

## Annual Reunion of Rotary International Past Officers San Diego, 16-18 January 2016

San Diego Rotary International Assembly - 18-24 January 2016

# The Reunion Wheel

Sunday Afternoon, January 17, 2016

[Editor's Note: Plenary Sessions IV – XI have been supplemented with materials from the Rotary website]

## Plenary Session IV: Safe Travel in a Dangerous World



PDG Fernando Favela, past POR Chairman, introduced Robert Mintz, who has been serving RI as the division manager for corporate relations and global travel for the past seventeen years.



PDG Fernando Favela

The Rotary travel program is responsible for the travel safety and security of approximately 10,000 travelers, two-thirds of which reside outside the US. Ninety percent of the tickets issued by eight global ticketing locations are for one time volunteer travelers conducting complex international travel, many to remote locations. Prior to joining Rotary International, Robert was the owner of Colorado Connection Travel, a medium-sized corporate travel agency located in Denver, Colorado, USA. He has been a Rotarian for twenty-seven years and is the only member of the Rotary International staff to receive the organizations highest award, the Service Above Self Award for leading nineteen annual medical missions to Latin America having provided free medical services worth millions of dollars to more than 4000 of the poorest of the poor. Robert has an undergraduate degree in International Affairs from George Washington University and a graduate degree in International Relations and Economics from the University of Denver Graduate School of International Studies.

The Travel Consortium FORE was founded in March 2013 by travel buyers from several non-profit organizations to share best practices that improve the quality, efficiency, and safety of members' travel programs; leverage the consolidated spending of its members; and create an active exchange of information that supports the implementation of members' travel programs. These organizations have major travel needs; for instance, spending collectively about \$100 million on air travel annually. Learn about how other organizations face the challenges you see in your work every day, get acquainted with new vendors and travel products, and hear how others are applying best practices to humanitarian travel. FORE is a non-profit (501.c.6) with a core group membership, committee leads

and pooled procurement solutions. Please go to its website, [www.orgtravel.org](http://www.orgtravel.org) for further information.

## **ROTARY GRANTS TRAVEL INFORMATION (edited from a pdf file download)**

If your approved Rotary grant budget includes the cost of international airfare, you will submit your travel request according to the instructions outlined at [www.rotary.org/myrotary/en/grants-travel-request](http://www.rotary.org/myrotary/en/grants-travel-request). The information below supplements the instructions online.

### **BOOKING YOUR TRAVEL**

Before you start your request, confirm that Rotary allows travel to your destination. Please check the current [travel ban list](#), which shows the countries where we do not allow travel. If the country where you plan to travel is on the list, you must contact your Rotarian grant sponsors to discuss options for changing your travel plans.

### **SUBMITTING YOUR TRAVEL REQUEST**

You will need to have the following information available to complete your travel request:

1. Grant number. If you don't know the number, ask your Rotarian grant sponsor.
2. Passport number
3. Assignment location and start and end dates
4. Departure and return dates and city/airport
5. Recently priced itinerary
6. Travel access code, required if you received an access code from Rotary with your grant approval. The access code allows RITS/BCD to purchase tickets on behalf of travelers from currency-restricted countries or who don't have access to a credit card.

Note: You may add personal travel before or after your grant assignment. You are responsible for all personal travel expenses. You must also pay the expenses of any additional travelers who are not funded by the grant.

### **APPROVING AN ITINERARY**

You will receive an email confirming that your request was submitted. A RITS/BCD agent will price an itinerary for your trip and email it to you. If you submitted a suggested itinerary and RITS/BCD finds a lower-cost option, you will receive itineraries for both. You must approve the itinerary and purchase it within 24 hours.

### **PURCHASING YOUR TICKETS**

You will purchase your tickets with a credit card. If you don't have a credit card, your grant sponsor may have one you can use. The cost will be reimbursed by grant funds. If you have a travel access code from Rotary, your tickets are purchased for you and the amount is deducted from your grant funding.

The RITS/BCD affiliate office will determine the additional cost of personal travel options, and you must subtract these additional costs from your total travel expenses later reported to The Rotary Foundation.

