Minutes of District 5500 Corporate Board Meeting,

May 9, 2022

The District 5500 Corporate Board scheduled for May 9, 2022, was called to order by District Governor Hank Huisking at 4:08 PM via Zoom.

1. Attendance: Corporate Board Members present:

* Hank Huisking, DG
* Anita McDonald, DGE
* Don Jorgensen, DGN
* Diane Ventura-Goodyear - IPDG
* Ellie Patterson – Dist Vice Gov & Charitable Fund Chair
* Randy Brooks - PDG; District Finance Committee Chair
* Teree Bergman – Dist. Foundation Chair
* Georg Haubner – Member to 2024

Also present: Bill Hansen, District Secretary; Sue Archibald, DGND; Pete Huisking, Assistant to the DG; Cindy Dooling, District Youth Exchange Chair; Joe Daniszewski, District Peace Committee; and Mike Kloehn & Tom Nelson, District Interact/Rotaract.

* 1. Approval of the Feb 12, 2022, minutes: no corrections were made. Motion to approve – PDG Randy B. 2nd – George H. All were in favor.
  2. Also approved were the changes and updates from the Special meeting of the Finance Committee dated 13 Feb. 2022.

1. Old Business:
   1. District Dues – All clubs are now current.
   2. RYLA Update – Reserved for 13-16 Jan. 2023. ($3K deposit); materials currently stored with Yuma Rotary.
   3. District Directory – Candy Pardee made corrections May 1, 2022. Please let her know of any other changes that you notice.
2. District Leadership Reports:

a. Membership Update – welcome to the new Sahuarita Rotary Club – chartered with 24 members.

They now have their own bank account and have located the “old” rotary bell. Membership for District 5500 is 1430, up 88 members from 1 July.

b. Youth Exchange – Cindy Dooling doing a great job. We have 3 outbound exchange students for next year and 4 inbound students. Looking for host families. Restarting this program is seeing increased expenses. There is legislation in Phoenix to make changes for exchange students and to approve monies for them. However, they may limit the number of exchange students in the state to 100. That includes all programs. We just had an orientation for exchange students and there will be another one on Jun 18th.

c. RLI – The next session will be # 3 and will be held May 21st.

d. RLA - 6 of the 11 applicants completed this course – 3 from District 5495 and 3 from District 5500. The 3 from District 5500 will be recognized at the upcoming District Conference in Sept.

See Attach 3 for more details.

e. District Peace Committee –Recently held a zoom meeting and 18 people attended. There are 16 Peace builder clubs. They are building relationships with the Univ of AZ in Peace activities.

f. Youth Four Way Speech Contest – 8 students participated. 3 were selected. Lani Ahrens, the winner ($1,000) from Buena High, Sierra Vista. Sponsored by Sierra Vista Rotary Club & SV Sunrise Rotary Club. 2nd – Emma White ($500), sponsored by the Miami/Copper Rotary Club. 3rd – Alison Tate ($250), sponsored by the Vail Rotary Club.

g. Foundation – The PRIP John Germs visit/tour (Two Drops Tour) raised over $3,500 for PolioPlus. District 5500 gave $25,000 from DDF to PolioPlus and $25,000 to the Disaster Relief Fund. There are still just 2 open district grants that need to be completed. We hope to resolve the Saddlebrooke/Nogales global grant Rotary project by the end of this Rotary year. The District still has $1,400 in grant funds available. This would need to be a quick project. Several new people will be involved in the District Foundation positions – Chad Benson will replace Gary Friedman in Stewardship & PDG Kristy Halvorsen will take over as District Grants Chair for Joe Puett. She is currently filling as the District Annual Giving Chair position.

h. Public Image – District Public Image Committee Year End report, See Attach 2.

i. Awards - Update on District Awards Program for subject meeting:

The “Shekhar Mehta Challenge” award for clubs has been publicized throughout the District since early April.  Current deadline is May 15.  Peter Huisking (Sierra Vista Sunrise) and PP Eric Silverberg (Tucson Sunset) are the committee to adjudicate the applications

Clubs must have completed any two of the four criteria to receive this year’s District Award. (RIP Shekhar’s Challenge to all clubs this year:  Each One Bring One; Empowering Girls; Rotary Days of Service; and the addition by DG Hank of “support to humanitarian needs in Ukraine”).  Eligible clubs will have $100 donated in their name to the Rotary Foundation Annual Fund.

There was a glitch with the on-line “fillable” form, but issues were resolved directly between individual clubs and the committee. 11 applications have been received.

The following clubs have applied:  Valle Verde, Marana, Pantano, SV Sunrise, Tucson Sunrise, Tucson Verde, MER, Bisbee, SV Rotary, Kino, and Saddlebrooke.

**The “So What” factor**:  clubs generally focused on Each One Bring One, Rotary Days of Service, and support to Ukraine (one club raised $68k for the ShelterBox project through a massive community outreach effort:  truly remarkable).  Only one club submitted an “Empowering Girls” project (through an existing Global Grant).  Will provide final wrap-up in June.

j. Interact/Rotaract – 53 Interact students attended the District Conference.

