Annan mentioned in the interview he recently gave to the “Rotarian”: “We have a common interest in maintaining peace in this day and age.” These quotes of our RI Past Presidents and the UN General Secretary can only be interpreted as a call to duty, a reminder to Rotarians of their duties.

Since their inception, ICCs have been preaching and successfully implementing understanding and peace among people of different origins and cultures. They have built bridges of friendship and cooperation, and with their simple structure and flexibility they have extended Rotary services to remote parts of the world as well as to countries where Rotary did not exist. They have succeeded in creating very strong ties between partner countries and achieved remarkable goals in true Rotarian spirit.

ICCs were born in Europe and since 1958 they have flourished, mainly in European countries. France and Germany were the pioneers and soon Italy, Belgium, Luxembourg and Holland followed as nations of “small Europe”. Later on, Austria, Denmark, the RIBI region, Switzerland, Spain, Portugal, Sweden, Finland, Norway, Greece, Turkey, Israel, Hungary, Poland and Romania joined in these ICC activities.

Regrettably not all of these countries are active nowadays and some of them like RIBI and Scandinavian countries have withdrawn. Today, most of the countries of zones 10-18 are enjoying opportunities for service, as well as the benefits of ICCs. The Americas and Asian countries have

long considered that ICCs as not for them. They felt strongly that ICCs are pertinent to Europe alone. However, ICCs have continued developing and extending to other countries and continents, especially in the last two decades following the worldwide trend of globalisation.

France has set up ICCs with many African countries with whom they have historical ties, and they are in the process of working to create committees with the USA and Canada, as well as with countries from the Far East (China, Vietnam and Cambodia).

Besides the ICCs set up with Brazil and Egypt, Italy is in the process of establishing ICCs with African countries of the Maghreb and Japan; likewise Portugal has an ICC with Brazil, and Romania (D.2241) has established an ICC with the USA (D.5240) through our introduction and contribution made at our ICC booth at the Barcelona Convention. In Barcelona, we also had the privilege of attending the charter signing ceremony of Spain with Uruguay, Burkina Faso, Mali and Cameroon as well as France with Burkina Faso, Mali and Cameroon.

I believe strongly that, in the near future, ICCs will further develop the Intercontinental Committees which will be accepted and welcomed into the whole Rotary world.

If we look back at the achievements of ICCs in Europe since 1958 when they started to hold regular yearly meetings in Strasbourg, we can proudly say that they have been a very important and a very efficient tool which has played a major role in unifying Europe and in restoring peace in the continent. In fact, at the ICC 15th plenary meeting (April 1978,

Strasbourg) and at his subsequent address at the European Council RI President Jack Davis declared that “the most tangible contribution made by Rotary to Europe was through Inter-Country Committees and Contact Clubs.” He further mentioned that the concept of ICCs is followed throughout the Rotary world and added that we had now an immense responsibility: the objective of unifying the peoples of the world.

RI President Mac Caffrey in Strasbourg in 1982 stressed the importance of the efficient work of European ICCs which should serve as an example to the rest of the Rotary world. He added: “*this way, we would have the pride and joy to prove that Rotary can contribute efficiently to the unification of humanity.*”

Again in Strasbourg in 1985, RI President Carlos Canseco recommended the creation of ICCs all over the Rotary world.

In 1986, RI President M.A.T. Caparas had written his thanks to ICCs for having contributed largely to international understanding, not only in Europe but also in some African countries.

Today the need for their existence and their contribution to world understanding and peace is greater than ever before.

Then a question comes to mind. How is it possible that despite the diversity and the magnitude of their achievements, ICCs and their services are so little known or totally unknown to many of our fellow Rotarians in most parts of the world?

This is be partly due to the fact that, as I have mentioned before, countries in many parts of the world have never embraced ICCs, thinking they were purely European, and not their concern.

In some other instances many Rotarians were sceptical about ICCs.

### **What were they? Some kind of a parallel organisation to Rotary?**

It is important at this point to emphasise what as ICC President Walter Zingg underlined in St. Gallen in 1984 in presence of RI President Carlos Canseco “ICC activities are perfectly integrated to the international services of Rotary as clearly stated in the Manual of Procedure. They should not be considered as coming from a parallel organisation working outside the traditional structure of R.I.”

In many instances District Governors, who have not been adequately informed about ICCs at their International Assemblies, do not value as they might the importance of the services they may derive or lack from ICCs.

It is therefore of paramount importance that District Governors-Elect are informed about ICCs at Anaheim and encouraged to cooperate with them. ICCs with their experience in international service, their past performances, their

strong ties and friendly relations with the partner country are an extremely valuable help to Governors. ICCs’ most important assets are the active committees they have established with partner countries and the network of contact clubs and twin clubs they have succeeded in establishing.

You are certainly aware that in this Rotary year 2003-2004 RI is launching the Twin Clubs programme as part of the Centennial Celebration. ICCs have always given priority to creating and working with contact clubs as we also did in our term. We are proud to mention as examples of best practice that with 34 partner countries France has established 34 ICCs and over 1,300 Contact Clubs with those countries. Likewise Germany has set up 25 ICCs that have initiated the creation of close to 1,000 Contact Clubs. It is easy to imagine the tremendous potential these two countries can develop through joint international service projects.

In a few moments I will leave the floor to the ICC Section Presidents who will present you some examples of the projects they have implemented. I should say that the ones presented to you today only represent a fraction of the projects achieved every year. But we had to select a few to give you a reasonable idea of the variety of services ICCs are bringing to different parts of the world. I am sure you will find them worthy of your attention. Please listen carefully to them.

I wish to express our most sincere gratitude to our President Majiyagbe for giving us this opportunity to express ourselves and present our activities to this elite audience and to the Rotary world.

In this first Presidential Celebration of Inter-Country Committees, we would like to request our President’s permission to ask a favour from him:

The recognition by RI of ICCs.

The issue is controversial. ICCs are the only committees that Districts, Rotary Clubs and fellow Rotarians are urged to establish.

In no other instances does the Manual of Procedure urge Districts, Clubs and the Rotarians to get involved in any other Rotarian activity. This is a clear sign of their priority. However RI has not granted ICCs the recognition it has given other groups such as IYFORIAN.

ICCs are surely as important, when taking into consideration their functions, the praising words of our Past RI Presidents and the special attention of our President Majiyagbe who has dedicated a full day of his valuable time to this first Presidential Celebration.

We would be very grateful and endlessly obliged if our President Majiyagbe would kindly support us by ensuring ICCs are included in the “Official Directory” and be a part of the information offered in the “Rotary Magazine” and to the Governors Elect in Anaheim.

I wish to believe that our RI President Majiyagbe will “lend a hand” to ICCs and with most his valuable help will make this day unforgettable.



## LÄNDERAUSSCHUSS POLEN - DEUTSCHLAND KOMITET MIĘDZYKRAJOWY POLSKA – NIEMCY

**Richard Pyritz**

Vorsitzender / Przewodniczący

R.C. Ratzeburg-Alte Salzstraße

### Project: WIR SIND NACHBARN, JESTESMY SASIADAMI, WE ARE NEIGHBOURS

Mister President, Friends in Rotary,

In the year 2002 the two chairmen of the ICC Poland–Germany published a book titled WIR SIND NACHBARN – WE ARE NEIGHBOURS in German and in Polish JESTESMY SASIADAMI – that is also WE ARE NEIGHBOURS.

The content of this book is 20 essays about the German–Polish relations.

Scientists, politicians, journalists, men from the church, and a poet wrote about the specificity and difficulty of the German–Polish neighbourhood. They give basic information and describe the current situation.

This difficult neighbourhood essentially results from the tragic history that Poland and Germany shared in the last centuries. 200 years ago Poland was divided by Russia, Austria and Germany, and for 123 years Poland did not appear on the European map.

During World War II, under the dictatorship of the nazis, millions of people were killed and millions of others were driven out of their home-countries on both the German and the Polish side. These memories are still alive. That are the reasons why we need good information, why it is useful to hear about the experiences of others.

#### **In the essays**

- we learn about the difficult and tragic common history;
- we learn about the cultural ties that unite these two important European nations;
- we learn about the problems and chances related to the entrance of 10 new country in the European Union next year;

— we get information about the economy of the biggest of these 10 countries;

— and we hear about Rotary in Poland and about the work of the Poland–Germany ICC, about common projects.

#### **Our goals are:**

- to give broad basic information and background knowledge about each other;
- to offer Rotarian friends the opportunity to know each other;
- to encourage the Rotarian friends to initiate contacts and club-partnerships;
- to bring people together, especially the young people;
- and to fight against prejudices and stereotype thinking.

#### **These goals were formulated by two famous Polish people:**

The one is Professor Bartoszewski, a historian and former Polish Minister of Foreign Affairs who said:

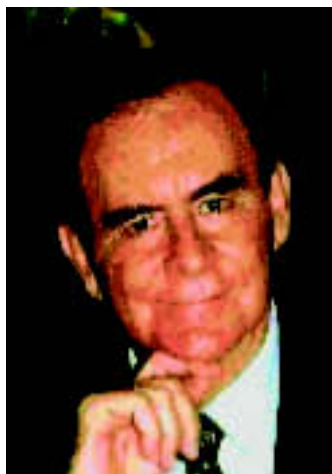
*«I am dreaming of a time in which German and Polish people can be only this for each other: quite normal people».*

And the other is Andrzej Kijowski, a Polish publisher, who said:

*«There is only one way against bad will, fear, and ignorance: an extensive, honest and solid knowledge about each other».*

We want to make Mr. Bartoszewski's dream come true and we want to show the people of our two neighbour-countries the way to come together.

Thank you.



## France- Senegal ICC

### Eduardo SUAREZ

Member of the Rotary Club of Dakar since 1980.  
President of its Club two consecutive years in 1988-1989 and in 1989-1990.  
Secretary of District 9100 under Governor Rito Alcantara 1987-1988.  
Governor of District 900 in 2001-2002 (the 14 member countries of District 9100 comprising three language groups: English, French and Portuguese).  
President of Rotary Foundation Committee of District 9100 in 2003-2006 (for three years).  
P.H.F. 5 Sapphires.  
Secretary of the Senegalese section of the France-Senegal ICC for 10 years.

The France-Senegal ICC was created in 1985. It is the oldest ICC in Sub-Saharan Africa.

It is made up of seven clubs from Senegal and French Rotarians from Bordeaux, and the Brittany and Provence regions.

With the goal being the settlement of rural populations, it is essential to give them the tools to earn a living and to give them access to health care and education.

The ICC activities have so far been in favour of rural areas, i.e. building schools, welfare centres and maternity centres; building accessible wells for drinkable water supplies; and teaching modern agricultural techniques.

Today, over CFAF 400,000,000 (the equivalent to 610,000 euros) have been invested in these activities.

For a year, the France-Senegal ICC has implemented a large-scale programme entitled “Restoring Hope, Reforesting Sahel”. Beyond restoring or building schools and health centres, this programme intends to plant trees in 4,200m<sup>2</sup> lots for firewood.

Over 60,000 fruit trees have been planted for the benefit of about 500 rural families. That means a total of 5,000 beneficiaries of whom more than 1,000 young people aged between 15 and 18 years who will settle in their native lands, thus reducing the exodus to the city.

The ICC’s objective for the next four years is to plant 1,000,000 fruit trees in three regions of Senegal. This project, carried out by the Rotarians of Toulouse, is on track. Within 4 years, 12,000 lots, one per family, should be set up and 120,000 persons should initially benefit from this project in addition to those responsible for the transformation of the fruits into jams and fruit paste, and their distribution.

These operations should all take place on the plantation fields to give jobs to the young and help them remain on their land.

The total estimated cost of this project is CFAF 1,000,000 (1,525,000 euros). It will be funded by 95% by French Clubs and 5% by Senegalese Clubs. The entire supervision and follow-up of this operation will be ensured by the Rotarians from Senegal with the collaboration of experts.

At the end of the four-year period, we anticipate that every farmer who received a plantation will be able to generate annual revenues of about CFAF 1,300,000, compared to an average income of CFAF 200,000 annually. Hence, the benefit of this operation.

The mutual trust that exist between the partners of this ICC is at the root of the success of this operation.

Understanding between parties and ongoing follow-up are a must.

Because of its many successes that have enabled thousands of youngsters to avoid migrating to the city where they are more likely to become beggars, the France-Senegal ICC is an example to follow. I take the opportunity to speak to you today to call on the French Rotary clubs; Senegal is dear to every French person because of historical ties – marked by a happy and at times less happy history - that have linked our countries.

Your Senegalese friends need you. Do not disappoint them. Bring your contribution to this remarkable project. Help us restore hope by reforesting Sahel.

