



By Herbert K. Lau (劉敬恒) (Rotary China Historian)

8 March 2017 -- International Women's Day

Some very significant programs of Rotary service are conducted not by Rotarians but by organizations of Rotarians' wives and other female relatives associated with Rotary clubs around the world. Generally organized before Rotary clubs admitted women to membership since 1989, these groups served, and continue to serve, as a way for spouses of Rotarians to support the Rotary ideal of service and make valuable contributions to their community.

Women groups -- often called Women of Rotary, Rotary Anns (or *Rotariannes*) Clubs, Las Damas de Rotary, or the more formalized organization, Inner Wheel Club (內輪會) --- annually conduct hundreds of notable projects of humanitarian service. They work with schools, clinics, food and clothing distribution centers, hospital facilities, orphanages, and homes for the elderly. In many instances, the women's groups complement and supplement the programs of service performed by the local Rotary clubs. Many of the women's groups actively conduct international as well as local service projects.

International Inner Wheel (IIW)



Inner Wheel Club (內輪會) Emblem

International Inner Wheel (IIW) is one of the largest women's service voluntary organizations in the world. Today, IIW is active in over 103 countries/geographical territories, with 103,000 members in 3,895 clubs. The headquarters office is located at Cheshire, United Kingdom. Inner Wheel was founded to assist Rotary clubs with their projects --- thus the name and logo. It still fulfills that need, when clubs so desire.



In 1924, Mrs. Margarette Golding, a nurse, business woman and the wife of a Manchester Rotarian, started the Inner Wheel movement. Prior to 1924, wives of Rotarians in many cities and towns, prompted by a concern for public welfare, had been voluntarily, in the background, giving their time and energies to help in any service being undertaken by their menfolk. On the 15th November 1923, twenty-seven Rotary wives, led by Mrs. Golding, met in a Cooling Room (because it was free of charge) at Herriot's Turkish Baths, St. Mary's Street, Deansgate, Manchester, Great Britain; they discussed the possibility of forming...

Even before 1934, some clubs were formed in other parts of the world, having heard about the Inner Wheel organization in Great Britain & Ireland (GB&I) -- such as Ballarat (1931), North Sydney (1933) and Bendigo (1933) in Australia -- in the following years, more Inner Wheel clubs formed, for example, the Napier Club (1936) in New Zealand, Port Elizabeth (1938) in South Africa, and Winnipeg (1943) in Canada. From 1945 Inner Wheel continued to expand globally, with the formation of at least 15 clubs in remote places.

Equally, Inner Wheel's penetration into Europe is extremely interesting. The first European Club outside of Great Britain and Ireland was formed at Bergen (Norway) in 1935, thanks once again to Margarette Golding; the second, after ten years, in 1946 at Apeeldom, Holland.

The Association began to change from a national organization to a worldwide organization, and it was felt that a closer connection was necessary. Thus in 1947 the words "in Great Britain and Ireland" were removed from the title and Inner Wheel became known as "Association of Inner Wheel Clubs".

In the early sixties, the Association, mindful of the increasing number of clubs outside GB&I, and glad to have districts formed in Europe, gave much thought about ways to make Inner Wheel more international in government and the need for personal contact to be made with some more remote clubs. The first steps towards the creation of an international governing body were taken in 1962 during the Association Conference, held in Blackpool, England, when a resolution was approved, to include on the Governing Body, representatives from districts of the Netherlands, Norway, Sweden and Denmark. This resolution was put in place for the first time at Hoddesdon, Hertfordshire, at the Annual Assembly for Officers, when members from countries outside Great Britain and Ireland were invited to sit on the Governing Body,

On the 1st of July 1967 all clubs became Members of "International Inner Wheel".