Rotaract is less active at this time due to the pandemic. However, the club at Univ of AZ is going strong. District 5495 is trying to form an AZ Rotaract Council. All are encouraged to help with this process. Tom Nelson will attend the RI, Rotaract Pre-Convention.

k. District Conference – 2022 Theme: “Rotary Ignites Change”. Will be held in Sept 25-26, 2022 at Casino del Sol.

l. Ukraine Support – see Attach 1.

m. TRVFA – (Comments by Diane Ventura-Goodyear) Looking for people to serve on this board. They are struggling to obtain both funds and participants. Not much response from the Sierra Vista area. This fund supports a different audience than our local club scholarships. The average age of recipients is in their 30’s. Need to get the word out about this program.

IV. D5500 Leadership Position Openings:

* 1. RYLA Chair for 2022-23 – Filled by Dr Jenn Wantz, SV Sunrise and Vice-chair Jennifer Sprung, Tucson Verde.
  2. District Trainer – Still looking for a person to fill this position.

V. New Business

a. Congratulations to Sue Archibald as the new DGN – 2024-25!

b. Approval of the update to the Manual of Operations is tabled until Aug 8, 2022.

c. DGND 2025-2026, Applications due by 31 July. Available now.

d. District Administrator, 2022 and beyond. Need a person to fill the position that Liz held.

This is a very important duty, and the District will work hard to recruit a person to fill this position.

VI. Upcoming District Events:

a. Rotary Leadership Institute – 21 May.

b. Rotary International Convention – Houston, 4-8 June.

c. Dist. 5500 Installation for DGE Anita McDonald – 25-26 June.

1. Next Meeting – August 8, 2022.

No further business coming before the Board, the meeting was adjourned at 5:06 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Bill Hansen, District 5500 Secretary, 2021-2022

Attach 1: Ukraine District Leadership Report

Attach 2: District Public Image Committee Year End Report

Attach 3: Arizona Rotary Leadership Academy Update

**Attach 1.**

**Ukraine District Leadership Report:** Ukraine Support As Rotarians, we are aware of numerous Ukraine Assistance Initiatives including: 1) Rotary Disaster Response Grants, and 2) ShelterBox. Many Districts and Clubs across the USA have contributed to these two initiatives because they are well-known and secure. For your information, during the early weeks of the conflict, Rotary’s Inter-Country Committee (ICC) USA-Ukraine has undertaken the following initiatives: •

Robin Charlesworth, ICC representative for D5890, Houston, TX: Partnered with Medical Bridges https://www.medicalbridges.org/ to send an airplane filled with supplies to Poland for delivery to Ukraine. She is planning a second plane filled with medical supplies for refugees plus Combat First Aid Kits and Tourniquets for the Ukrainian Military. •

Roger Paschal, ICC Representative District 5790 Texas sent a FedEx-donated airplane filled with humanitarian supplies directly to Ukraine. • Dana Moldovan, District Governor and ICC Coordinator for USA, D5240 (California) is working directly with Romanian Rotary Clubs to send assistance for Ukrainian Refugees in Romania. • Damon Victor, Co-Chair of ICC USA-Ukraine, District 6940 (Florida) is working with Poland’s Rotary Clubs and the Rotary Club of Lviv to send assistance directly to the city while supply routes remain open (https://rcotn.org/donations.php). •

Claudine Schooley, Chair of ICC USA-Ukraine, District 5240, and member of E-club of One World, Direct, has been providing personal assistance to Ukrainian Rotarians in the form of direct bank transfers. These Rotarians are friends of Claudine and members of the ICC USAUkraine. Claudine cautions that information is fluid as the war impacts this option and everyone needs to be careful sending money directly into Ukraine; unfortunately, corruption is found at all levels in Ukraine and by “scam” groups outside of the war zone. Recently, PDG Barton Goldenberg (D7620) reported to the ICC USA-Spain that in his conversation with Rotary International, the Disaster Relief Fund has nearly $10,000,000 available for Response Grants. The Rotary Disaster Response Grant Application requires less than two pages of information (Primary Contacts, Spending Plan and Signatures) and Districts in the USA can apply for multiple grants of $25,000 in a Rotary Year. Turnaround time is less than 48 hours.