Thank you

**Eduardo Suarez**  
Socorro - 2001-2002 Governor of District 9100  
Dakar, Senegal

## Milan Roch,

National Coordinator  
Czech Republic and Slovakia  
Rotary Club of Prague



Rotary Clubs of Nurnberg-Neumarkt,  
Freyung-Grafenau and Wurzburg  
District 2240 – Czech Republic and Slovak Republic  
Cz+Sk – Germany ICC

### Project: Renewal of Architectural Monuments in the Border Area

For more than 40 years Europe was divided into East and West by the so-called Iron Curtain. This division had tragic consequences for the life of millions of people. It brought disruption of economic, social and ethical values of the mankind and disrupted human and cultural ties existing for many centuries before. At that time the Czechoslovak-German border formed a substantial part of the Iron Curtain. On the Czech side the original inhabitants were forced to abandon their homes and the frontier belt was transformed into a military zone. A great number of buildings in the area were dilapidated or completely destroyed.

Churches, chapels, field crosses and small monuments met a similar fate.

After the fall of the Iron Curtain people started to return into the nearly empty area. Until now the majority of houses have been repaired and many new homes and recreational houses are being built. However, a cultural landscape needs also something more. The management of the National Park Šumava, which is the administrator of a great part of the region, conceived the idea of reconstructing in the first stage small stone monuments, small chapels and field crosses, which had been an indivisible part of the region for many years.

The implementation of the project started in 2001.

In the beginning of 2002, Rotary Club Prague signed an agreement with the National Park Šumava about participation in this project and initiated the support of several German clubs. Together with German Rotary Clubs of Nurnberg-Neumarkt, Freyung-Grafenau and Wurzburg, they collected CZK250,000 (EUR8,500), being about 40 percent of the 2002 total repair costs. The available amount enabled repair work in 2002 to total 49 small objects.

In the summer months of the year 2003, a further 45 small monuments are to be repaired, the costs of which are expected to reach CZK450,000 (EUR15 000). These small monuments are situated in the southern part of the National Park Šumava, including also the area at the Czech-Austrian border. This activity would finish the first stage of the project. In the second phase, subject to availability of financial means, it is planned to reconstruct the medium-sized chapel of St. Anne in the village of Borová Lada.

From the beginning this valuable project has been followed-up and included in the activities of the ICC Czech Republic+Slovakia–Germany. Its activity attracted further Rotary clubs in both countries to participate. The greatest success in this field is the fact, that the German Rotary district 1950 included this project in their 2003/2004 community service plan with the target costs of EUR25,000.

This project is a very good example of joint activities of Czech and German Rotarians, helping to overcome the consequences of the historical division of Europe, symbolized by the existence of the Iron Curtain. At the moment forms are being developed to tie up this project with the newly formed Iron Curtain Foundation Worldwide. One of the primary goals of this foundation is to open the Iron Curtain Memorial Museum, which could also become a place where the achievements of the renewal project would be on permanent display to the public.

**Milan Roch**

National Coordinator, Czech Republic+Slovakia

## Allemagne Pays Balte

### Wilfried Ansknewitsch



Born on March 19, 1936 in Riga, Latvia  
Rotarian since 1970  
Rotary Club of Detmold, D 1900, Germany  
President 1978/79  
District Governor 2000/01 D 1900, Germany  
Chairman Inter-Country Committee Baltic States-Germany since 1999  
Zone coordinator literacy 2001/2002  
District chairman, International Service 2001/03  
District chairman, Vocational Service 2003/04  
Multi-District Vocational Service Coordinator 2003-06  
Married since 1961, 3 children  
Spouse: Inge-Rosemarie

## Financing a Speech Therapy Centre in Valmeira Lettonie

As you are aware from PDG Robert Rothe I am the chairman of the Baltic States-Germany ICC. This ICC was founded in Dresden in 1999 at the occasion of the Presidential Conference of RI Past-President Jim Lacy. It is a very active committee with many international projects sponsored by German Rotarians, Rotary clubs and districts.

One of the most outstanding ones happens to be that of my own district 1900 initiated by me as DGE in 1999/2000. It involves a comprehensive speech therapy centre, the first one in the Baltic States

Please find attached a DVD which was only recently synchronised into English for the event in Antibes showing the following

#### PROJECT ACCOMPLISHMENTS:

The speech therapy centre has been in operation since April 1, 2001. On average app. 60 children are permanently being treated.

The District of Valmiera has created six permanent full-time and several part-time jobs.

The project has found great public awareness within the country and general acceptance by parents.

It serves its function locally and within the district of Valmiera as well as a pilot project for the whole country.

It enjoys expert visits from within the country and abroad.

The Speech Therapy Centre fulfils the following functions:

- Identification of children with speech disorders in the city and district,
- Training of children to overcome delayed speech development,
- Remedy of speech disorders,
- Assistance to children with hearing defaults (cochlea implants),
- Organisation of therapy groups for handicapped children with heavy speech disorders, Treatment of in and outpatients,
- Operation as a pilot centre for the Baltic States,
- Training and education programs for speech therapists in Latvia and Germany.

## Belgium – Luxembourg – Turkey ICC

**BADRIK S. BÜCKER**

President of the Belgium-Luxembourg-Turkey ICC

After the earthquakes that swept the northeast of Turkey—causing the death of 14,000 people, injuring 30,000 and leaving homeless 60,000—a large part of the Belux-Turkey ICC’s activities focused on the two local hospitals devastated by the earthquakes. The World Community Service projects helped them resume their activity and save lives. This is why we have called these WCS projects “Operations of Survival”.

Sponsored by Belgian districts 1630, 1620, and 2170 and by the Rotary Club of Istanbul-Sarıyer, District 2420 in Turkey, we were able to supply four X-ray machines valued at \$50,000 (project #12672), four monitors and three defibrillators valued at \$38,061 (project # 13140) and four electrocardiographs for about \$20,000 (project # 12962).

The equipment was inaugurated on site on the occasion of a trip to Istanbul by the Belgian section of the Benelux-Turkey

ICC. The President of the ICC, Benoît Fontaine, and his spouse Bernadette as well as three of the ICC members and their spouses attended the inauguration. Also present were the Mayor of Izmit, members of the Municipal Council, The Director of the University, The Head Doctor, doctors from the various services and about 30 Rotarians from the Rotary Club of Istanbul-Sarıyer and other Rotarians from two neighbouring clubs. This celebration was largely reported in the local press and in the Rotarian magazines and newsletters in Belgium and Turkey.

I take this opportunity to thank the national coordinator Pierre Leloux for being available and the ICC President Benoît Fontaine without whom this operation could not have been possible.



### **Eclador NANA**

*Eclador Nana was born in 1956 in Cameroon. He received a diploma in Business Management, and joined the Rotary club of Yaoundé Collines in 1990 (classification of Construction and Public Works). He was president of his club in 1994-1995, and was Governor representative several times before assuming the title of Deputy Governor. He participated in several conferences of District 9150 in Rwanda, in the Democratic Republic of Congo, in Gabon and in Cameroon. He also attended many meetings outside Africa, including the 2002 Rotary Convention in Barcelona where he signed the charter of the France-Cameroon ICC of which he became the first president.*

Dear President Jonathan Dear Directors and Governors, Dear Rotarian Friends

Please allow me to convey to you the greetings of Cameroonian Rotarians who, through me, would like to thank you for the opportunity afforded to them to give their views on this new framework called Inter Country Committees which today is serving as a forum for us to fur-

ther celebrate the mutual understanding existing between the French and the Cameroonian people.

Having received our charter at the Barcelona Convention in 2002, we are pleased with the impulse and dynamism which our friend Guy DERASSE and the entire French Section have

been instilling in us. Thanks to this assistance, we have been able to carry out a good number of humanitarian acts and also launch similar major projects.

A case in point is the model project we carried out in central Cameroon at the Pouma Catholic hospital which saw the drilling of a well to provide the village with drinking water. This project necessitated financial backing to the tune of roughly \$35 000 from nearly 9 Rotary Clubs in France, Belgium, Great Britain, Germany and Cameroon, not forgetting District 1670 and the Rotary Foundation. We are also taking steps to equip the hospital with emergency facilities so that it can care for the many persons who are victims of accident on the Yaoundé–Douala Highway. This road takes away many lives which could have been saved were it not for the distance required to reach health centres equipped with better facilities.

How could we have failed to see the active and dynamic international character of Inter-country Committees and get more involved in their activities while at the same time re-enforcing their action capacity! Consequently, we have been working towards the promotion of these committees by:

- Informing the consular officials of counterpart countries about our activities; - calling on our Governors to disseminate such information extensively during training seminars for Presidents Elect so as to keep clubs informed thereof; - remaining available to speak on given topics during District conferences;
- Proposing the appointment of an ICC officer to the international action committee of each club responsible for monitoring relations with the local ICC section;
- Fostering exchange between youths of our respective countries as is the case with the Youth Exchange. To achieve that goal, we would like to suggest that the permanent bureau be set up in Yaoundé, Cameroon, so as to enable French – Cameroon ICCs to become a permanent and responsible springboard for the implementation, management and continuity of projects identified by both the club concerned and the population for which the projects are destined.

Such a bureau would facilitate the centralization of data and efforts by Rotarians of the two sections in the drawing up of the projects and the obtainment of funds from contact Clubs, District and the Rotary International Foundation. Its inception would also facilitate the monitoring of projects and the obtainment of authorisations from the Government services concerned in keeping which the official recognition by such services of our status as NGOs vested with the authority to carry our activities in Cameroon and entitled to the enjoyment of all the advantages and prerogatives provided for by the regulations in force.

Such a permanent bureau would also compensate for the lack of enthusiasm shown by Club Presidents whose limited term of office of only one year does not encourage them to

embark on long term projects. We are also currently providing funding in the east of Cameroon for a project geared towards the re – insertion of young prisoners in Bertoua. The project is being carried out in collaboration with four clubs from the Haute Loire: the Rotary International Foundation, the District, Haute Loire Region and the Association Auteuil International. Within the framework of the project, young prisoners are trained through learning workshops and other pedagogic activities.

The French Ambassador to Cameroon has also been giving us support in the management of this important project. In north Cameroon, a project called «*Equipment of Government Technical High school in 4 towns*» has been launched. The aim of the project is to provide these schools with electricity, various equipment, including sewing machines, and also to send a team of teachers to the said schools to set up the equipment and carry out teacher training.

Lastly, we will be lending our support to a school in Douala for the deaf and the mentally ill. Our mission will be to provide basic education through socialisation, and physical therapy for children with Down's syndrome. The project will be carried out in collaboration with the association of Cameroonian student in Lyon. Here then, Ladies & Gentlemen, briefly spelt out, is a range of Rotarian humanitarian activities which we would perhaps not have been able to carry out without the advent of this outstanding medium called Inter Country Committees.

I am also pleased to underscore the international character of all these activities which bring together Rotarians from several countries, Districts, the Rotary Foundation, Associations sharing our ideals of peace and even diverse personalities such as the French Ambassador to Cameroon and Mr. Jacques BARROT, the President of the Haute Loire Region.

If we are here today taking part in this Presidential Conference with Rotarians from France and the world over:

- It is because we believe in international mutual understanding.
- It is because we believe in friendship amongst peoples.
- It is because we believe that Rotary Clubs have a role to play in the promotion of peace through humanitarian activities.

Consequently we are counting on you, Dear Jonathan, Dear Directors and Ambassadors, and Rotarian Friends, For your support in the accomplishment of the lofty task entrusted to us by Paul Harris on February 23, 1905 in Chicago.

Thank you for your kind attention.

**Eclador NANA**



## France-Lebanon ICC, Lebanese Section

Presented by : **FARID GEBRAN**

Past President of the Rotary Club of Metn, Lebanon

Member of the Founding Committee of France–Lebanon ICC

Past President of the Lebanese section of the ICC

Past Governor of District 2450 (2003-2004)

Dear President Majiyagbe, Dear Rotarians

Ten years of existence for the France-Lebanon ICC that tell the story of continuing work, a solid basis for human and cultural relationships that have developed between Lebanon and France over the years.

The Conference of District 2450 in Lebanon was the opportunity for an official meeting between the French and Lebanese sections under the chairmanship of the late Past Governor Philippe Habert and the Lebanese chairmanship of the then Governor Dr Hazem Finge.

Since then, our ICC has maintained its mission and efforts. It was the catalyst for many remarkable activities.