Inner Wheel in China

Inner Wheel has never been developed in China mainland, nor in Hong Kong (香港) and Macao (澳門). However, Inner Wheel clubs (內輪會) nowadays are still quite popular on the entire Taiwan (臺灣), normally associates of the local Rotary clubs. (see photo on Page 4)

Inner Wheel promotes international friendship and public service as well. Each Club has special projects, community involvements, and charities. Time requirements for Inner Wheel are much less stringent than for Rotary clubs --- meetings generally are monthly, rather than weekly. This is about choice; the fact that many women choose to belong to Inner Wheel, or perhaps Inner Wheel and Rotary, does not reinforce inequality.

Extension Readings: (1) In 1980, there was the story of Rotarian's wife making use of the 3-H program of the Rotary Foundation in aiding refugee children in Hong Kong. Please read Pages 5-7.

(2) A special tribute to "Women Serving Rotary" was published on 《The Rotarian》 Magazine, April 1982. Find more about from Page 8 to Page 22 ...



24 Cogs on the outer wheel represent clubs around the world

24 Cogs on the inside gear wheel denote links with other organizations and charities

The Dot in the middle is the individual member - without 'you' the hub will fail

6 Spokes, radiating outward from the centre represent officers and service committees

Rims of Inner and Outer wheels are coloured **Royal Blue**. Words INNER on top and WHEEL at the bottom should be displayed in **Gold** Letters.





3-H

 happenings

Rotarian's wife aids Hong Kong refugee children

In last month's column, which listed the Rotarian physician and dentist volunteers who are serving in the refugee camps of southeast Asia, the generous service performed by the wives of some of these Rotarians was briefly mentioned.

Since then, we have received a more detailed account of the work done by one of these women. Aileen Meier accompanied her husband, Rotarian dentist John J. Meier, of the Rotary Club of Columbia City, Indiana, U.S.A., to the Kai Tak North refugee camp, where they served from August 11, 1980, to September 5, 1980. Aileen is a medical technologist who had hoped to serve in that capacity, but when she discovered a greater need at a newly established day-care center, she began working with the children instead.

Here, in her own words, is Aileen Meier's account:

"I feel fortunate to have been one of the Rotary wives who accompanied her husband to Hong Kong to work in a refugee camp. I did not know what to expect in the camp, only that I wanted to keep busy and feel needed. I thought perhaps I could make use of my training as a medical technologist, or possibly assist my husband in the dental clinic.

"After arriving at Kai Tak North that first morning we were shown the dental clinic and the hospital facilities. There was no laboratory in the hospital, so my medical technology training could not be used. We were then given a tour of the camp by one of the staff, and were shown a spacious building that had recently been renovated and had opened just that morning as a day-care center.

"The day-care center was called the 'creche,' and was set up to take care of small children whose parents had found work in Hong Kong. (The refugees were encouraged to find employment.) The facility was well planned, but that morning there seemed to be chaos everywhere.

"We returned to the dental clinic, and my husband started seeing patients. It did not take me long to realize that,

with the efficiency of the camp dental assistant and the size of the clinic, my presence was not needed. I remembered the children at the new day-care center, and thought that certainly they could use some help. From that day forward, my desire to keep busy was more than fulfilled.

"There were about 40 children in the creche, ranging in age from six months to three years. The children were not used to being separated from their families, not used to toys, and especially not used to diapers. In fact, what they were used to was being held most of the time by older brothers or sisters, not being alone in a large room with other children.

"Morning and afternoon naps were difficult because the children wanted to be held to go to sleep. After a while we were able to sit on mats with the babies and small children, and get two or three of them to lie down around each one of us. We would pat one child and then another until they all went to sleep. My 'western' appearance was strange to a few of them, and of course I couldn't reassure them in Vietnamese. My tone of voice and my facial expressions were my only tools of communication. After some familiarization, it worked pretty well.

"My favorite child was a little boy whom I called David. He was fairly self-sufficient, so I didn't spend any time with him at first. However, as time went by he would come over to me, hand me a toy, and then come back to get it. I became very attached to David, but it was our last week in camp before David smiled. I almost cried.