## **TRAVEL INSURANCE**

All individuals receiving grant funding for international airfare are required to make their travel arrangements through RITS/BCD Travel. Domestic travel bookings are the responsibility of the grant traveler. When using RITS/BCD, there will be automatic coverage by an insurance policy that meets Rotary International's travel insurance requirements. This coverage is only available for travelers who are essential to grant implementation.

For travelers receiving a grant without funding for airfare, domestic travelers or travelers who receive authorization from RITS/BCD to book their own airline ticket, completing the [travel report form](#) is required to activate insurance coverage. The club or district sponsoring the grant should ensure that all grant travelers are aware of their insurance coverage. No grant funding will be provided for additional insurance coverage that is purchased by choice. Learn more about the insurance coverage automatically provided to eligible travelers on the [grants travel insurance](#) page of the Rotary website.

## **TRAVEL EXPENSES**

Your grant may cover the following expenses:

1. Economy-class international airline tickets at lowest-available fare
2. RITS/BCD Travel service fee (approximately \$70)
3. Normal and reasonable baggage fees
4. Ground transportation to and from the airport to your project site
5. Immunizations, inoculations
6. Visas
7. Entry and exit taxes or fees

Your grant will not cover the following expenses:

1. Personal travel
2. Optional stopovers that differ from your approved travel dates and routes
3. Penalties for changing personal travel arrangements
4. Travelers not funded by the grant
5. Fees for excess or overweight baggage
6. Upgrades
7. Shipping charges
8. Flight or trip cancellation insurance

RITS/BCD charges a service fee on all travel transactions (approximately \$70); this fee is eligible to be covered by your approved grant funds. Remember to include this fee in the travel line item in your grant budget. The RITS/BCD affiliate office may charge an additional fee if the reservations need to be rebooked if you didn't authorize ticketing before the lower price of the original booking expired. All grant-funded travelers must follow the travel policies outlined in the [grant terms and conditions](#). If you have questions about Rotary grants travel, please ask our Support Center at [rotarysupportcenter@rotary.org](mailto:rotarysupportcenter@rotary.org).

## **ABOUT BCD TRAVEL**

BCD Travel is Rotary's travel partner. Through this partnership, Rotary International Travel Services (RITS) can leverage airfare savings for Rotary travelers. BCD provides fast, efficient, and economical travel from strategically placed, convenient global locations. Tickets issued by BCD are entered into Rotary's traveler tracking system, which ensures insurance coverage and facilitates emergency travel assistance.

## **TRAVELER SECURITY CHECKLIST:**

### **BEFORE YOU GO**

1. Make photocopies of your passport photo page and your credit card (front and back). Give one set to someone at home. Take the other with you and keep it in a secure place separate from your passport and credit card. Make a list of overseas contact numbers for your credit card company.
2. Remove any nonessential items from your wallet that could be used for identity fraud.
3. Establish online access to your credit card accounts so you can monitor for unauthorized charges while traveling.
4. Carry prescription medicines in original pharmacy containers.

### **ARRIVAL**

1. If you arrange for someone to meet you at an overseas airport, provide a number for them to display on the sign, rather than your name. The person holding the sign must be able to tell you your name. Kidnappers copy names on signs and stand closer to the entrance than legitimate drivers.
2. If you take a taxi, use one with appropriate markings. Check the license displayed in the taxi and compare it with the face of the driver.

### **HOTEL SAFETY**

1. Use hotel-provided transportation where possible.
2. Keep your hotel door locked at all times. Don't immediately open your door to anyone you don't know.
3. Talk through the door before you open it.
4. Meet visitors in the lobby.
5. Let someone know when you expect to return if you will be out late at night.

### **MONEY AND PERSONAL POSSESSIONS**

1. Deal only with authorized agents when you exchange money.
2. Carry a modest amount of cash and one credit card in your wallet or purse when you are out. Store the balance of your credit cards, traveler checks, and cash in a money belt or similar item

worn under your clothes.