### CREATION:

- **April, 28, 1993:** First official meeting of the two sections at the Conference of District 2450 in Lebanon
- **May, 6, 1994:** Official signing
- **June, 30, 1994:** Official response from RI

### COMMITTEES OF BOTH SECTIONS:

|           | <b>French Section</b> | <b>Lebanese Section</b> |
|-----------|-----------------------|-------------------------|
| 1993-1996 | PG Philippe Habert    | PG Hazem Finge          |
| 1996-1999 | PG Michel Azy         | PP Michel Jazzar        |
| 1999-2002 | PG Francis Gaudemard  | PP Farid Gebran         |
| 2002-2005 | PG Francis Gaudemard  | PP Antoine Salame       |

### ACTIVITIES

#### Environment

- Protection of the cedar forest in Lebanon. The project received a matching grant.
- Donation of a dump truck to a town by the Rotary Clubs of Lyon

#### Health Care

- Donation of a blood bank – 3H Programme
- Donation of an ambulance fully equipped thanks to a matching grant from the Rotary Foundation
- Donation of a dental clinic

#### Inter-Country Scholarships

- Scholarships awarded to 14 students
- Sponsorship of 10 orphans for 3 years
- Reception of six young people in Rotarian families for 3 weeks
- Participation of five young people in an international conference
- Participation of eight young people in the 4 RYLA seminars

#### Culture et Education

- Reprint of the book entitled «*Pensées Humanistes et Devoirs de L'Homme*»
- Translation into Arabic of the same book for a national project in favour of the new generation
- Recording of this book on audio tapes for the blind
- Creation of a Rotary Club section at the municipal library
- Distribution of more than four tons of books to seven municipal libraries and schools
- Participation in the Francophone Week in Lebanon during the 2002 Summit
- Vocational meeting

#### Club Twinning

- Seven Lebanese clubs are currently twinned with French clubs
- L'université Internationale pour la Paix
- Six Lebanese scholars and three conference speakers have participated in sessions of the International University for Peace.
- World Community Service projects aimed at providing medical equipment
- Supplies for a municipal library

#### Project for the blind:

- auction of paintings donated by a Lebanese painter.

We thank all the Rotarians, Governors, Clubs, Districts, ICC members, associations, and the Rotary Foundation who contributed to the success of our activities.



## ICC National Coordinator

**PIERRE LELOUX**

1988-89 Governor District 2170

Belgium and Luxemburg cluster under the abbreviation Belux, 12 Inter-Country Committees also including neighbouring countries and regions farther away such as Turkey and the latest one that the ICC is creating with Bulgaria, where we still have to put in place a choice of responsible members of our section Belgium-Luxemburg.

Among the CIP, it seems to me that there is a more important international influence, an example of international understanding, and a factor of remarkable peace, this is the reason that I would like to give you a description of this CIP Central Africa-Belgium-Luxemburg.

The denomination comes from the fact that Belgium is strongly implicated not only on the level of the Congo but also in the neighbouring countries such as Rwanda and Burundi.

Everyone can understand and agree that this implication and the actions played by numerous compatriots in Central Africa, especially in the Democratic Republic of the Congo, in Rwanda and in Burundi, over the numerous decades, have created narrow bonds between our countries which makes that numerous Rotarians have wanted to help create a greater prosperity for the population.

I would like to quote a small number of operations started or pre-organised by the ICC, suggested to the clubs of our 3 districts and proposed to other ICCs or supported, with the same enthusiasm, by other ICCs.

At the request of the ICC Central Africa, in collaboration with the club of Kinshasa, the club of Brussels - Erasme has been able to equip classes of professional courses at the Youth Home of Kinshasa.

Our ICC, and the France-Congo ICC have participated in the restoration of the Hospital de la Rive in Kinshasa. It was a question of a Matching Grant in the sum of \$50,000 divided in 2 levels. The Clubs of Brussels- Erasme, Belgium, Lyon-

Val de Saone (France), Romans (France) and Fribourg (Switzerland) participated and the club of Kinshasa-Binza was the responsible. A second level has now been proposed.

Allow me also to quote the re-outfitting of the orphanage of Nyondo in Rwanda under the control of our ICC Central Africa.

The role of the ICC is not the realisation of a project but its organisation, the contribution of technical and administrative aid to the clubs supporting the project and the research of candidate clubs for participation in the specific projects.

The case of the orphanage of Nyondo, which wanted to create or restore 2 professional classes (masonry and cooking) for the very many orphans that they had in charge, is for me a good example of the development of the international character of the Rotary and this development through the CIP's.

In effect the following clubs are participating in the World Action of Public Interest:

three French clubs Toulon sur Mer, Saint Cyr sur mer (District 1730), Lille-Est (District 1670), the Italian club of Viareggio-Versilia (District 2070), the Belgian clubs of Brussels Erasme, Boom-Rupel, Brussels Tercoigne, Brussels-Coudenberg (D2170), Kigali-Mont Jaly (D 9150) and District 2170 through the specific Funds of the District.

I do not think that it is necessary to expand more on the above mentioned operations.

They show the solid basis of existence of the ICC in their role of creator of contacts between clubs and Rotarians, and even more in their role of ambassador.

Since every country has their representative there, they are a source of mutual Rotary information and a means of useful and necessary international relations.

*French Section of the*

## France-Belgium ICC, Democratic Republic of Congo

President

**Maurice COLLIN,**

Rotary Volunteer in August 2003 in Kinshasa  
(Democratic Republic of Congo)

### Achievements

For the third consecutive year, Maurice Collin (RC of Grenoble-Belledonne, D.1780) went on a mission to Kinshasa (D. 9150) as a Rotary Volunteer on August 5, 2003. He was hosted by the Rotary Club of Kinshasa-Binza for 4 weeks.

- ❶ **He met** many Rotarians, representatives of the Congolese political, business and religious communities, as well as diplomats, representatives from the civil society and scholars
- ❷ **He hosted** several work sessions with the Presidents of the Community Service Committees from the six Clubs of Kinshasa to design World Community Service projects, including a celebration of Rotary's Centennial with the planting of 100 hectares of palm trees and fruit trees near Kinshasa.
- ❸ As member of the French section of the France-Congo ICC, he presented the policies for the next three years: extending the ICC's activities to becoming an advisory group; reinforcing, promoting and communicating (see special edition on the ICC here attached).
- ❹ Ensuring the follow-up of current **Matching Grants**, including two projects accepted by Evanston on March 31, 2003 but postponed until 2003-2004 with a Renewal Authorisation Form (the projects have been agreed upon and committed): **grant 23 211** Lavatories for the Primary School of Binza (with Maurice Collin) and **grant 23 657**

for the Hôpital de la Rive. Second phase of the programme with Paris la Défense - Vivian Saminaden and Antoine Ghonda.

- ❺ Using the experience of Doctor Christian Hurbin (orthopaedic surgeon) and his wife Chantal (anaesthesiologist) for a possible mission in Kinshasa in the autumn of 2004 (he is engaged until June 30, 2004 at the RC of Romans).
- ❻ Reviewing the possible implications with *Ecole sans Frontières*. Objective: To improve access to education for the children of developing countries. Refer to the association folder sent by Jacques Blanchet (RC of Versailles). Discussion with Solange Ghonda, Ambassador of the Children in Congo, about opening a branch in Brussels.
- ❼ A humanitarian project in Kinshasa should be presented to the **FONDATION de FRANCE**. Project under discussion. Jacques Valette is in contact with the regional director of the **Foundation**. A work meeting took place in Valence on September 17. **A project of incinerators to control AIDS** will be suggested.
- ❽ **An international Conference to celebrate Inter-Country Committees is taking place on October 25 in Antibes** under the auspices of RI President Jonathan Majiyagbé.

The French section should be represented by **Jacques Chauvin / Maurice Collin / Xavier Tabarin / Guy Plantier**, with the financial contribution of their clubs.

## France - Poland

### Presentation of Edouard Lezon



#### **Edouard LEZON**

Classification: Education  
Born on September 19, 1937  
Founding Member of the  
Rotary Club of Terre de Hainaut – Denain  
Past President  
World Service Chairman Member of the France Poland ICC  
Member of the France-Russia ICC

### **France Pologne ICC**

#### **« FRAPOL »**

The France-Poland ICC was founded in Douai in Northern France, in district 1670, on the 22nd of April, 1991.

It was a considerable event, for this ICC was the first one to be created in the countries of the ex-communist bloc, in Eastern and Central-Eastern Europe. Its creation was achieved with the personal support of Robert Barth, Past President of the Rotary International, and that of the Central Council. From the start its initiators realized that the role of the ICC, apart from its classic activities in the humanitarian, cultural and educative fields, would be to exercise an undisputed influence over the expansion of the Rotary International.

At the Institute of the Rotary International in Lyons in October 2001, this characteristic, which the founders of the ICC in 1950, Robert Haussmann, Roger Coutant and Jean Caroni, could probably not think of, was demonstrated in a masterly way. Indeed if France, owing to its historic privileged relations with Poland, “sowed the first seeds” in the domain of inter-country relations, it was soon followed by friendly countries such as Sweden, Germany, Belgium, etc...

If one makes a careful study of the clubs that sponsored the 103 clubs of district 2230 (Poland, Ukraine, Byelorussia), one realizes that very many clubs of the district, almost 50%, were sponsored with the help of foreign clubs from countries with which district 2230 had ICCs.

The “FRAPOL” ICC, as well as the other committees with which the Polish, Ukrainian, and Byelorussian Rotarians collaborate, were thus instruments of the expansion of the Rotary International.

As permanent Rotarian embassies in the partner countries, ICCs have widened the circle of the Rotarian family, and have thus ensured the promotion of democracy, tolerance, education and ethics in all that part of Eastern and Central Eastern Europe which was suffocated under the yoke of the Marxist-Leninist ideology. According to the wish of our President Jonathan this year, ICCs have given an active support to all those who believe that understanding between men and Peace are necessary elements of the happiness of men.

Before I concluded, I wish to pay homage to the Rotarians who founded our Poland-France ICC: Grégoire Seidler, Janusz Laskowski for the Polish section and René Decléty and Marcel Stefanski for the French section.

**Edouard Lezon**

Delegate of the French section.



## Carol WYLIE – United States

Peace is the absence of war!  
Then - why - is it - that -  
The road to war is well paved!  
And the road to peace is still uncharted?

Peace must begin with - each one of us and - within each one of us –  
When there is peace in the heart, there is peace in the family.  
When there is peace in the family, there is peace in the village.  
When there is peace in the village, there is peace in the country.  
And when there is peace in the country, there is peace in the world.

– My Rotary friends – My Rotary family –

In nearly 100 years, Rotary has grown from a small club of four members to a worldwide network of men and women who share a common vision for a better world. The world's first service organization, Rotary has a long history of helping those in need and uniting people of different cultures and beliefs. Through the work of individual Rotary clubs, and through the programs of Rotary International and The Rotary Foundation, our mission - The achievement of world understanding and peace through local, national, and international humanitarian, educational, and cultural programs. Rotary is making the world a better place.

One example of Rotary's programs for Peace is the one we have just heard about "first hand" from our 2 Rotary Peace Scholars –

The Rotary Centers for International Studies in Peace and Conflict Resolution is a giant step toward building peace in today's world. By bringing together scholars and professionals from all over the world, "in the spirit of cooperation and understanding", we are one step closer toward global peace and conflict resolution.

Another program is the Group Study Exchange (GSE) program of The Rotary Foundation. It is a unique cultural and vocational exchange opportunity for young business and professional men and women between the ages of 25 and 40 and in the early years of their professional lives to observe different ways of life, to observe their own vocations as practiced abroad, and to develop personal and professional relationships, and cultural exchange ideas. And I will add – long term cultural "friendship" exchanges as it has done with me and my Rotary District -

During my District Governor year in 1998-99 my Group Study Exchange Program was within Zone 10 – Rotary International District 2450 in the country of Lebanon. Then District Governor-Elect Ignace Mawad who already had an exchange set up - approved a 2nd exchange to accommodate my request.

This was a wonderful cultural, educational and professional exchange between our two Rotary International Districts and has resulted – as many of our Rotary experience's have – in a

continuing long term friendship between several people in our Rotary Districts and for me personally. As a result of this friendship I was invited to be a speaker at DG Ignace Mawad's District Conference held in 2000 May in Beirut, Lebanon.

It was a fantastic and «eye opening» experience for me as I along with 2,023 other guests enjoyed the District Conference in Beirut and Tripoli Lebanon.

On one of the Conference evenings we enjoyed a wonderful party in Tripoli. It was about 2 AM by the time we arrived back at our hotel in Beirut.

Suddenly - at about 4:00 AM I hear a beeping sound - turn over Carol it is just your imagination - but it continues.

And then finally it goes off and I begin to fall asleep –  
And then the beeping again!

«Ok Carol, this is ridiculous», I say to myself! And still no lights, so I pick up the phone call the reception desk.

The attendant says «oh, yes the lights are out in the hotel, do not worry, we are having a bit of trouble. «Ok thanks», I say - I try again to go back to sleep, the beeping has stopped again. And then I hear it –

The sound of an airplane - and then the noise –

«What is that»? I ask myself, «It sounded like a bomb»?

I pick up the phone, call the reception desk again and ask «what was that». «Oh, nothing», the attendant said – «they are bombing Tripoli». «They are bombing in Tripoli», I reply, «We were just there»!

By this time my roommate Valerie is awake, and she asks «what is the matter». I said Valerie, «they are bombing in Tripoli» She says - «What»? I say again, «they are bombing in Tripoli and the lights are out in the hotel».

We get dressed, jeans, sweatshirt, tennis shoes and take all of our valuable items – jewelry, passports, airline tickets and make-up. Go out into the hall – the lights are now back on in the hallways, go to the elevator, decide it is not safe and then make our way down the seven flights of stairs to the hotel lobby. We begin to walk to the reception desk - only to look over in the lounge and see DG Ignace setting with several of his friends continuing to enjoy there Rotary friendships.