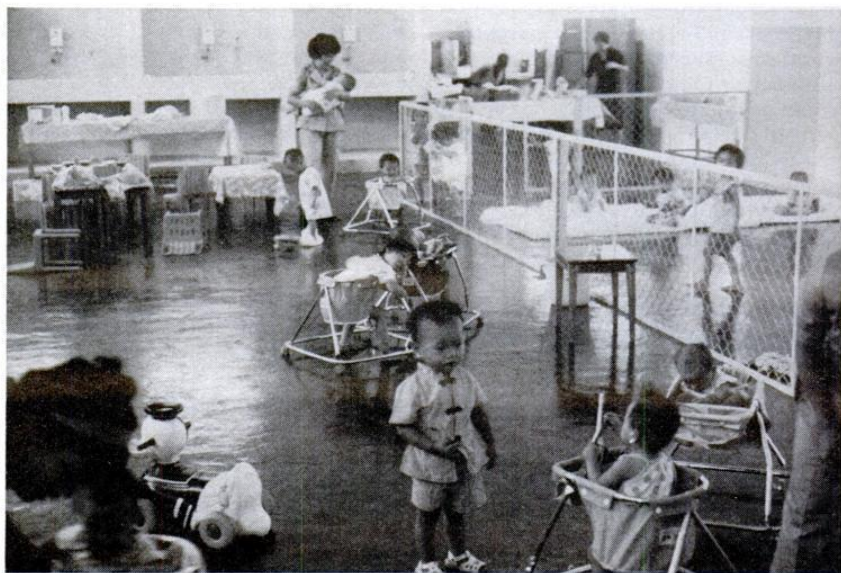
"By the third week, the creche was



Hong Kong—Aileen Meier, wife of Rotarian dentist John J. Meier, of Columbia City, Indiana, U.S.A., cuddles a Vietnamese girl who was one of her charges at a day-care center in Kai Tak North refugee camp.

running smoothly and the children were adjusting well. The major problems had been worked out and there were even periods of relative silence. The typical 12-hour day had been divided into two shifts of eight hours each, with a two-hour overlap at lunch.

"The staff was composed of eight Vietnamese workers, two assistants, and Joan Childs, a pediatric nurse from Ireland. Joan was in charge of the creche and of course spoke English, as



Hong Kong—In this "creche," a day-care center at Kai Tak North refugee camp, Aileen Meier helped care for 40 children daily, while her husband was serving in a camp dental clinic. Aileen recalls that at first the small children were frightened by her "western" appearance, but soft, soothing words and loving hugs soon reassured them.

did the assistant from England and the one from Hong Kong.

"In spite of our busy days, we all got acquainted and enjoyed working together. On my last day, the assistants and Joan gave me a pair of earrings with the Chinese symbol for long life on them. I always will treasure this present, but more than that, I will treasure the memories of the boys and girls of whom I became so fond during our month at Kai Tak North.

"It is impossible for me to sum up the rewards I gained, or the emotions I felt as I departed from the creche that last day. I can only encourage any Rotary wife who has the opportunity to go with her husband and work in a refugee camp to do so. The experience of working with these cheerful, courageous people was more rewarding than I could have ever imagined."



COURTESY OF GEORGE CHOA

The British Crown Colony Hong Kong received its first wave of Vietnamese refugees on 4 May 1975. Photo was taken by Dr. George Choa (蔡永善醫生), President 1971-1972 of the Rotary Club of Hong Kong.

Glossary

(1) The 3-H Grants of The Rotary Foundation

In 1978, The Rotary Foundation launched its most comprehensive humanitarian service activity with the Health, Hunger and Humanity Grants program. The “3-H” Grants program was designed to undertake large-scale service projects beyond the capacity of individual Rotary clubs or groups of clubs.

Since 1978, almost 290 3-H projects have been carried out in 75 countries, with an appropriation of more than US\$74 million. The objective of these projects was to improve health, alleviate hunger, and enhance human, cultural, and social development among peoples of the world. The ultimate goal was to advance international understanding, goodwill, and peace.