District 7620 has established a solid connection to supply Combat First Aid Kits and Combat Application Tourniquets to treat the wounded on the frontline of the war in Ukraine. Their first Disaster Response Grant for $25,000 purchased over 100 kits and 500 tourniquets that were shipped free-of-charge by United Help Ukraine (UHU)1 to the Rotary Club of Lviv International in Ukraine. The Rotary Club Metro Bethesda is in direct contact with James Joeriman, President of the Rotary Club of Lviv International, on a regularly schedule including ZOOM meetings with both clubs. Lviv RC members are intensely involved in delivering key medical supplies to where they are needed in Ukraine hospitals and at the war front. United Help Ukraine is a local DC area nonprofit. They supply all logistics and ship each order for FREE. This extraordinary service means Rotary funds go much further and save more lives. UHU delivers directly to the warehouse in Lviv. Lviv International RC manages distribution to the frontline fighters. With the help of our fellow Rotarians in the ICC community, we are proud to report that during the early weeks of the conflict, the Rotary Club of Oro Valley responded via three Ukraine Assistance Initiatives: Shelter Box $3,166.00 Rotary Disaster Response Fund $1,166.00 RCTN2 $1,968.00 Total Donation $6,300.00

For additional information about any of these Ukraine Assistance Initiatives, please contact me by email at rchimblo@hotmail.com Richard D. "Rick" Chimblo, Ph.D., Rotary Club of Oro Valley International Service Committee, National Chairman ICC USA-Spain

**Attach 2.**

District 5500 Public Image Committee (DPIC)

RY 2021-2022 Year End Report

* Started the year strong
  + Seven (7) members on PI Committee
  + Each member become a liaison for assigned Regions
  + DG Hank’s DPI Grant
    - Information/Application shared many times in The Glance
    - DG Hank shared information while visiting clubs
* Increase District social media presence
  + “Liked” all club Facebook pages
    - Shared club and district stories to “Rotary District 5500” and “Rotary District 5500 Group” pages
  + Was unable to get any traction on Instagram
    - Work in progress
* The Glance is published most Tuesdays
  + Streamlined style
    - Used a “5 Things You Need to Know” style
    - Focused on Rotary and District items District Rotarians could benefit from
    - Any club inputs on what they did/are doing was sent to Myron to be included in The Clubs’ Showcase newsletter
    - Format improved through the year
* Limited success on improving the Rotary Brand at the club level
  + Clubs are very territorial when it comes to their logos, signs, banners etc.
  + Information about Rotary Brand Center shared with Clubs
  + Was able to collaborate with a few clubs on updating some brand items
  + Work in progress for next year
* Issues
  + DPI Committee dropped to two (2) people (including me)
    - As DPI chair, will discuss with AGs and have them ask their clubs for volunteers
  + Brand and Image
    - Clubs are slow to change, and we can’t be “Rotary Police”
      * Offer DPI committee assistance through emails, The Glance, etc.
      * As DPIC chair, will discuss with AGs and have them ask for their support
        + Walk them through Rotary Brand Center so they can do the same with their clubs

If necessary, provide training via Zoom (or in person if possible) to clubs

* + - Finds new ways to motivate clubs to adapt to brand/image that was changed many years ago
  + Find ways to increase news media coverage
    - Clubs need to increase efforts with local media and provide District with copies, photos, etc., that we can then publish in district social media
    - Do we have Rotarians who have friends, co-workers, etc., in the Tucson media (TV, radio, newspapers) that can assist us in getting coverage for district events??

**Attach 3.**

**Arizona Rotary Leadership Academy (RLA) Update, May, 2022**

* Update on RLA graduates and graduation plans: D5495 and D5500.

There were 11 Rotarians who were nominated/signed up for this year’s Academy program. Of the 11, 6 are graduating (3 from D5500 and 3 from D5495).

Three students left prior to January due to family issues, job issues and moving out to state. One student will be returning in 2022-23 to complete the Academy while one student simply didn’t do the required course work.

Each graduate receives a RLA Diploma as well as a congratulatory letter for me and two RLA pins. Graduates from D5495 will be recognized at their district conference, May 14th while the graduates from D5500 have received their graduate recognition materials via the mail. As you know, the D5500 Foundation Picnic, where the graduates were to be recognized was cancelled. As a result, we will recognize their achievement at the September D5500 Conference (or that is the plan).

I have sent congratulatory articles sharing the achievement to the graduates to each districts newsletter editor and it has been confirmed by our district that the article has been received and will be in the upcoming newsletter.

* Review student feedback from our annual program evaluation.

In spring, 2021, I designed and implemented a RLA student survey for annual review of the program. This survey was sent April 15 and due April 23. We received 5 of 6 sent. The feedback was very positive and we use the student observations for improving the Academy program In our planning this coming year, 2022-23.

* Review of recruitment plan, 2022-23.

I am currently in the process of designing our recruitment plan for this coming year.

Recruiting activities :

- contacting district AGs and sharing information about the 2022-23 RLA program so they can identify, contact and recruit candidates.

-linking to each district governor, governor-elect, governor-nominee regarding candidates for the Academy.

-sending newsletter articles to each district about RLA, 2022-23.

-updating our online application/nomination form, letter of understanding and information materials about RLA available at arizonarla.org.

-recruiting new faculty if needed.

-updating courses (1st semester due August 1st) and changing resulting from a review of student feedback.

-planning candidate interviews (getting acquainted with their interests and answering questions).

-planning for the August student orientation (typically the last Saturday in August).

* Discuss program and course updates, 2022-23.

We will be discussing any program and course changes for the coming year if needed.

* Set July faculty meeting, date and time. The faculty do not meet in June.