I say «Ignace, they are bombing in Tripoli». «He laughs and says to his fiends, did you hear that, they are bombing in Tripoli». More laughter and talking!

Valerie and I just look at one another in disbelief. After much

conversation, DG Ignace finally says, «Carol this is only 2 miles from my house where my children are sleeping – not to worry – go back to bed»!

It is all about perception!

Perception and Reality and Implementation –

Let us just think of what Rotary and The Rotary Foundation is doing to achieve world understanding and peace through the myriad of local, national, and - international humanitarian, educational, and - cultural programmes.

To ensure that all families, all villages and all countries in our world to live in Peace!

The Rotary Centers for Peace and Conflict resolution offers hope: the Centers provide the ideal setting for those students who want «to make a difference».

These Rotary Centers may serve as the starting point where a new generation of future leaders will work toward global peace, world understanding and global problem solving. Then

as world leaders themselves these scholars will be in a unique position to implement “change” with programmes for peace and conflict resolution that will be practiced throughout the entire world.

Mahatma Gandhi said, «You must be the change you wish to see in the world».

So let us embrace CHANGE – And -

«Let there be peace on earth», and

«Let it begin - with me!»

And with each one of you – and with every one of the 1.2 million Rotarians worldwide as we keep on saying YES to Rotary and the mission of The Rotary Foundation – YES to the Service of Humanity – as we - «Lend a Hand»

TO HELP BRING PEACE IN THE WORLD!

Carol A. Wylie,  
PDG RI District 5280

## France-Russia ICC

ISSA TOGO



Mr. President,  
Dear Rotary Friends, Ladies & Gentlemen

Ten years ago, who would have thought that the Rotary Wheel and the Hammer & Sickle (those symbols of the Communist Regime) would be partners?

Today, Rotary has become a reality for us and we have more than 60 clubs in the Russian Federation. One must acknowledge that the formation of these clubs and this entire development has only been possible, thanks to those great Rotary traditions – «Service Above Self» and «Lend a Helping Hand». The Rotarian ‘elders’ in Europe and America have guided our first steps in the world of Rotary.

After the chartering of the Moscow and St Petersburg Clubs, our club of St Petersburg Neva has just celebrated its tenth birthday!

I must stress that during those ten years we have had the continuous attention and general support from our Rotarian friends throughout the world – and particular guidance from the France-Russia Inter Country Committee which has sponsored six new clubs.

This ICC, since its inception, has launched many important initiatives throughout Russia and has also concentrated on the dissemination of Rotary knowledge and the training of Rotarians.

Its first booklet - «Let’s Talk Rotary», in Russian, seized the conscience of our fellow citizens because it was the Rotary Alphabet for us.

For knowledge is the foundation: without knowledge, nothing can be built.

Today I have the honour to present to you the new Booklet, once again in Russian, which the ICC France–Russia has pro-

duced. These 5,000 copies will be distributed to all the Rotarians in our country.

This confirms the ICC’s determination to continue training and enlightening the Russian speaking world on its road towards Rotary.

There is still a long way to travel but we Rotarians in Russia, although we are on the first stage of the journey, remain convinced that the ideals of Rotary will be attained sooner or later.

One day, together, we shall perhaps be able to add other criteria to the 4 Way Test as formulated by RI President Hubert Taylor in 1932.

I cannot end my contribution today without giving the answers from this new ICC Booklet – answers to the question, ‘What does Rotary mean for me?’

Rotary is: a universal philosophy;  
an attitude of mind;  
a call to action;  
an ambition to see worldwide understanding and friendship.



Long live Rotary International!  
Long live Inter Country Committees!  
May Peace reign over the whole universe!

Thank you. See you soon!

Issa Togo



## Spanish's ICCP Chairman

### JUAN ALBERTO VALLS JOVE

Spain ICC Chairman

Rotary Club of Bergueda Barcelona

President of the Bar Association of Barcelona, 1959-1963

Chairman of the AAA of the Saint Ignace College of Barcelona, 1968-1972

Chairman of the Mediterranean Cultural Centre and Chairman of Expominer

## Avoidable Wickedness

I We do not endeavour to assess the ethical fairness of war, or even its effectiveness in resolving problems or to assess the vast economic and human resources sacrificed in war; but we do endeavour to denounce an ethical wickedness that is humanity worse than war itself, which, once analysed, we see as avoidable. We refer to the millions and millions of antipersonnel landmines that remain active in territories where there have been armed conflicts.

### II Mines are execrable weapons

From our point of view, there is one reason above all others: It is a weapon that not only kills or maims leaving territories useless once, but that kills and maims again causing thousands of further innocent victims in peace time, especially children. Bear in mind that a mine can remain active for longer than 50 years. In Cambodia, for example, there have been more death and cripples caused by mines in 3 years of peace than in 15 years of civil war.

### III Campaign against landmines

We realise that there are many organisations fighting against these atrocities and thanks to their efforts, 137 countries have already signed the Ottawa Treaty concerning a total ban: Use, manufacture, storage, trade and transfer. These organisations –Rotary among them- strive to provide health support, prostheses, social integration, de-mining and restoration of mined lands etc. This work must continue throughout the life of cripples and as long as there are lands sown with active mines.

### IV What has not been achieved

If, of more than 180 countries in the world, there are 137 signatories, it could appear that these represent the eradication of 75% of the mines. However, it is important to know that the 50 non-signatory countries happen to be those which have laid (and may continue to lay) the majority of mines sown in our planet. In other words the real percentage eradicated is very much lower.

The non-signatory countries officially have no limitation on mines whatsoever.

### V The main reasons why these 50 countries have not signed the Ottawa Treaty:

The treaty forces them to choose between all or nothing and

as they do not want to renounce everything, they have decided not to sign.

There are interested such as to make the frontiers between a country and another impermeable.

They argue that in some cases the mines are absolutely essential to protect their own armies from army attacks.

They enable them to reduce the capacity of the adversary during war and armed conflicts, etc.

### VI The present situation

It is a deadlock situation which will take many years to resolve, precisely because of the obligation to sign for all or nothing and because the interests of some of the main military powers that are constantly involved in war and conflicts throughout the world.

We do not doubt that there are countries that may adhere to the Treaty, but this will take place over many years. Probably only those that have a lesser need to use mines will adhere. Since the Treaty came into force, there have only been two new adhesions. Meanwhile, there will continue to be thousand of further innocent victims and new lands will be gruesomely mined.

### VII A solution

To achieve making the use of deactivation system of mines obligatory, so that these 50 countries equip all antipersonnel mines with the mechanism that already exists but is not compulsory – and leaves them deactivated after a certain time.

### VIII Humanitarian achievement to be attained by the campaign

All the mines will remain deactivated after wars

The vast majority of victims, all of the innocent and many children, will be prevented

Victim costs involving health care, social integration, prosthesis etc. will be saved for life.

Populations of mined lands will be able to rebuilt their lives again in their natural habitat, without having to emigrate.

These counties will save the huge clean-up costs (1,000,000 Euros per km?)

Cases such as Mozambique or Honduras will be prevented, where although the mines were located, flood and currents

scattered them causing further deaths and mutilations. Organisations which provide aid to victims and countries affected by mines will be able to save spending money on de-mining new mined lands and thus give better and greater cover of all kinds to a much lesser number of victims.

**IX Your help**

Without the help of the Rotary Clubs it will not be possible to reach the final goal. Rotary Clubs are asked to send their adherence to this Campaign against landmines to the person in of the ICC/CIP in their country or directly to the chairperson of Spanish ICC: [valls-iove@icab.es](mailto:valls-iove@icab.es)  
We want to make the vast majority of Rotarians around the

world aware of this matter in order to consolidate the campaign definitively asking as well other public and private cultural health institutions like hospitals, Universities and Faculties, Academies, etc. for their support and adherence.

**X The Leader of the campaign**

The international committee "Avoidable Wickedness" was created by the Bergueda Rotary Club of Barcelona is leading the campaign. It is an open committee and at present it is made up of members of several Rotary Clubs of different nations. We urge anyone wishing to take an active part in the work of the international Committee to let us know his desire via the mentioned e-mail.



**Doctor Bernard LACAZE**

Rotary Club of Rodez - District 1740

President of the France-Mauritania ICC, French Section

- 1988 Admission to the club of Rodez (Aveyron)
- 1989-1990 Chief of protocol
- 1990-1992 Treasurer
- 1995-1997 Vice-President
- 1997-1998 President
- 1999-2002 Deputy Governor

The France – Mauritania ICC charter was signed on the 25th of June 2002 at the Rotary International Convention in Barcelona.

The President of the Mauritania section is Mine Ould ABDOULLAH, a lawyer governor in 2002-2003 and for the French section, Dr Bernard LACAZE, assistant to the 1999-2002 governor.

These sections are composed of active members, former presidents of the different clubs for the Mauritania section as well as the clubs involved in this country.

On the 23rd of August 2002, at the first general assembly, a resolution of the French section led to the constitution of a free bank for school supplies and clothes for Mauritania.

Very quickly, many French clubs participated in this operation joined by clubs from Belgium and Luxembourg.

The first truck transporting six pallets left in October of 2002 for Nouadhibou, and on April 16, 2003, two containers totaling 90m3 were sent to Nouakchott.

The project was well on its way, and the contacts we initiated gave us the incentive to get to know the Mauritanian section better.

A delegation of six members left for a one-week humanitarian mission (April 19-26, 2003). Our objective was to meet the people who shared our ideals, to see firsthand the local needs and to assess the possibilities of satisfying those needs through our partnership.

Strong, direct and friendly contacts were established locally with the members of the Mauritania section.

We appreciated the warmth of their hospitality and the hope they have in a close collaboration for a better future for the less fortunate.

Some plans have been put forward in favour of the blind and to fight illiteracy but also to bore wells and bring assistance in the agricultural area.

These direct contacts with Rotarians have been key to establishing constructive relationships for the future in a partnership in which everyone must feel responsible and in which activities must be fairly distributed.

The French section has received many project proposals, others need to be put on paper. must centralise the requests, manage them based on the needs and possibilities while ensuring the most equal distribution within this territory twice as big as France.

**Bernard LACAZE**



## Germany-Bulgaria

### Anton STEER

27- 06 – 1935 LANDSHUT Allemagne/Germany

Major General

Rotary Club of Koblenz – Deutsches Eck (1982)

Club President in 1992 1993

District Governor in 2000 2001

Regional Rotary Foundation Coordinator in 2002 2003

#### Lend a hand in the world – be one who helps as well

Rotarians first overcome their own frontiers, to lend a hand to other people. Help can be merciful, when the needy, the sick or the weak are being helped, or it can be happy, when the young – our future – are being supported. Rotary crosses personal, national and regional frontiers and helps. Rotary is working on the common European house.

#### Germany-Bulgaria Inter-Country Committee

How does a country committee evolve? When enough people in two different countries are active and are linked by common goals: Like the Rotary Clubs of Koblenz and Sofia. Based on the existing good relations between Germany and Bulgaria, at the beginning of this year the Germany–Bulgaria ICC was founded. The Bulgarian section is headed by Dr. Zachari Krastev. The president of the German section is Karl-Jürgen Wilbert, honorary consul of Bulgaria.

#### The Inter-Country Committee's concept: initiate, coordinate, strengthen

##### Initiate

We want to initiate activities all over Germany, that support Bulgaria on its way to entering the EU.

Our aim is long-term cooperation in culture and science. First contacts exist already: For example, lectures with German Rotary members are being planned at Bulgarian universities.

##### Coordinate

We want to coordinate the activities of the numerous friends of Bulgaria in Koblenz, Germany, and perhaps even abroad. Many things have been achieved in this field already (for example the support of German schools by the RC of Munich).

Together many things are easier, which is why we want to create an international network, in which we offer to bundle the existing contacts of Rotary members in Germany and Bulgaria.

##### Strengthen

We want to strengthen economic ties, the Handwerkskammer Koblenz has already paved the way in the last ten years. Hurdles have been removed and many doors have been opened. Also personal resources, on a voluntary basis, have been tapped. We also want to increase the regional cooperation on the Balkans – as a first step for the European cooperation.

#### Overview of the focus of activities of the Inter-Country Committee

- Taking care of the exchange of the young is one of our focuses. We want to make it possible for young people to experience «being together» in all its facets.
- Investing in science is an investment in the future, in deve-

lopment and in coexistence – we support the vocational, scientific and academic exchange.

- Culture is a safe bridge of understanding. We support more Bulgarian culture in Germany and more German culture in Bulgaria.

#### What has the RC of Koblenz done so far?

In the beginning there was sympathy. Since 1997 the Rotary Club of Koblenz together with the initiative «Helft uns leben» («Help us live») of the Rhein-Zeitung, a big regional newspaper, and private donors, supports children's hospitals in Sofia and Plovdiv.

So far, four shipments of support in kind, worth 750,000 euros, have been sent to Bulgaria.

In July 2003, another shipment with a value of more than one million Leva, or 500,000 euros, was realised. Behind this was one single man at first: Dr. Walter Toussaint.