The first 3-H project was the immunization of six million children in The Philippines against polio, marking the birth of what we now know as the PolioPlus program. As 3-H progressed, new projects, including nutrition programs, vocational education initiatives, food production enhancement, and polio victim rehabilitation, were carried out to help people in developing areas of the world. All 3-H projects were supported by the voluntary contributions of Rotarians through The Rotary Foundation of Rotary International.

As of 1 July 2009, the Rotary Foundation ceased to award 3-H Grants, with the exception of projects being developed to support water and sanitation projects in Ghana, The Philippines, and the Dominican Republic.

(2) Vietnamese War Refugees in Hong Kong

After the Vietnam War ended in April 1975 with the Fall of Saigon, North Vietnam reunited the northern and southern halves of the country, many people began to flee out of fear of the new Communist Government. Many refugees headed by boat to nearby countries, initially Singapore, Malaysia, Thailand, Indonesia, and the British Crown Colony Hong Kong. Many Southeast Asian nations had repulsed “boat people”, but Hong Kong was one city that had kept the door open. Hong Kong received its first wave of Vietnamese refugees on 4 May 1975. The result, as Hong Kong Rotarians said, was inhuman over-crowding in one of the world’s most heavily populated cities. Rotarians were working hard, though, to relieve the situation. Hong Kong Rotarians, in co-operation with the Government and other local service organizations, had prepared a film and an illustrated booklet explaining the plight of Indochina’s refugees and Hong Kong’s efforts to relieve the situation. The film and literature were distributed among the service organizations in the United States, stirring support for efforts to resettle the thousands of homeless refugees. Hong Kong had been one of the central disembarkation ports for Indochinese “boat people” in search of an open port and new home. The result was over-crowded camps filled with sickness, hunger, and misery.

Backed by a humanitarian policy of the Colonial Hong Kong Government, and under the auspices of the United Nations, some Vietnamese were permitted to settle in Hong Kong. The illegal entry of Vietnamese refugees was a problem which plagued the Government of Hong Kong for 25 years. About 15 refugee camps were set up in various locations to provide free shelter, food, medical services, educational classes, etc. The problem was only resolved in 2000. Between 1975 and 1999, 143,700 Vietnamese refugees were resettled in other countries and more than 67,000 Vietnamese migrants were repatriated.

Women Serving Rotary

SHE MAY BE a young mother, a polished professional woman, a grandmother of one or two or more. She may speak Oxonian English, Academy French, or any of dozens of provincial dialects. She may wear designer gowns or "inexpensive little numbers she runs up herself." She may be a world traveler or a contented stay-at-home.

She may call herself a "Rotary Ann (or Rotarianne or -enne)," a member of the Inner Wheel (or the *Rueda Femenina*, or the *Casa da Amizade*.)

Whatever her differences, she has many things in common with thousands of her sisters around the world. For she is the wife of a Rotarian. As such, service is her business, just as much as it is the business of her husband.

Since the beginning of the Rotary movement, the wives of Rotarians, and in some instances their mothers, daughters, aunts, nieces, and female cousins as well, have worked right alongside the men of Rotary.

As devoted to the Rotary ideal as any man, these energetic women serve as hostesses to large and small Rotary events and to visiting Rotarians and their families. They help with the planning and oftentimes the catering for Rotary events of all sizes and types. They give maternal care and counsel to exchange students and Rotary scholars far from home. They visit and collect needed goods for the poor, the sick, the elderly, the handicapped, the oppressed, and the lonely, much of it in the name of Rotary. And, as you will soon see, they are fund-raisers without peer.

Some of these "angels of Rotary" serve directly through their husbands' Rotary clubs; others group themselves into separate organizations. Some groups not only assist with Rotary club projects; they also develop completely different projects of their own. Some are informal coffee and tea clubs; others, such as the Inner Wheel (see page 22), are highly organized. ALL are a great asset to Rotary.

The Board of Rotary International appreciates the valuable cooperation and participation of women relatives of Rotarians, whether as individuals or as local groups, and encourages them to organize in support of Rotary club activities and the promotion of Rotary ideals.