3. Don't flash large amounts of money when making purchases or paying a bill.
4. Beware of pickpockets. Many pickpockets work in pairs or teams to distract victims while they steal. Don't carry your wallet in your back pocket. Wear your bag or purse across your body, not hanging off your shoulder. Hold on to your belongings in crowded areas.
5. If your possessions are lost or stolen, report the loss immediately to the local police and keep a copy of the police report for insurance claims. Next, report the loss or theft of credit cards and airline tickets to the issuing bank and airline respectively. Contact the local embassy or consulate to replace a passport.

## **HIGH-RISK AREAS**

If you must travel in an area where a travel safety alert has been issued:

1. Register with your local government, if you can.
2. Discuss safety and security concerns with local contacts or colleagues who know the area.
3. Watch for people or vehicles following you. If you see the same person or vehicle following two times, separated by time and distance, you are probably being followed, three times and you are being followed. Contact the police and the nearest embassy or consulate for guidance.
4. If you're on an extended assignment in one location, avoid predictable travel times and routes.
5. Note the locations of safe havens, such as police stations, hotels, and hospitals.
6. Notify your grant sponsor and family of your travel plans, particularly if changes are made. Arrange to check in regularly by phone or email.
7. Select taxicabs at random. Don't take a vehicle that's not clearly identified as a taxi. Compare the driver's face with the photo posted on his or her license.
8. Drive with car windows closed in crowded streets. An open window provides an assailant or thief easier access to your car.
9. If you hear gunfire near you or hear an explosion, drop and take cover behind or under a solid object. Stay away from windows. If you must move, stay as low as possible.

## **HOSTAGE/HIJACKING SITUATIONS**

Being taken hostage or hijacked is an unlikely but terrifying experience. In such a situation, follow these guidelines. (However, if it becomes apparent that your abductors plan to kill you or the hijackers intend to use the aircraft as a missile, you must resist at all costs.)

1. Remain calm and alert. The most dangerous phase of a hijacking or hostage situation is the beginning, when abductors are nervous and most likely to be violent.
2. Be cooperative. Follow your captors' demands. Don't complain or be confrontational. Don't fight or try to escape unless you are certain of being successful.
3. Prepare yourself for the possibility of a lengthy ordeal.
4. Avoid direct eye contact with your captors and don't obviously observe their actions.
5. Initially, don't try to use a cell phone to call for help. Later, a cell phone may prove invaluable.
6. Expect to be interrogated. Answer questions directly but don't volunteer information or make unnecessary overtures.
7. If you are taken hostage for a longer period of time, try to establish a rapport with your captors, but avoid contentious topics such as politics and religion.
8. Stay mentally active. Stay physically active if it's safe to do so.

9. Accept whatever food and drink is given to you, whenever it is given. You can't guarantee that food or water will be offered later on.

**Be positive. Most hostages are released unharmed. People are looking for you and are trying to get you returned safely.**



**SAFE TRAVEL- DANGEROUS WORLD**

Robert Mintz  
17 January 2016

Rotary 

---

**RITS Services**

- **Global Intelligence Data Feed**
- **Travel Ban List**
- **Traveler Tracking & Communication**
- **Travel emergency RITS 24/7 Assistance Service**
- **Medical Emergency 24/7**

Rotary  2

## THE WORLD IS GETTING MORE DANGEROUS

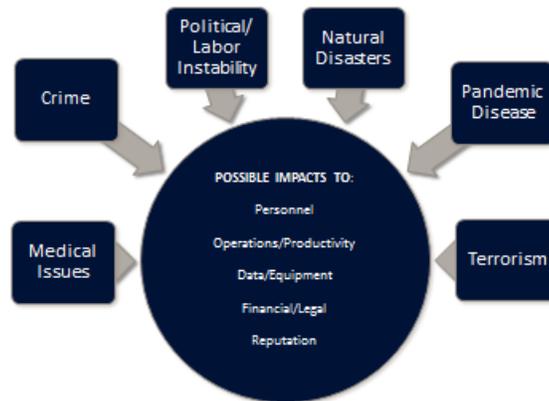


Organizations must deal with the reality that both the frequency and severity of events are increasing