But let me also mention that under the chairmanship of the same district (1810) and the RC Koblenz, there is a second Country Committee. It is the Germany–Russia ICC, whose president is Friend Jürgen Nohr. These are the facts. Everybody might judge for himself about the engagement behind them.

#### Project “Children’s Hospital Alexandrovska” in Sofia - bundling of activities

When on the occasion of the fourth shipment of support, which went to the university clinic in Sofia, the children's hospital was visited, the general assessment of the conditions was: «unbearable, inhumane». From these impressions resulted the decision, to concentrate the humanitarian aid on this object and to motivate more clubs to take part. So, out of consternation about the building's and the medical equipment's condition, the project «Children's Hospital Alexandrovska» evolved.

This aid project sees itself as an open cooperation. All Rotary clubs are asked to help. So far, the project is being carried out by the RC of Koblenz, the RC of Ehrenbreitstein and the RC of Deutsches Eck.

Our vision focuses on the year 2005. Then, the clinic will celebrate its 100 years of existence. We, the Inter-Country Committee and especially the RC of Koblenz have decided to adjust the clinic as far as possible to European standards. That is not an easy task. We cannot realise it alone. That's why, dear Rotarian friends, we wholeheartedly ask you to be inspired by our vision: Every child deserves a chance!

Participate! Rotary is always about a new beginning.

## Manuel Cardona Portugal-France ICC

Governor of District 1970 (87/88)

ICC National Coordinator

Permanent adviser to the National Committee

VILA REAL – PORTUGAL

Dear Rotarian Family,

A century ago, Paul Harris said «Rotary contributes to extend our vision to the world».

We have now entered the twenty-first century, we live in a so-called «global society» but war ravages many countries and peace is an elusive goal.

However Rotary can join people of goodwill anywhere in the world in a powerful bond for the good of mankind and one of the Rotarian structures specifically devoted to bringing together people of different countries and cultures is the ICC Service.

I salute RI President Jonathan Majiyagbe who has promoted this meeting to «celebrate the success of Inter Country Committees in various parts of the world and to provide a forum for the exploration of ways the development of Inter Country Committees can contribute to international understanding and furtherance of the programme of Rotary throughout the world».

Thank you President Jonathan!

I would like to congratulate Onder Bilginer for his presidency of the ICC's restricted meeting in Antalya, Turkey, and all the National Coordinators who contributed to its success.

I am very glad to convey to you that both Portuguese Delegates (past Director Marcelino Chaves and past Governor José Carlos Estorninho) fully agree about the importance of voting our Proposed Resolution at the next Council on Legislation.

Here is a summary of the ICC's activities in Portugal:

**Portugal/BELUX** – A very good Youth Exchange last summer.

**Portugal/BRAZIL** – Several Friendship Exchange programmes – Brazilian Rotarians housed in the homes of Portuguese Rotarians.

The inter-country meetings are working well.

A partnership of Coimbra RC and Queimados RC to get a physiotherapy unit in the amount of **4,000 US dollars**.

A Partnership of the Arouca RC with Rio de Janeiro RC for a programme of Computer gift amounting to **4,000 US dollars**.

**Portugal/SPAIN** – Several visits of Partner Clubs and Youth Exchange. As to the Portugal/Spain ICC: several visits two new partnerships Porto-Bilbao and Praia da Rocha-Cádiz y Bahia, a Youth Exchange programme and a special programme of mutual collaboration on the ROTARY XACOBEO 2004 (the traditional festivities in Santiago de Compostela every four years).

**Portugal/FRANCE** – Several meetings of Partner Clubs (**more than 60 RC's are involved!**).

For instance the Vila Real RC and Jarnac RC have a common project with a matching grant to assist the RC of Matola-Mozambique in their support of poor children (**more than US\$10,000.00 for first grant**).

This project was approved! Vila Real RC received the Jarnac RC on 30th May 2003.

The Plenary Assembly of this ICC took place on the 2th and 3th May in Toulouse. We had the presence of a significant number of Portuguese Rotarians (+- 50). We had the presence of former French ICC Chairman André Lannoy and from Montpellier our Fellow Guy Chaumont present French Governor of District 1700.

On this occasion Caldas de Vizela RC and Blaye Nord RC signed their Portuguese partnership charter.

Oliveira do Bairro-Lamballe (France) and Maputo-Mozambique are carrying out a programme concerning "AIDS".

Lisbon – South and some French RC's acquired an ambulance for a firemen corps in Cape Verde.

This Committee (Portugal/France) also organised a Youth Exchange Travel taking place from the 18th to 28th July 2003, joining young people from different Partner Clubs.

**Portugal/ITALY** – Several meetings of Partner Clubs (21 Portuguese RC and 18 Italian RC).

As usual two Portuguese students in Perugia and two Portuguese students in Siena for two months.

As usual there was also an exchange programme of penologists (Wine Producing graduates).

This ICC has been developing a very interesting programme to welcome and help immigrants coming from different countries mainly from Easter Europe. They have published a booklet and a CD in 8 languages with useful information (in cooperation with RC Castellanza and Ing. Enzo Mari – Multimedia Services Magiolini). This initiative has been praised by the President of the Republic of Portugal – Dr. Jorge Sampaio, to whom I sent the material, since I know he is much concerned with immigrants in Portugal.

The ICC P/Italy has also been committed in the building of a new grave of Pope John XXI (the Portuguese Pedro Hispano, 13th century) in Viterbo.

**Portugal/MORROCO** – Youth Exchange Programme (a group of 10 young people).

**Portugal/PUERTO RICO** – Visit of Partner RC.

Efforts are being made to create a ICC Portugal/Germany and an ICC Portugal/Turkey (in collaboration with Badrik S. Buker of Istanbul).

Both Portuguese Districts are involved in projects with East Timor (Lorossae) where the RC of Dili has been founded recently by the Darwin RC.

A group of twelve Portuguese Rotarians (ten Rotarians including myself, a Rotaract and an Interact Fellow) visited East Timor after the Brisbane Convention with a significant Grant of our District.

As to the year 2003/2004 Rotarian activities are actually starting now after the summer holidays.

The restricted meeting of the Portuguese ICC will take place on the December 13 in Vila Real.

On the whole the activities of various committees are expected to follow the same general lines.

**United in Rotary – Dedicated to peace! Lend a hand!**



## France-Algeria ICC

**Jacques CHAUVIN**

1996-1997 Governor District 1710

RC of Lyon Val de Saône

Dear President Jonathan, Dear fellow Rotarians,

France and Algeria have together a long common History, and beyond its episodes remain men and women of good will, who meet within Rotary International. They only have one ambition: through contacts and Inter Communities Service, developing International Understanding and Peace.

It is with great pleasure that I salute the President of the ICC Algerian Section, Mohamed Ben El Khaznadji, the Vice President Abdelhadi Meraoubi and the fellow Rotarians from Algeria, who are taking part of this meeting thanks to our President Jonathan's initiative.

Our ICC is young. It was founded on April 23rd, 2000 by Districts 1710 and 9010, and the Rotary Club of Oran.

The first step was to find contact Clubs.

This year, we have discovered the work of the Algerian painters through the Rotary Clubs of Marseille and Algiers. A wonderful and very successful exhibition was organised.

Then World Community Service projects came about. They reflect the hardships of our Algerian friends. They are already accomplishing a lot by themselves.

For instance the Club of Anaba tries to improve the living conditions of children with Down's syndrome by housing them in a special home. Sponsors have been found, but they need more help. Our ICC found it!!

In the health care area, Algerians living in the south of the country do not have access to dental care. As a result, the Rotary Club of Algiers East has decided to help by investing in a semi-trailer transformed into a mobile dental unit. The investment requires \$88000. A big part has already been found but they still need \$16000.

And recently there was a terrible earthquake! 100,000 people were suddenly deprived of their home, with nothing to survive on.

Certainly we are not in a position to face such a disaster! We have the goodwill, but not the financial means! But we have the possibility to bring help, to show our support in such a catastrophe.

The six Rotary Clubs of Algiers pondered how they could participate in the reconstruction efforts. They plan on building a school and a vocational training centre. They are studying the best ways to implement this project. The District Governor, Tewfik Ghersi, is taking part in the project.

The project remains modest, compared with the distress of thousands of men and women living under tents!

The Rotary clubs of Algeria want to take care of the children. The Algerians will participate for a part, unfortunately they will need much more.

The Inter-Country Committee is calling for international solidarity. The contribution of the Clubs in the next few months will be essential.

Some Governors and Clubs have already expressed their desire to help our Algerian friends.

In a couple of weeks I will be able to give you the details of the project.

Our Algerian friends are calling on your active support. Governors, Governors Elect, I beg you to share in the project of our Algerian friends with your own clubs.

Without you, nothing is possible! Thank you very sincerely for your help!

**Jacques Chauvin**

President of the France-Algeria ICC



## France – Spain ICC

**Louis MASSOT BORDENAVE**

Dear President Jonathan, Dear Friends,

We know that ICCs can act in a variety of ways. What we intend to show you today is that Inter-Country Committees do not always work for the benefit of one of the two member countries, they can also implement their projects in other countries. The France-Spain ICC decided to mobilise its contact clubs and members in favour of a school in Morocco. The objective was to help the Sidi Ben Slimane school of Marrakech. The school has 583 pupils aged 6 to 12 (369 boys and 214 girls). It needed various types of equipment and school supplies.

**The objective was to provide:**

- the equipment of a computer room (7 computers connected in a network and a printer);
- the equipment and furniture of the media room;
- a complete video recording equipment (including a television and tapes);
- books in French and Arabic for the library;
- and 300 fully supplied school bags.

This media room was also to be used by the neighbouring schools (for a total of 1,326 pupils).

The entire cost of the project was estimated at 9,693.17 euros.

It was funded almost equally by 11 clubs (9 clubs that are part of the ICC), District 1700, the Rotary Club of Alicante (Spain), and the Rotary Club of Marrakech-Palmeraie who is co-sponsor/coordinator in the benefiting country (the majority of its members are women, and the club is extremely efficient).

District 1700's contribution was very generous. By quickly recognising the efforts of the District and Clubs, the Rotary Foundation also enabled us to implement this operation in 8 months.

On June 27, 2003, Guy Chaumont, Governor of District 1700, participated in the inauguration of the media room. The Rotarian wheel has been installed above the front door of the media room, and the Rotarians of the club of Marrakech-Palmeraie painted the room themselves. Education is probably the most efficient way to develop a lasting understanding and friendship between people. It is precisely the goal we set ourselves through this project.

**Louis Massot-Bordenave.**  
President of the France-Spain-Andorra ICC

Italian Delegation's speaker: **Gianni JANDOLO**,  
Chairman, Italy-Turkey Inter-Country Committee

Dear friends, I am Gianni Jandolo, speaker of the Italian delegation of Inter-Country Committees, here today with the objective of sharing with you a summary of some experiences together with the passions and the beliefs that fed them, not forgetting to mention today's opportunities and future potentials. Every year, Rotary International President assigns a general task, recommends an attitude, and shows a pathway. And he does so, preparing a motto and a logo that will footprint the life of the organisation for twelve months. Somehow, there is no theme more important than another, but current ones represent for all Rotarians a sort of challenging budget of the year that everyone has to take into account.

Here it is, then, today, «Lend a Hand» motto. This big army of more than a million soldiers, this army with no guns or tanks, is committed to make that invitation, like all those that preceded it, a reality. And Italian ICCs work according to that presidential message. In the day by day action, long since, we are persuaded that acting together seals relationships and gives further meaning to being Rotarians. Together, we hear and listen the most feeble voices, together, we work to make twinnings much more than an event to socialize and know each other. Together we can intensify the efforts to achieve a positive impact within the society. With said beliefs, we provided many services, always in order to welcome rather than reject, to look for what unifies vs what partitions, to build confidence and peace, rather than bitterness and distrust.

I am therefore proud to now present a brief selection of some of the services that qualified the commitment of Italian ICCs:

let's start with letter **B** ... as in **Brazil**:

«Meninos de rua», «Street kids» represent one of the biggest and most devastating issues and problems that Brazilian society has to face. By thousands they flow from favelas into Sao Paulo, becoming soon, desperate and hopeless crime preys. Among other initiatives, the «Sociedade de Beinfetora Jaguarè», since 1957, consistently committed to rescue and support youngsters. RC Sao Paulo Jaguarè now directly manages the benevolent organisation.

Most important objective is to welcome young people after school (for the ones who attend) keeping them off the street, giving them: a place where to stay during daytime, training, education, regular meals and appropriate sporting facilities, together with a chance in the society. The Rotary Club while assisting every day more than 1,000 children, young boys and girls has decided to set up a place where to welcome children coming from the close-by favela where parents cannot take care of them. The allied Club in Rome sponsors a MG to provide the newly restored "fazenda" of all appropriate furnishing.