Early in this Rotary year, President Stanley E. McCaffrey determined to pay special tribute to these important "Women of Rotary"—in the form of this special editorial treatment in Rotary's official magazine, and in a special plenary session for women at the 1982 convention of R.I. in Dallas. In preparation for both events, President Stan sent an open letter to the Rotary world asking for reports of women's activities for publication. Some results of that request are reflected on the following pages.

Some regions of the Rotary world responded more abundantly than others. This does not mean that the women in these regions serve more or better than women elsewhere; it simply implies that their service is more evident. As in Rotary service, the *modus operandi* differs from country to country, region to region. Some of it is open and exuberant; some is discreet and unannounced. It depends largely on the culture and character of the nation concerned.

This special tribute is for all women everywhere who give of their time and talents for Rotary. On behalf of President McCaffrey and his own first lady, Beth, and the entire Rotary world, "Thanks, ladies, for all that you do."

—JO NUGENT, FOR THE EDITORS

Upper right: The busy wives of Rotarians of Garches—Marnes-la-Coquette—Vaucresson, France, lend helping hands in many ways. They join in club dinners on "Fifth Mondays," attend fireside chats, assist with dinners for new members and their wives, and participate in contact club visits. They also handle the "business end" of an annual rummage sale at which their husbands serve as "stock boys."

Near right: Irene Luzader, of Bastrop, Louisiana, U.S.A., shown making a publicity poster for a fine-music concert sponsored by her husband's Rotary club, is typical of Rotary wives around the world who help in every way they can to make Rotary projects successful.

Far right: Wives of Rotarians not only raise millions of dollars each year for Rotary fund-raising events; they also sell millions of tickets. The chief money-raiser for the Rotary Club of New Westminster, B.C., Canada, is bingo. Here, Dorothy Hartney, in booth, serves a happy customer eager to try her luck.



"Women hold up half the sky."
Old Chinese proverb



Upper left: The Rotary Anns of Leesville, Louisiana, U.S.A., assist the Rotary club in its sponsorship of annual softball and tennis tournaments, and a competition olympics for exceptional children.

Lower left: These lovely chorines of Ulverstone, Tas., Australia reveal both talent and pulchritude at the annual service club Christmas party.

Below: Rotary Ann Felicity Howe announces the opening of the "Second Best" shop operated by the wives of Rotarians of Port Shepstone, South Africa (see By the Way, page 7). The sign is in Zulu and English.



The 'Rotary Anns'

by Dorothy J. Dochterman

ROTARY IS A men's club, but throughout the world the wives of Rotarians play an important role. They take part in a wide variety of social, service, and supportive activities to promote the purposes of Rotary International. Although not formally recognized as a part of Rotary, Rotarians' wives have for many years actively participated in and enjoyed the dividends of their husbands' organization. In many communities the involvement is limited to an occasional ladies' day luncheon or a special social event sponsored by the Rotary club. The wives in other communities are often organized into groups called Ladies Committees, Wives of Rotary, Rotarian Ladies, Rotary Ladies Association, and in the more formal organization of Inner Wheel.

It is believed that the Women of Rotary, established in 1921 among the wives, mothers, and daughters of the members of the Rotary Club of Chicago, was the first organization of women associated with Rotary. The club first claiming to use the name of "Rotary Ann" was organized in Birmingham, Michigan, U.S.A., six years later. Over the years the term Rotary Anns or Rotariannes has been applied to many of the women's groups formed by the wives of Rotarians.

The Rotary Ann description has been a friendly reference to Rotarians' wives for nearly 68 years. The story of how the name originated was first told to me one evening in San Francisco, shortly after my husband joined Rotary. We were

considerably uninformed about the background of Rotary, but our history lesson that evening was a memorable one. Our dinner guests were R.I. Past President H. J. ("Bru") Brunner and his charming wife, Ann. He talked about the early days of Rotary and how he had been a charter member of the number two Rotary club, formed in San Francisco in 1908. "Let me tell you how the nickname of 'Rotary Ann' was given to the wives of Rotarians," Bru suggested.

