22 April 2015

Dear fellow Rotarians,

I am pleased to support the Inter-Country Committee Peace Project Challenge Contest. This is a wonderful way to encourage the work that ICCs do for peace through the Rotary Foundation. The Peace Project Challenge Contest will award US$10,000 to the best peace project involving both national sections of an ICC.

I was introduced to Rotary as a high school student. Right away, I saw it was something I wanted to be a part of. Rotary was a prestigious organization in Taiwan when I was growing up, and at first, I mostly wanted the status of being a Rotarian.

But it didn’t take long for me to realize that Rotary was about much more than having lunch with important people. Through Rotary, I have made my community and the world a better place. I have been touched by the stories of those we’ve helped in countries far from my own.

Rotary is something special and it is something I am proud to be a part of—not for what it gives me, but for what it lets me give to others. By putting Service Above Self, we set an example that cannot help but inspire those around us.

My motto is always “be positive, be active, be a friend,” and Rotary embodies these values. In Rotary we set high goals, we work hard, and we care. In Rotary we find solutions, not excuses. Rotary is a light in our communities and a light in our hearts. It creates hope in our world and gives meaning to our lives. It fulfills a basic human desire to reach out a hand to others, to know we have made a difference.

I am excited to see the projects proposed by different ICCs that will help us to Light Up Rotary.

Yours,

Gary C.K. Huang
2014-15 President, Rotary International