Again **B** as in **Brazil**:

District 4720 is the largest in the world by far. Its territory includes all States neighbouring the Amazon River. Ecological, environmental, social, ethnical, medical problems are utmost priorities for such an area. Though, the presence of large Hi-Tech and industrial complexes operating side by side with Indio's tribes living a primitive life generates serious concern. The Indios, unprepared, move to unfriendly towns; mostly to Manaus, where they easily loose the sense of solidarity, once, pivot of their society. The weakest categories, like poorest children and the handicapped ones, are penalized the most. A project, therefore, has been designed to supply the Moacyr Alves-Ama Institute of Manaus (hosting handicapped children coming from the areas of Amazon State) with a 15,000 laundry facility to wash and sterilize clothing. The Institute takes care about the young hosts and, also, gives them a chance, through education, in the society. The service, available through a Matching Grant subscribed by allied Clubs from Districts 2080 & 4720, will be of aid for a more effective medical care and for a hopefully shorter hospitalisation time.

**B** as in **Burkina-Faso**

Let me tell you briefly about this Country: one of the poorest countries in the world, 172nd in the World Human Development Index, landlocked Burkina Faso, slightly larger than the State of Colorado in the US, has 12 million inhabitants, 350,000 in AIDS, expecting to live an average of just 46 years. With few natural resources and a fragile soil, about 90% of the population is engaged in (mainly subsistence) agriculture – arable land is only 12% severely affected by droughts, desertification and deforestation. Yearly income does not go beyond \$230 while roughly the 80% of population cannot yet read and write. Communication wise 50,000 telephones, 130,000 television sets. Industry remains dominated by unprofitable government-controlled corporations.

As the human being is considered to represent the real wealth of a community, a Club from D 2080 committed its energies and its International and Vocational Services to consistently sponsor a plan to develop entrepreneurial skills in the area, through education and training in Italy designing at the same time a project to set up a new small company to deliver new services. After the stage in Italy, the women that learned how to manufacture shirts, back in their Country, founded two fashion ateliers creating shirts for the newly settled businessmen class together with some form of education and training department, while the two men acquired a competence in servicing refrigerating and air conditioning appliances.

## M ... as in Maghreb

The ICC Italy Maghreb is by large one of our most active and successful ICCs. There are no areas of service that this ICC has not investigated, and, with virtually no opportunities not investigated in details to verify their applicability to Rotary's mission, with no smile left out, with no vocational activity put aside, this Committee deserves the appreciation of all of us for pursuing sounding results effectively, efficiently, in the silence of the day by day work. Determined to find allies and supporters in the non-rotarian world, reluctant to superficial «twinships» among Clubs, this tireless ICC is an advanced and consistent outpost of peace and Chairman Ferrazzano deserves for sure our «masse d'applaudissement» specially when you consider that the overall financial commitment has gone in a time frame of six years, way over 4.6 million Euros! Italy-Maghreb committee has focused its hammering attention on opportunities in the Vocational services' field, to boost and re-export the emerging and perceived skills of young professionals. But, also, their attention and care has been placed on the area of donations, humanity, benevolence and communication. And we will not forget the special project dedicated to fight the desertification process.

Project to return nearly deserted land to productivity.

The programme, ready to be deployed, is focused on returning to productivity nearly deserted lands of Maghreb "Drought and desertification, says Secretary General of UN Kofi Annan, threaten the livelihood of over 1 billion people in more than 110 countries around the world." Maghreb is one of these Countries. This intervention, a topical subject, foresees a direct involvement of interested populations through the strategy of a literacy campaign within rural associations while including women from Maghreb into productive activities. Such activities foresee date-palms, fodder plants, acacia trees planting & growing; being these cultivations adaptable to arid and hostile soils and useful to kettle raising, to feeding purposes, and, even, in the small business generated by the availability of said goods. It is useful to underline the value of this orientation that eases the transition from the old system, in which scientific research was following its own rigid programmes to the new one that welcomes and blesses participated research. In such environment, work increases rural population life quality and income deriving from restoring simple productive activities.

## T ... as in Turkey

T as in Turkey: August '99, an extremely devastating, tragic and deadly earthquake hits Turkey. In an area of 20,000 squared kilometres it produces a death toll of 18,000 while 40,000 are wounded and 238,000 families remain homeless. The exceptional, tireless, timely mobilisation of Turkish Districts is sided by a relevant operation of the allied Italian and Turkish ICCs. Few hours after the event, contacts among the two ICCs are established and the call for aid and support is spread within District 2050 that leads the way in Italy with a project devoted to respond to that call consistently, effectively, efficiently, and fast.

In few weeks the fund raising campaign produces 160,000 employed to buy in Italy special winterised tents, safe shelter for roughly 400 homeless people. Raincoats, heaters are added in quantity to the cargo flying to the Rotary camp of Izmit where the Italian team helps in tents mounting and food distribution. The event is followed also by an Italian "embedded" TV crew reporting with an aired twenty minutes programme about the tragic events and the services provided in a time frame of several months by Rotarian organisations. In a moment in which the usually friendly relations among Italy and Turkey are suffering for political tensions and disagreements, this participation shows the consistent interest of Rotarians for solidarity, peace and understanding, the strong will to overcome difficulties for a superior shared vision of mankind benefit. Operation continues setting temporary school classrooms' shelters in the severely damaged, almost destroyed city of Duzce.

## T ... as in The Outcome

Effective results are the return on investments for World class Rotarians and they are achieved working with men and women of different countries, religions, and races, all united in the spirit of service. And clear are the benefits: solid impact within the social environment, a personal enrichment, the birth of stronger «cross boundaries» Rotary Club relations. This is perhaps, why we see ICCs as an important partner in achieving sounding results; this perhaps is why we like to imagine the role of the International coordinator of ICCs as our shared Ministry of Foreign Affairs.

At the end, it has been learnt quickly that it well takes two to tango.

So, no wonder why ICCs are good dancers, they select their partners carefully, they dream intensively, the share passion, vision and care and then they dance tuned to each other, for a beautiful tango...

## W ... as in Wrapping up!

So far, the Italian ICC gave you an outlook of ongoing services and others already successfully addressed. During the ICC meeting in Vicenza we discussed future opportunities to contribute to a better world. Tolerance, brotherhood and mutual understanding are the outposts of peace and we, as Rotarians, will take full responsibility in keeping them as the most important elements of our mission, even when difficulties arise. We want to hope that, with the aid of the Board of Directors, the ICC organisation, the good will of all involved individuals and in full observance of the «House Rules», we will bring our help where conflict or disagreement occur, the more, when it happens within our circle. In this regard we wish we will be able to work all together in order to identify solutions for the pending Rotarian issues in Cyprus and for all the individuals whose desire is to fully belong to our international community, keeping in mind that the evident character of ICC is «Lend a Hand» !.

Thank you for your attention.

# Rotary World Peace Scholarship



## Minnesota USA

### Karla Berg

Karla, from Minnesota, USA, was a Rotary Ambassadorial Scholar at the University of Melbourne in Melbourne, Australia, in 1998. She also received her bachelor's degree in communications and French from Luther College in Decorah, Iowa. Karla has a strong connection to Rotary: She was a Rotary Youth Exchange student to France during her high school years and also served as a Rotary Foundation Ambassadorial Scholar to Australia in 1997-98. Karla has volunteered for several different organisations, including teaching English to recent immigrants to the Minneapolis area. She has also been extensively involved with the Peace Corps and has served on a mission to Zambia. After completing her Rotary World Peace Scholarship, Karla hopes to pursue a career in conflict management and resolution.

## Brésil, District 4570

### David Oliveira de Souza

David, of Brazil, recently graduated from medical school at the Federal University of Rio De Janeiro. Over the past several years, David has participated in many goodwill efforts, including trips to Bulgaria and Mozambique, where he assisted other volunteers in training local medical workers. He has also volunteered with the organisation Caritas, which aims to promote the welfare and dignity of underprivileged children worldwide. After completing his Rotary World Peace Scholarship at Sciences Po, David hopes to promote peace and understanding as well as children's welfare in the impoverished regions of Brazil.



## Round-table partner

### Biography of General Cot



General Cot was born on April 6, 1934 in Bourgogne.

He graduated from the military academy of Saint-Cyr, entered the infantry and combated in Algeria between 1956 and 1962.

He graduated from the war college, and assumed several positions of responsibility in his forty-year career.

He became Colonel in 1975 and commanded the 110th infantry at Donaueschingen in Germany.

As General in 1982, he was Chief of Staff of the 1<sup>st</sup> Army at Strasbourg and Executive Assistant to the General Secretary of National Defence.

As a Division General, he commanded the 15<sup>th</sup> division of infantry in Limoges.

Named Army Corps General, he was Inspector of National Operational Defence.

He took over the command of the 1st Army on April 1990.

Commander of the United Nations Protection Force on July 1993, he was called back to France on March 1994 at the request of Mr Boutros-Ghali. He resigned on June 1994.

General Cot was made Grand Officer of the French Legion of Honour, and he received five commendations. In Germany, he was made Commander of the Order of Merit, and in the United States Officer of the Legion of Merit.

#### Main Publications

**I – Co-publications:** General Cot supervised the following publications:

*Opérations des Nations* – Ground experiences (Cambodia, Somalia, Rwanda, ex-Yougoslavia)

Fondation pour les études de défense

La documentation française -1995 - 390 p.

**Contributions to publications:** General Cot contributed to the following publications:

Avant-propos et contribution finale: le soldat et l'ONU.

*About the last 2 wars in the Balkans*

Ex- Yougoslavie, témoignages, analyses, perspectives.

Fondation pour les études de défense

*L'Harmattan* - collection « Aujourd'hui l'Europe » -1996- 253 p.

**Contributions to publications:** General Cot contributed to the following publications:

Introduction and the chapter entitled «*Dayton ou la porte étroite: genèse et avenir d'un désastre*».

#### 2 – Personal publications

*Demain la Bosnie*

*L'Harmattan* - 1998- 175 p.

A book based on investigations carried out in Bosnia in 1996 and 1998.

*La paix du monde*, une utopie réaliste

Edition Labo (Belgique) - avril 2000

The book of a soldier with high-level operational responsibilities. A personal testimony combined with a philosophical reflection.

# Round-table partner



## Renaud MUSELIER

Aged 43 - Married - 4 children

### PROFESSION

1985 Doctor of Medicine - former intern (Hôpitaux de Marseille), specialised in sports medicine and functional rehabilitation.

1987 Medical coordinator in a private-sector hospital.

### ELECTIVE OFFICES

1992-96 General Councillor for the 2nd Canton in Marseille.

1993 National Assembly Deputy for the 5th Marseille constituency, re-elected in 1997 and 2002.

1995 First Deputy Mayor of Marseille, responsible for the economy, employment, vocational training, enterprise zones and the Euroméditerranée project. President of the Euroméditerranée public development authority of national interest.

2001 First Deputy Mayor of Marseille, in charge of the large-scale Euroméditerranée public transport project (metro and trams)

Vice- President of the Marseille Provence Métropole Community

October: became President of AGIR (Association de gestion indépendante des réseaux – Association for independent network management)

2002 June - appointed Minister of State for Foreign Affairs

### PUBLISHED WORKS

— Thesis on the reform of medical studies – shortlisted for a thesis award (1985).

— Briefing mission on song lyrics written in French (1993)

— Report on improving job creation in urban areas (1994)

— La Méditerranée: une chance pour la France, 1994 (The Mediterranean: An Opportunity for France)

— L'Amiral Muselier (Perrin, 2000)

### RPR POLITICAL OFFICES

2002 Member, Founding Committee of UMP (Union pour la majorité présidentielle) – Member of the executive committee

Since 1999 Member of the RPR (Rassemblement pour la République) political bureau

1999 National Secretary responsible for urban policy

1999 National Secretary responsible for security

1998 National Secretary responsible for relations with National Assembly political groups – Member of the RPR political bureau

1997 Member of the RPR plural executive

1995 Delegate General responsible for relations with Parliament

1993 National Secretary responsible for relations with Mediterranean countries

1991 Departmental Secretary for the Bouches-du-Rhône Department

1989 Bouches-du- Rhône Departmental Delegate for youth affairs

1988 Deputy National Delegate for youth affairs

1988 Member, National Delegation for youth affairs

1987 Member, National Council

### NATIONAL ASSEMBLY OFFICES

. Member of the Cultural, Family and Social Affairs Committee

. Member, CNOSS (Comité National de l'Organisation Sanitaire et Sociale National Committee for Health and Social Organisation)

. Member, International Assembly of French-Speaking Parliamentarians

. Vice-President of the France-Albania parliamentary friendship group

### PARLIAMENTARY BILLS

Bill to amend Article L.O. 142 of the Electoral Code and to secure incompatibility of the office of National Assembly Deputy with civil service status

Bill calling for the introduction of a parental assistance allowance

Bill to promote the development of palliative and supportive care

Bill to improve the conditions under which treatment of the locked-in syndrome is dispensed

Bill to grant French nationality to legionnaires wounded in action

Bill calling for the inadmissibility of applications for the adoption of children by persons of the same sex

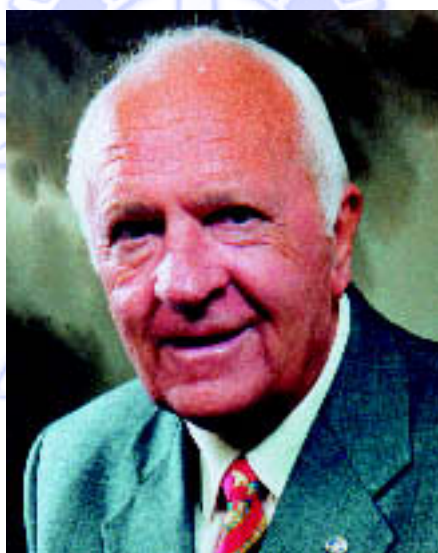
Bill calling for the optionality of registration by fisheries on the Commercial and companies register

# Thank You Note

## **Marcel STÉFANSKI**

President of the Organising Committee  
Of the Presidential Conference  
Celebrating Inter-Country Committees

Dr. Marcel Stéfanski, MD, is member of the Rotary Club of Denain and Bouchain, Paul Harris Fellow 5 sapphires, founding member and Vice-President of the France-Poland ICC in 1991, and the France-Russia ICC in 1995. He has received the Rotary Foundation Citation for Meritorious Services, the Rotary Foundation Distinguished Service Award, the Service Above Self Award, and Inter-country Relations Award. He was Governor of District 1670, moderator at the Brussels Presidential Conference in 2000, speaker at the Lyon Institute in 2001 (role of ICCs in the expansion of Rotary in Eastern and Central Europe). Marcel Stéfanski received the award of Officer of the Gold Cross, National Order of Merit, by the President of the Republic of Poland, Lech Walesa.