He then recalled the year 1914 when there were only about 83 Rotary clubs in the world and not more than 10,000 members. Delegations from the Rotary clubs of the western part of the United States met in San Francisco, to board a special railroad car to travel to the Rotary International convention in Houston, Texas. Bru remembered that until the train arrived in Los Angeles, his wife was the only woman in the car filled with Rotarians. It was somewhat uncommon in those days for the ladies to accompany their husbands on convention excursions. Asked how she should be addressed, since the men customarily were on a first-name basis, she said her name was "Ann" and they could call her that. Soon the men were identifying her as "our Rotary Ann."

Bru noted that the San Francisco club was trying to encourage the Rotarians to hold their Rotary convention in the West, so all sorts of stunts were planned to promote interest in a San Francisco convention. Someone wrote a Rotary Ann

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Rotary in stitchery: The Rotary Anns club of The Abingtons—Clark Summit, Pennsylvania, U.S.A., grew out of a project for the 1980 conference of Rotary District 741. Wives of district Rotarians were asked to make international dolls and compile an international cookbook. They did this and even more: they made a hand-embroidered red, white, and blue international quilt depicting Rotary countries and presented it to District Governor C. G. "Gus" Vlassis, and his wife, Irene, at the district conference.

chant which was practiced all the way to Houston, a trip of nearly three days. Ann became so popular on that trip that Bru said he saved the cost of her meals; it seemed that one of the Rotarians always invited her to join his table for lunch or dinner—without Bru.

A large group of Rotarians met the train upon its arrival in Houston. As the Western delegation entered the depot, they sang their songs and gave their Rotary Ann chant. The enthusiastic Rotarians picked up the petite and attractive Ann Brunner and marched around the terminal. In the crowd were Guy Gundaker of Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, who would become president of Rotary International in 1923, and his wife. When Guy mentioned that his wife was also named Ann, the joyful crowd of Rotarians quickly added Ann Gundaker to the Rotary Ann parade. At this point one of the Rotarians announced that "from now on, all ladies of Rotary will be known as Rotary Anns!" The unofficial nickname was coined. From that day the wives of Rotarians in many communities have been identified as Rotary Anns.