3

## WHAT ARE THE RISKS?



4

## REALITY CHECK

### What are the odds?

- Dying in an airplane accident = 1 in 4.7million (top 78 airlines)<sup>2</sup>
- Dying in a terrorist attack = 1 in 9,3 million<sup>3</sup>
- Dying from exposure to smoke or fire = 1 in 1,418<sup>3</sup>
- Dying by choking on food = 1 in 3,649<sup>3</sup>
- Dying in a motor vehicle accident = 1 in 112<sup>3</sup>



5

## PERSONAL SAFETY: BEFORE YOU GO

- Shots, medications
- Copies of Important Documents Insurance Cards
- Protect your finances no debit
- Verify Communication load vital numbers websites Phone cards spare battery
- Pack light, Shades of Grey



## IN TRANSIT

- Situational awareness
- Comfortable clothes nature fibers running shoes
- Check in get off the X
- Watch your stuff
- Obtain local currency within security perimeter
- Use pre-arranged transport Uber...?



## HOTEL SAFETY

- Why Chain Hotels
- Room Location
- Do Not Disturb
- Use the Safe



## IN COUNTRY SAFETY

- Situational Awareness
- Push alerts
- Trust Your Instincts
- Go out in groups 70% 2 90% 4
- Muggers Money
- Pre-Arranged check-ins

## WHERE ARE YOU VULNERABLE TO CYBER CRIME ?



**Headline: Flaw in Common Hotel Router Threatens Guest's Devices**

CSO Magazine, March 27, 2015

**Headline: DarkHotel – A Sophisticated New Hacking Attack**

Wired Magazine, November 14, 2014

## WHERE ARE YOU VULNERABLE?

- Seminars
- Conferences
- Business meetings and tours



## Sharing Information

LinkedIn

facebook



Rotary

12

## Threats to Travelers



Image courtesy of pat130241 at FreeDigitalPhotos.net

- Understand that travelers and their devices are targets
- Laptops and mobile devices contain a wealth of sensitive data
- Popular device attack vectors include:
  - SMS messages
  - Infected apps/updates
  - Intercepted Wi-Fi traffic
  - Bluetooth Jacking

Rotary

13

- Turn radios off
- Avoid connecting to hotel Wi-Fi or any other public or untrusted networks
- Use a mobile hotspot for Internet access
- Better yet, use VPN for all Internet traffic



Rotary

14

## Mitigating the Attack – Email & Data

- Do not use thumb drives you get from vendors or contacts at seminars or conferences without having them scanned for Malware
- Be cautious of emails received from other Rotarians with a “Hello” or “Urgent” in the subject box.
- Be cautious of new requests for access to social media sites



15

## Mitigating the Attack – Social Media

- Social media provides names, phrases, dates and other information that can be fed into password crackers
- Social media alerts hackers to your travel plans
- Social Engineering to gain access to your information can occur virtually as well as face to face



16

Mr. Minsk concluded his presentation with important recommendations during the Q & A session:

1. Your mobile phone has its own unique identification number, which you should note and record and give to a family member or governmental agent. This number can be used to trace your last known whereabouts in the event you become lost, incapacitated or kidnapped. By entering the following code you will see **your phone's MEID: \*#06#**
2. At present RITS does not make individual travel plans for non-Rotary associated trips; currently bids are out for new travel agencies, and RI may develop a booking site for individual travel not associated with underwritten Rotary projects.
3. **Enroll in STEP:** ( <http://travel.state.gov/content/passports/en/go/step.html/> )

### Smart Traveler Enrollment Program (STEP)

Sign up for the free [Smart Traveler Enrollment Program](#) (formerly known as “Travel Registration” or “Registration with Embassies”) to receive the latest travel updates and information!

When you sign up, you will automatically receive the most current information we compile about the country where you will be traveling or living. You will also receive updates, including [Travel Warnings and Travel Alerts](#) (where appropriate). You only need to sign up once, and then you can add and delete trips from your account based on your current travel plans!

## **Stay Connected.**

By connecting with us on the [Smart Traveler Enrollment Program](#), we will be able to assist you better in the case of an emergency, such as if you lose your passport or it is stolen while you are abroad.