The President and members of the Organising Committee\* of the ICC Presidential Conference wish to thank all the friends who contributed to the organisation of this event, as well as Jean Monternier who put all his heart and talent in the creation of this publication. District Governors Lucien Elégant and Bernard Bonnes join me in thanking them wholeheartedly. Our common goal was to respond to the wishes of our President Jonathan Majiyagbe and to

## **LEND A HAND**

to those who needed our contribution.

The President and members of the  
Organising Committee\*

\* Gennaro Cardinale - Onder Bilginer - Jacques Chauvin – Serge Gouteyron – Virgilio Marzot

# An Invitation to *Lend a Hand*

Dear Rotarians Friends,

I have the pleasure of announcing the organisation of 15 Presidential Celebrations in 2003-2004 to spotlight outstanding Rotary projects and initiatives in various parts of the world. All the Rotarians and their guests are welcome to participate.

Each one-day conference will have a specific focus, either a service activity of Rotary International or its Foundation or an issue such as the alleviation of poverty. Participants will have the opportunity to share their experiences and insights. The celebrations will be planned by local Rotarians, who

will organise them and handle registration, helping to keep the events affordable and maximize opportunities for participation. The celebrations are open to all Rotarians and their guests.

I invite you to attend one of them. I know you will be able to find the date, city or theme that suits you best in the large spectrum offered. Together, let's lend a hand – in our clubs, our communities and in the world.

Sincerely,

**Jonathan B. MAjijyagbe**, RI President 2003-2004

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**July 19, 2003**

*Vocational Service* - Vancouver, Canada

John J. Eberhard — Chris Offer

Mobilising around the second of the four work areas of Rotary; exploring project ideas; promoting the four-way test, and sharing experiences in successful vocational projects.

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**July 26, 2003**

*Twin Clubs/World Community Service* - El Paso (United States) and Ciudad Juarez (Mexico)

J. Michael Pinson — Dan Schulte

Encouraging clubs to develop ties with at least one other club abroad to promote friendship; discovering Rotary's structure and activities in that country and working on common projects for the benefit of both local communities.

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**August 2, 2003**

*Health Concerns* - Johannesburg, South Africa

Samuel A. Okudzeto — Alan Tew

Inviting clubs to undertake projects that meet the emergency health issues; fighting against blindness; mobilising people against AIDS and other diseases.

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**August 9, 2003**

*Population Concerns* - Abuja, Nigeria

Samuel A. Okudzeto — E. Adedolapo Lufadeju

Opening a discussion on population issues and sharing information on successful activities and the challenges overcome.

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**August 13, 2003**

*Peace and Tolerance* - Stockholm, Sweden

Omar Steindorson — Carl-Wilhelm Stenhammar

Encouraging clubs to developing projects aimed at peace, and mutual respect and understanding within their communities and elsewhere in the world.

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**October 13, 2003**

*Rotary Foundation Support* – Seoul, Korea

Kozo Sugo — Doh Bae

Fostering various ways of supporting the Rotary Foundation which in turn supports Rotarian, club and district humanitarian efforts; highlighting the importance of getting involved and contributing financially to its programmes.

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**October 25, 2003**

*Inter Country Committees* - Antibes-Juan les Pins, France -

Gennaro M. Cardinale — Marcel Stéfanski

Celebrating the success of inter-country committees and examining how they contribute to international understanding and the promotion of Rotary programmes.

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**November 1, 2003**

*Rotary Centers for International Studies in peace and conflict resolution* - Bradford, England

David Morgan — Allan Jagger

Celebrating the hopes generate by the first scholars and the remarkable evolution of the programme.

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**December 9, 2003**

*Water Management* - Delhi, India

Sushil Gupta — Ranjan Dhingra

Encouraging clubs to design projects aimed at improving access to drinkable water, a requirement for health care and development.

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**January 16, 2004**

*RYLA* - Perth, Australia

John G. Thorne — Peter McKerracher

Fostering involvement into the RYLA programme, and sharing success stories.

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**January 31, 2004**

*Alleviation of Poverty* - Manila, Philippines

John G. Thorne — Herman Gamboa

Encouraging clubs to combat poverty through micro-credits, vocational training, agricultural grants, food supplies, housing, etc.

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**March 13, 2004**

*Interact/Interact/Youth Exchange* - Pigeon Forge, Tennessee, United States

John F. Germ — Donald R. Collette

Encouraging involvement in Interact and Youth Exchange.

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**March 18, 2004**

*Literacy and Education* - Macon, Georgia, United States

J. David Roper — Albert Reichert Jr.

Encouraging participation in innovating literacy and educational projects and programmes.

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**March 27, 2004**

*Family of Rotary* - Sao Paulo, Brésil

Luiz C. de Oliveira — Mario Cesar Martins de Camargo

Fostering commitment from spouses and family members, encouraging partnerships for service activities, and acknowledging their role in clubs activities and in retaining members.

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**April 2, 2004**

*Health Concerns* - Saint-Petersburg, Russia

Omar Steindorsson — Jorma Lampen

Helping clubs develop programmes which provide information and medical help; develop awareness about aids and responding to health issues relevant to local populations.

# Some Web Sites to Help You Discover The Region

Site of District 1730  
[www.rotary1730.org](http://www.rotary1730.org)

Site of the City of Nice  
[www.nice-coteazur.org](http://www.nice-coteazur.org)

Site of the University of Nice  
[www.unice.fr](http://www.unice.fr)

Site of the Tourism Office of Nice  
[www.nicetourism.com](http://www.nicetourism.com)

Site of the City of Menton  
[www.villedementon.com](http://www.villedementon.com)

Site of the City of Antibes Juan-les-Pins  
[www.antibes-juanlespins.com](http://www.antibes-juanlespins.com)

Site of the City of Cannes  
[www.cannes-on-line.com](http://www.cannes-on-line.com)

Site of the City of Grasse  
[www.ville-grasse.fr](http://www.ville-grasse.fr)

National Museum of Perfumes  
[http://www.museesdegrasse.com/MIP/fla/MIP\\_accueil.shtml](http://www.museesdegrasse.com/MIP/fla/MIP_accueil.shtml)

Site of Monaco  
[www.monaco-congres.com](http://www.monaco-congres.com)

Site of the City of Fréjus  
[www.ville-frejus.fr](http://www.ville-frejus.fr)

Site of the City of Saint Tropez  
[www.saint-tropez.fr](http://www.saint-tropez.fr)

Site of the City of Toulon  
[www.toulon.com](http://www.toulon.com)

Site of the City of Marseille  
[www.mairie-marseille.fr](http://www.mairie-marseille.fr)

Corsica  
<http://www.lacorsemysterieuse.com/SommaireH.htm>

# Programme

- 08h30-09h30    Registration
- 09h30-09h40    Welcome Remarks by DG Lucien Elégant and Bernard Bonnes
- 09h40-09h45    Welcome Remarks by the Mayor Doctor Jean Leonetti, Deputy for AM
- 09h45-09h55    Introduction by Director Gennaro Cardinale
- 09h55-10h05    Inaugural presentation by the President of Rotary International Jonathan Majiyagbé
- 10h05-10h20    RoIe of the ICC's Director Elect Serge Gouteyron
- 10h20-10h30    European ICC's President Onder Bilginer
- 10h30-12h15    ICCs in action - ICC delegates

|                        |                         |
|------------------------|-------------------------|
| GERMANY POLAND         | Richard Pyritz          |
| FRANCE SENEGAL         | Eduardo Suarez          |
| GERMANY CZECH REPUBLIC | Milan Roch,             |
| GERMANY BALTIC STATES  | Wilfried Ansknewitsch   |
| BENELUX TURKEY         | Badrik S. Bucker        |
| CAMEROON FRANCE        | Eclador Nana            |
| LEBANON FRANCE         | Farid Gebran            |
| ICC BENELUX            | Pierre Leloux           |
| FRANCE POLAND          | Edouard Lezon           |
| UNITED STATES          | Carol Wylie             |
| RUSSIA                 | France Issa Togo        |
| SPAIN                  | Juan Alberto Valls Jove |
| FRANCE MAURITANIA      | Bernard Lacaze          |
| GERMANY-BULGARIA       | Anton Steer             |
| PORTUGAL FRANCE        | Manuel Cardona          |
| FRANCE ALGERIA         | Jacques Chauvin         |
| FRANCE SPAIN           | Louis Massot Bordenave  |
| ITALIAN ICCS           | Gianni Jandolo          |

- 12h30-14h00    Lunch with a Folk group from Grasse
- 14h00 –14h15    2 Peace scholars
- 14h15-15h15    Development of the day's theme - Panel of experts involved in the promotion of peace  
Professor Marc Gentilini, Red Cross President
- 15h15-16h15    Debate
- 16h15-16h30    Break
- 16h30-17h15    Discussion on how to raise the profile of ICCs and extend their role
- 17h15-17h25    Celebration of past ICCs presidents
- 17h25-17h35    Thank you note by Marcel Stefansky, Chairman of the Organising Committee
- 17h35-18h00    Conclusions by RI President Jonathan Majiyagbé
- 20h00            Gala dinner - Hotel des Ambassadeurs - Folk group of Nice and New Orleans music

Moderators:    André Lannoy Michel Dubois

**Spouses programme:** Visit of the Picasso Museum and glass manufacture in Biot

## **District 1520 and the France-Poland ICC**

**(René Decléty, France Section Chairman)**

Thanks to the initiative of Past Chairman Pascal Durand, from the Rotary Club of Boulogne sur Mer (District 1520, 2003-2004 Governor, Pierre Devred), several clubs from District 1520 but also from the UK, Belgium, and Germany received a matching grant (#12983) in May 2000. They used it to purchase an orthopaedic operating table and a radiology device for a total value of US \$90,000 for the paediatric hospital of Szczecin (Poland).



### **RETRO MALARIA**

Initiated by a Club of District 1660, this 5 years project, initiated by Past Governor Eduardo Suarez, aims to reduce and eradicate malaria in the 14 sub-Saharan African countries of District 9100.

Malaria kills one child under 4 years old every 30 minutes and that countless pregnant women give birth prematurely or have seriously malformed babies as a result of the disease.

THE RESPONSIBILITIES OF THE ROTARY CLUBS ARE:

- to provide information to each village and to train a responsible person locally,
- to help prevention by supplying, free of charge, mosquito nets marked "Given by Rotary International"
- to provide new medicines, also free of charge, which are quick and efficient.

EXPECTED RESULTS –

THE ROLE OF THE TARGET COMMUNITIES:

- to start a permanent fight against malaria by clearing their area to reduce the reproduction of mosquitoes
- to use the resources given to them by Rotary to defeat the epidemic little by little.

THE MEANS available to us are to request maximum participation from European Clubs and Districts completed with a Rotary Foundation matching. We hope to achieve a minimum of 50,000 US\$. We will also ask the European Council to support our operation by doubling the funds collected. Already 32 clubs are participating to this project.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION OR TO CONTRIBUTE TO : "RETRO MALARIA"

Telephone : 00.33.6.18.09.66.66

Fax : 00.33.1.30.62.11.82

Email : [andre.j.lemoine@wanadoo.fr](mailto:andre.j.lemoine@wanadoo.fr)

Bank account SOCIETE GENERALE :

Bank : 30003 Sort code : 02190

Account no : 00037295934 Key : 31

## **District 1670 and the France-Poland ICC**

**Active since 1991 with Marcel Stéfanski**

**Meeting the needs of handicapped children from Zamosc**

In December of 2002, a delegation from District 1670 led by PDG Marcel Stefanski inaugurated five matching grants in Lublin.

