

ROTARY INSIDER



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Stenhammar applauds service in China

IMMEDIATE PAST RI PRESIDENT CARL-WILHELM STENHAMMAR celebrated the growth of service opportunities in mainland China 21-23 May with the Rotary clubs of Beijing and Shanghai. • At the Board's request, Stenhammar appointed a special representative to China in November. Christopher Bo Bramsen of the Rotary Club of København, Denmark, will serve in that position until 30 June 2008. Bramsen is an ambassador and chief of protocol at the Danish foreign ministry. • Rotary has contributed to humanitarian initiatives in China for years. It supported mainland China's polio eradication effort with US\$22 million, and The Rotary Foundation has issued nearly \$1 million in grants to China. The Foundation recently awarded a \$150,000 Matching Grant to District 3450 (Hong Kong; Macau; Mongolia) for a hepatitis B immunization project in mainland China. In April, it approved a 3-H Grant for \$300,000 for the new Beijing club and District 7250 (New York, USA) to address the issues surrounding

Two provisional clubs in China get charters

The RI Board of Directors voted at its November 2005 meeting to charter the Beijing and Shanghai provisional Rotary clubs, paving the way for a growing Rotary presence in China.

Acting on the Board's request to appoint a special representative to China, RI President Carl-Wilhelm Stenhammar

selected Christopher Bo Bramsen, a member of the Rotary Club of København. "Bramsen is well-qualified for the position," says Stenhammar. "He served as Consul General of Denmark in Shanghai in 1994-95, and in 1995-2001, he was the ambassador of Denmark to China, Mongolia, and North Korea."

During a three-year term, Bramsen will pursue official registration of Rotary clubs with the Chinese government, provide guidance to clubs, assist neighboring RI District 3450 with training club leaders, and

help the Secretariat coordinate service projects. In 2001, the Board granted Beijing and Shanghai Rotarians provisional club status and permission to participate in The Rotary Foundation's Humanitarian Grants Program.

In other decisions affecting clubs and districts, the Board regrouped all Rotary clubs in Kosovo within District 2480, effective 15 February 2006. The district includes Bulgaria, part of Greece, the Former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, and Serbia and Montenegro. The Board also approved the creation of District 2220 in western Russia in 2006-07, raising the total number of Rotary districts to 530 on 1 July 2006.

— DEAN GOLEMIS

On the Web

More about Rotary's extension in other countries at www.rotary.org/newsroom

Salt Lake City to host 2007 RI Convention

On 3 November, the RI Board of Directors decided to switch New Orleans, now designated to host the



Check it out RI President Carl-Wilhelm Stenhammar (center) presents Rotary Foundation Trustee Chair Frank Devlyn with a check for US\$550,000 in royalties from RI's credit card program. Robert Mintz (right), manager of the Corporate Relations and Global Travel Division, reports that more than \$4 million has been raised to benefit The Rotary Foundation of RI.

Rotary At a glance

- » **Rotarians:** 1,192,292**
- clubs:** 32,198
- districts:** 529
- countries:** 168
- » **Rotaractors:** 186,277*
- clubs:** 8,099
- countries:** 139
- » **Interactors:** 239,246*
- clubs:** 10,402
- countries:** 108
- » **Global Networking Groups:** 94*
- » **Rotary Community Corps:** 137,816*
- corps:** 5,992
- countries:** 71

**As of 31 October 2005

*As of 30 September 2005

Meetings in February

- 11-13 February** – International PolioPlus Committee, San Diego, Calif., USA
- 13-15 February** – Directors-elect orientation, San Diego
- 15-16 February** – Trustees meeting, San Diego
- 16-23 February** – International Assembly, San Diego
- 23-25 February** – Rotary Peace and Conflict Studies Fellows Selection Committee, San Diego

Future RI Convention

Malmö, Sweden, and Copenhagen, Denmark, 11-14 June 2006

Tentative convention sites

Salt Lake City, 2007
Los Angeles, 2008
Seoul, Korea, 2009
Montreal, 2010
New Orleans, 2011