We also assist U.S. citizens in other emergencies, such as in natural disasters. For example, after the earthquake in Haiti, we evacuated over 16,700 U.S. citizens and family members. During the civil unrest in Lebanon in 2006 we assisted nearly 15,000 U.S. citizens and family members, and in 2004 we helped thousands more during the tsunami.

The travel and contact information you enter into our [Smart Traveler Enrollment Program](#) will make it easier for consular officers in U.S. embassies and consulates around the world to contact you and your loved ones during an emergency—including situations where your family or friends in the U.S. are having problems trying to contact you with important news.

## **Stay Safe.**

We believe that a well-informed traveler is a safer traveler. Our consular officers around the world compile [country-specific information](#), [travel alerts and warnings](#), fact sheets and emergency messages to provide you with timely and accurate travel information about every country where you may travel.

We include reports on possible risks and security threats so that you can make informed decisions about your travel plans and activities.

Stay informed by connecting with us via our [Smart Traveler Enrollment Program](#) so you can have safe and enjoyable travels!

## Plenary Session V: TRF Trustee Chair



PDG and former POR Chair Anne Fisher introduced TRF Trustee Chairman Past RI President Ray Klingensmith.



PDG Anne Fisher

Ray, a retired attorney, served as general counsel, professor of business administration, and dean of administration for Truman State University. He was director of the Macon Atlanta State Bank in Macon, Missouri, from 1971 to 2008, and is a director emeritus of the bank and a director of the bank holding company. He is president emeritus of the Chariton Valley Association for Handicapped Citizens. He holds the Great Rivers Council of the Boy Scouts of America's Silver Beaver Award.

A Rotarian since 1961, Ray has served RI as president, director, Foundation vice chair and trustee, RI Board Executive Committee member, Council on Legislation chair, International Assembly moderator, RI Convention committee chair, and district governor. He is the first Ambassadorial Scholarships alumnus to serve on the RI Board of Directors.

Ray is a recipient of The Rotary Foundation's Citation for Meritorious Service and its Distinguished Service Award. He and his wife, Judie, are Major Donors to The Rotary Foundation.

Ray began his presentation by stating that the Trustees are looking at all of the Grants Programs. In addition, our priorities will stay in place for the next three years:

1. End polio, now and forever.
2. Strengthen Rotarians' knowledge, engagement, and financial support of The Rotary Foundation.
3. Increase the quality and impact of Rotary's humanitarian service effort through Foundation grants and the six areas of focus.
4. Enhance the image and awareness of the Foundation's record of achievements, particularly the success of PolioPlus and its 100-year record of doing good in the world.

In addition to the agreed four priorities for the next three years, the Trustees last August approved four measurable goals for each of the priorities. Therefore, we now have 16 measurable goals to guide our efforts. The goals can be changed each year as progress is made on achievement of the priorities, but for the current year our course is set – and for the first time, it is measurable.

RI President K.R. Ravindran is a proponent of key performance indicators (KPIs) for the work of Rotarians in leadership positions, and the new measurable goals make it much easier to develop some KPIs for our regional Rotary Foundation coordinators and endowment/major gift advisers. The KPIs are still an experiment, and they will need refinement and development, but they are a step in the right direction as we try to take a longer look ahead each year.

## **From the Rotary website:**

Through academic training, study, and practice the Rotary Peace Centers program develops leaders who become catalysts for peace and conflict prevention and resolution in their communities and around the globe. Graduates of the program are reintegrating refugees in Sudan, creating jobs for disadvantaged women in India, and supporting reconstruction in devastated regions of the world.

### **Rotary Peace Centers**

Each year, up to 100 Rotary Peace Fellows are chosen to participate in a master's degree or certificate program at one of our partner universities. Fellows study subjects related to the root causes of conflict and explore innovative solutions that address real-world needs. We have peace centers around the globe at:

1. [Chulalongkorn University](#), Thailand (certificate program)
2. [Duke University and University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill](#), USA
3. [International Christian University](#), Japan
4. [University of Bradford](#), England
5. [University of Queensland](#), Australia
6. [Uppsala University](#), Sweden

### **Make a contribution**

You can support the Rotary Peace Centers program with [your gift](#). Help us raise \$150 million by 2017 to build a permanent endowment for the program. Many [naming opportunities](#) are available.