Moving moment: the visit of the "Pas à Pas" centre, a rehabilitation centre for the motor-handicapped children of Zamosc (project co-funded by Districts 1670 and 1520 and the Rotary Club of Zamosc). This centre applies modern therapeutic and scientific methods with the most advanced equipment: mirror rooms, paths with light and sound, tables and clocks with chimes, etc. They all give remarkable results.



## **Governor of District 1700, Gérard Almes, RC of Perpignan-Agly**

**The France-Bulgaria ICC and Districts 1700, 1760 and 2200  
working hand in hand for Zrenitzka, (North-East of Bulgaria).**

Doctors Nicolai Boltadjiev and Michel Bernard met in 1992 and immediately became friends. Their friendship was the vehicle for the creation of the France-Bulgaria ICC. Their first projects consisted in providing medical equipment and food supplies. Then, in 1998 they launched the "Daily Milk for 2,500 Orphans" operation to restore a cow barn and set up 27 milk cows. They received a US \$69,000 WCS grant and the strong support of Governor Louis Massot-Bordenave. And through the leadership of J. Cathala, the students of the Technical High-School Aucouturié of Carmaux repaired the agricultural equipment collected by local Rotarians.

Today, 57 cows provide milk for the children, and the school-farm produces cheeses and yoghurt. The twinned Rotaract Clubs of Sofia and Montpellier also organise exchanges.

The next project will consist in providing a school bus for the children of southeast Bulgaria. This project is on the right track thanks to your support!



## **The France-Spanish-Andorra ICC and District 1700**

*work together for an educational project in Morocco*

The goal of the project was to provide supplies to 583 pupils (aged from 6 to 12) of the Sidi Ben Slimane school of Marrakech. It needed various types of equipment and school supplies. The objective was to provide the equipment for a computer room: 7 networked computers and a printer, the equipment and furniture for the media room, video recording equipment (including a television and tapes), books in French and Arabic for the library, and 300 fully supplied school bags. The media room was also to be used by the neighbouring schools (serving a total of 1,326 pupils).

The entire cost of the project was estimated at € 9,693.17. It was funded almost equally by 11 clubs (9 clubs that are part of the ICC), District 1700, the Rotary Club of Alicante (Spain), and the Rotary Club of Marrakech-Palmeraie which is co-sponsor/coordinator in the beneficiary country (the majority of its members are women, and the club is extremely efficient). District 1700's contribution was very generous. Because the Rotary Foundation quickly recognised the efforts of the District and Clubs, the operation was carried out in 8

months only. On June 27, 2003, Guy Chaumont, Governor of District 1700, participated in the inauguration of the media room. The Rotarian wheel was installed above the entrance of the media room, and the Rotarians of the Marrakech-Palmeraie club painted the room themselves.



## **Governor of District 1730, Lucien Élégant, RC of Antibes-Antipolis**

### **When Men of Goodwill Work Hand in Hand**

Several years ago, our district (1730) organised a large-scale and unique event in Toulon (Var) under the leadership of Past Governor Louis Gallo, then President of the French Section of the France-Italy ICC. The ICCs of France-Spain-Andorra, Italy-Spain, Italy-France, France-Italy, represented by their respective Presidents, convened to further international understanding.

The participation of public figures such as the Prefect of the Var Region, the Chief Commander of the Mediterranean, the Member of the Senate and Mayor of the City of Toulon, and above all Albert Auriach, then Director of RI, showed that for Rotary International this event and the role of ICCs were the sign of an economic and political movement towards a greater Europe.

Past Governor Louis Gallo presented the projects of the French Rotary Clubs which at the time had 1,500 contact clubs with countries from Europe and overseas, and 22 ICCs, particularly with Italy.

Following the speech of the Prefect of the Var Region who described the relations between his region and Southern Europe, Albert Auriach, the member of RI

Board of Directors in Evanston, recalled that Rotary was non-political, and that its mission was founded on humanitarian commitment. Inter-Country Committees have been key in gathering highly motivated people and in cultivating friendship. He also reminded us that Rotary could not be absent from emerging democracies in Eastern Europe. The recent political upheavals have led to these great advances and to the creation of numerous clubs. They are also the reason for the development of relations with new Eastern European countries and with countries that are entering the European Community. This event clearly echoed the motto of our International President Jonathan Majiyagbe: "Lend a Hand".

**Jean-Marie Cibrario-Lelio,  
ICC Chairman, District 1730**

## **The Inter-Country Committees of District 1740**



Departure from Rodez on January 17, 2003

**D**istrict 1740 is marked by its strong commitment in ICCs. The district presides over three ICC's in five African countries: Burkina Faso and Mali, Mauritania–Ivory Coast and Togo.

This commitment is based on the desire of Past Governors and the current Governor Michel Brun to formalise and strengthen the ties with these countries through educational and humanitarian activities with our Rotarian friends from French-speaking Africa.

Let me mention three remarkable projects carried out this year in District 1740:

- For Mauritania, under the leadership of ICC President Bernard Lacaze, the district organised a free bank of school supplies, children's clothing, medical equipment and hospital equipment thanks to the contribution of many clubs from France, Belgium and Luxemburg .

- For Burkina Faso, with ICC Vice-President Armand Plainecassagne as "project manager", the district shipped a school bus, a car, and a container filled with medicine and various supplies worth € 259,400 to Baskouré from Rodez despite the current problems in Ivory Coast.

- For Mali, the Rotarians of RC Millau/Saint-Afrique led by Dr. Cadinouche, carried out the

Operation Optical Care for Mali operation and set up a spectacle-manufacturing structure for the nomads of the North of Gossi. Then they housed and trained a Touareg optician in Millau.

Our District 1740 is twinned with District 9010 and our clubs have set up numerous WCS projects with clubs from North Africa.

**André Meunier**  
**ICC Coordinator, District 1740**



Arrival at Baskouré in August 2003

## **An Innovation from the France-Lebanon ICC, France Section**

Participation of Lebanese youngsters in Rotary Youth Leadership Awards organised by France The France-Lebanon ICC is currently leading a large-scale operation to equip the library of Zahile with French-speaking books.

It is also involved in other activities such as opening the French RYLA programme to young people from Lebanon.

This year, 10 applications are offered for the RYLA programme in Districts 1520, 1680, 1750, and 1770. After discussion between the Lebanon Section and the France Section of the ICC, both parties defined the selection criteria, the questions that were to be asked to the candidates, and the internships. We have received applications from six candidates.

The RYLA programme from Epernay, Macon, and Morteau have each received two Lebanese participants.

This operation was a way of combining a youth project with a vocational project and an international project.

It was also the opportunity for young peace ambassadors to meet and forge friendships. The Spring of 2003 was a fruitful and promising season!

All those involved in this project were enthusiastic.

Paul Michel Jazzar, sent by the RC of Zgharta-Zawie to the RYLA programme of Morteau, highly commends this programme. Mazen Kriede, from the RC of Kesroun, and Chawkat Houalla, from the RC of Tripoli, sent to the RYLA programme of Epernay, both expressed the same feeling: "A valuable and warm week, filled with exchanges. A wonderful way to learn about oneself and one's potential. A key experience for future decisions."

We also received very positive comments from the two Lebanese participants in Mâcon, Cynthia Sayegh from the club of Beyrouth and Jean Dahdah from the club of Zahel el Metn.

What better encouragements for next year!

**Francis Gaudemard**  
**RC of Chalons en Champagne**  
**Chairman, France-Lebanon ICC, France Section**  
**1999-2000 Governor**

## **France-Egypt ICC**



Through the momentum of the Egypt Section of the France-Egypt ICC, the Rotary Club of Alexandria Metropolitan planned a humanitarian project for the benefit of the village of Ewbet el Kawaga. The total budget was US \$20,000.

Asked by the France Section of the ICC to contribute, the Rotary Club of Nîmes rose to the challenge and obtained a Matching Grant from the Rotary Foundation. The project was international in scope. The participating clubs are from Districts 1510, 1760, 1780, 1900, 2010, 2450 (Germany, Egypt, France, Italy).

Each partner contributed US \$10,000 and the Rotary Foundation sent US \$20,000 to the RC of Alexandria Metropolitan which initiated the administrative procedure requested by the Egyptian agencies. Work began in July 2000 and concluded at the end of August. The actual budget spent was US \$19,890 allocated as follows:

## Governor of District 1760, Bernard Bonnes, RC of Marseille



■ The Egyptian television devoted an entire TV programme to this project.

■ The Rotarian wheel was printed on t-shirts for the children. It was also posted at the entrance of the village.

This project is considered as an example to follow and was the subject of a presentation during a Rotary Foundation Day to Districts 1730 and 1760.

- Literacy lessons and school supplies (US \$3,790 )
- Drinkable water access (US \$8,000 )- Installation of an emergency phone line and a telephone (US \$7,000 )

The project was publicised through various avenues:

■ Rotarians from four French clubs visited the village and were welcomed by local families.

■ The development of contacts through recreational and pedagogical outings for the children organised by the RC of Alexandria Metropolitan. Sixty children also received literacy courses.



## FRANCE-MOROCCO ICC

Districts 1730, 1760, 9010

### 2001-2003 ALPHA ACTION

The multi-club, multi-district project is a combination of four WCS projects designed to fight illiteracy in Morocco.

■ The Rotary Club of Marseille St-Victor is the instigator of a joint effort between French and Moroccan Clubs with the support of the districts and their Governors.

■ The project focuses on the cities of Casablanca, Rabat, Fez and Marrakech.

■ The budget, originally set at US \$100,000 and covered by French and Moroccan clubs as well as by the districts and the Rotary Foundation, was finally fixed at US \$90,000.

■ The first objective was to fight illiteracy and also to train

people in basic vocational skills that required the purchasing and installation of equipment in dedicated facilities. Arabic and French are taught in schools by a teacher sent by the Moroccan Education Ministry. This project lasted for 3 years and required the joint efforts of 20 French and Moroccan clubs.

■ The final phase of this operation started in 2003.

**Robert Gannier,**  
Initiator, Coordinator

## **INTER COUNTRY COMMITTEES**

### District 1770

The Rotary's fourth path has a particular emphasis on international understanding, and opens doors to interaction with Rotary members world-wide.

The inter country committees favour this "continuity" of international relations via the Contact Clubs. They act in various fields; culture, business, youth programmes, economy and social affairs; implementing World-wide Public Interest Actions at Rotary Club request.

This provides excellent means of encouraging friendship and better understanding between nations.

The 1770 District has 102 Contact Clubs abroad, favouring fascinating and fruitful relations.

Many of our District Rotary members help to promote our idea of peace and understanding through the Contact Clubs and the 11 inter country committees : France-Germany, France-Great Britain, France-Spain-Andorra, France-Egypt,

France-Italy, France-Morocco, France-Poland, France-Portugal, France-Romania, France-Russia, France-Sweden.

These Rotary friends strive to uphold the Rotary spirit through values based on friendship and the will to serve.

The future of the Rotary Club is conceived within our Clubs, but will be carried out on Earth.

With the help of the inter country committees, let's continue building friendship bridges throughout the world. Many solid bridges are already in place, whereas others require care, but many are yet to be built.

**Antoine LUFFARELLI**  
District 1770

## **Governor of District 9010, Tewfik GHERSI, RC of club d'Alger**

### **The North-Africa-Italy ICC**

Founded by Franco Santellocco Gargano, the ICC history is characterized by an exceptional enthusiasm and friendship on both sides of the Mediterranean: 6 years at the service of promoting understanding and peace as well as strengthening friendship.

Fifty projects were carried out for a total of € 4,500,000 (with or without the contribution of the Rotary Foundation).

**Here are some of the highlights of the ICC:**

■ **"Giving happiness to a child"** (1996-1999 Matching Grant). With this project, 33 children with serious cardiac malformations were cared for at the hospital of Massa Carrara, in Italy.

■ **"Giving happiness to a child"** (2000-2002 Matching Grant). 22 additional children were treated in the same hospital of Massa Carrara.

■ **"Project Mediterranean"**. With this project, 70 students,

aged 14 to 17, were welcomed in Cepagatti for a 3 to 5 year study program in agricultural sciences (all expenses are covered). Today, they are completing their third year.

■ **A Master in Cardiology, Cardiac Surgery and Anaesthesiology** organised in collaboration with the Italian National Research Centre (to date, 8 doctors have participated in this project, and the 9 th one will leave for Italy on October 30 for one year).

A mere drop in the ocean of needs for people trying to overcome their difficulties; a drop which, we hope, will contribute to breaking the hard stone of indifference and disinterest.

*Contact: Franco Santellocco Gargano, RC of Algiers, Chairman of the North-African Section, ICC Coordinator of district 9010 – Tel: 0039-335-6209662 – e-mail contesantellocco@libero.it - fax: 00213-21-544589.*