### **How to promote peace fellowships**

Rotary members are vital to recruiting qualified candidates. You can help advance peace in troubled areas around the world by promoting peace fellowships and supporting peace fellow candidates through the application process.

Some of the best candidates for Rotary Peace Fellowships are in your community. Here are some ways you can promote fellowships in your area:

1. Make sure your club members are familiar with the Rotary Peace Centers program. The more people there are keeping an eye out for good candidates, the more likely your club is to find one. Give a [presentation](#) about the program to your club, or better yet, invite a peace fellow to speak to your club. Find one by contacting us at [alumni@rotary.org](mailto:alumni@rotary.org).
2. Send a [press release](#) about Rotary Peace Fellowships to your local media.
3. Meet with community partners. Think about organizations your club already works with, or reach out to like-minded groups or to universities with related programs.
4. Use social media. Announce fellowship opportunities to your friends and professional network on Facebook, LinkedIn, and Twitter. You can also follow [Rotary Peace Centers on Facebook](#) and repost interesting photos and stories.

## Where to look for candidates

We are looking for applicants whose commitment to peace and conflict resolution is demonstrated through academic, volunteer, and professional experience, as well as outstanding leadership abilities and high academic achievement. See more about eligibility in the [Rotary Peace Centers Program Guide for Rotarians](#).

### Look for candidates among:

1. **Rotary program alumni** -- Rotaractors, Interactors, and former Ambassadorial Scholars.
2. **Universities**. Reach out to alumni associations, career offices, study-abroad offices, and departments of international studies, political sciences, and peace studies.
3. **Former international volunteers**, such as Peace Corps volunteers. They have experience and an interest in working on issues of peace and development in other countries.
4. **NGOs and international and community development organizations**. You or your club may already have relationships with these groups.
5. **Government agencies**. Connect with local government agencies, diplomatic corps working in an embassy or consulate, local police, and military offices.

[Applications for the 2017-18 Rotary Peace Fellowships program](#) are now being accepted. Candidates have until 31 May to submit applications to their district. Districts have until 1 July to submit endorsed applications to The Rotary Foundation.

## Plenary Session VI: Peace Conference Report



Trustee Paul Netzel, Vice-Chair



Trustee Örsçelik Balkan



Trustee Mario de Camargo



Trustee Samuel Owori



Trustee Bryn Styles

Following his introduction by PDG John Lee (district 1130; photo unavailable), vice-chairman of the Board of Trustees Paul Netzel then introduced the panel of trustees.

Each trustee spoke for approximately 5 minutes describing important points discussed at the World Peace Conference held in Ontario, California two days prior to the POR.

Paul stated there were over 1500 attendees, including 60 Rotaractors and 100 Interact students. He stated that this forum was the first of five total Rotary Peace Forums around the world to be held before the end of March 2016. Sharon Stone, actress, was the opening keynote speaker in Ontario.

He described how three Los Angeles men, a Priest, a Rabbi and a Muslim Cleric all related “no religion has a monopoly of Truth.”

Mario reported that over 300,000 children are the victims of human trafficking annually, amounting to USD\$150 billion dollars.

Sam stated that each one of us should focus on creating peace and eliminating conflict in our lives. We all should learn how to react to different cultural and different situational challenges.

Örsçelik explained to attendees that, in the short term, we all need to address basic needs of refugees. For many refugees situations it becomes a political matter. To be able to provide basic humanitarian necessities of life to these groups in many cases becomes a balancing act.

Bryn emphasized that each one of us has the personal responsibility to contribute, in whatever way we are able, to the peace efforts and the elimination of conflicts.

During the Q & A session Örsçelik emphasized that more awareness is need with respect to the problem of human trafficking. Four to nine year old children are targeted the most and more money is spent on human trafficking than is spent on illegal drugs!

There will be a full report forthcoming on the RI website. [It is not available at this date.—editor]

**[Editor's Note: Late Sunday afternoon Plenary Sessions VII, VIII and IX as well as Monday's Plenary Sessions to follow]**