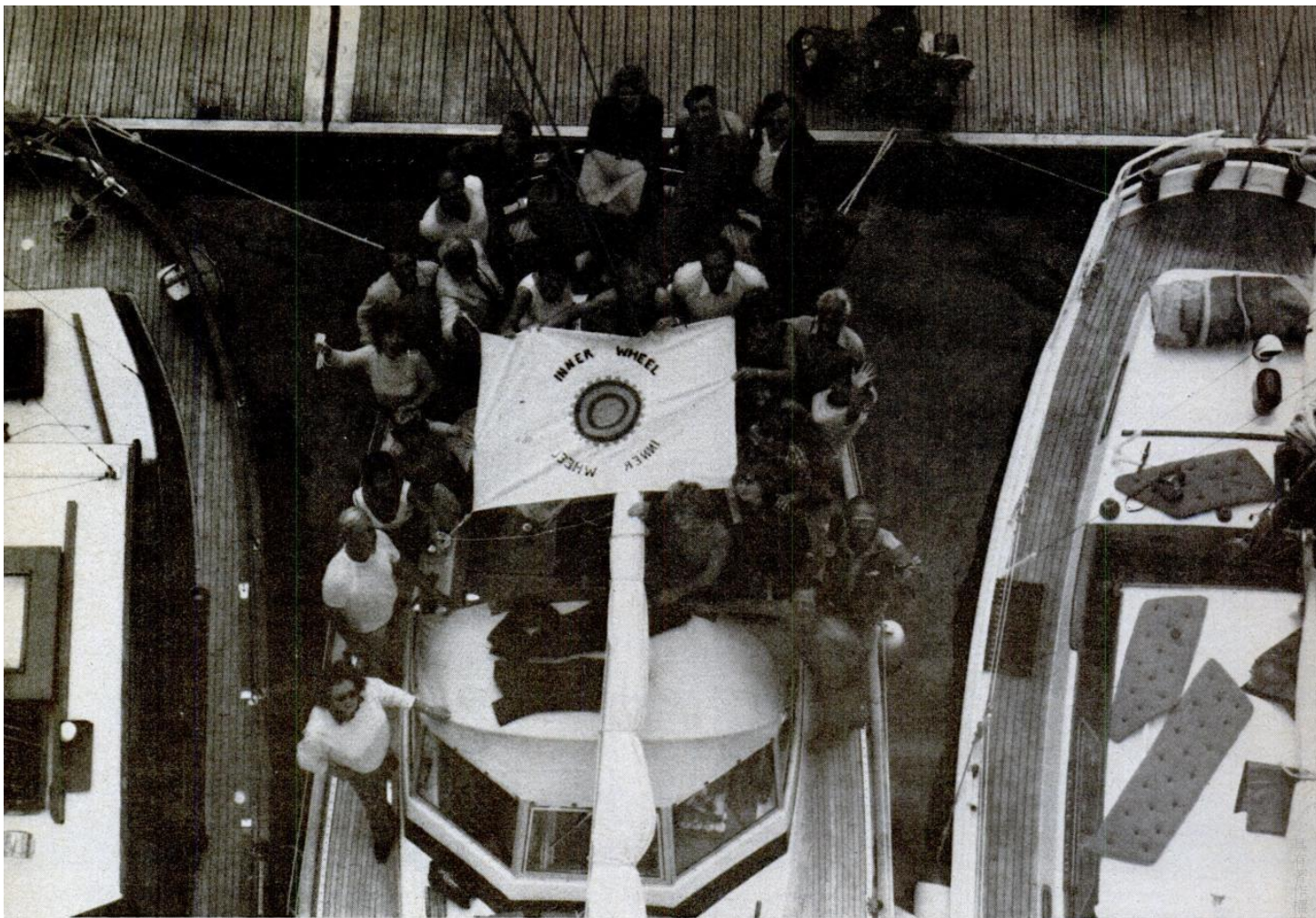
Without the exuberance of that train station welcome and the coincidental meeting of two ladies named Ann, it is unlikely that the wives of Rotarians would have this unusual designation. The term has continued throughout the history of Rotary, even though the original Rotary Ann (Brunner) died in 1970 and Ann Gundaker nearly 20 years earlier.

Although in some parts of the world the expression Rotary Ann is not universally endorsed by Rotarians and their wives, it has become a common term of endearment in many clubs and districts. When women are organized in Rotary Ann clubs to engage in volunteer service activities, they frequently equal or surpass the service projects of their Rotarian husbands. As the surrounding pages show, Rotary Anns in many communities provide charitable assistance to children's homes, hospitals, clinics, and schools, and give aid to the handicapped, the aged, and the underprivileged. In other cities Rotary Anns join with their husbands in the service projects conducted by the local Rotary clubs.

I find many personal dividends in being a Rotary Ann. Some come in the form of friendship with wonderful people, or satisfaction from service performed, or new doorways opened to the world, or merely sharing the pleasures which Rotary provides for my husband.

When I recall the story of that Rotary train arrival at the Houston convention, I am glad there were two charming wives named "Ann" who captured the attention of a roomful of Rotarians. Rotary Anns have been doing so ever since. ☺

• Dorothy Dochterman is the wife of Rotarian Clifford L. Dochterman of North Stockton, California, U.S.A., chairman of the R.I. New Horizons Committee (see TR for September 1981). For more about Dorothy's active service life, see *By the Way*, page 4.



The all-female crew of the sloop Jolumina are greeted on the French shore by their British husbands, members of the Rotary Club of St. Ives, Cambs., England, after their successful voyage across the English Channel from Southampton. Despite a thunderstorm, the crew—Inner Wheelers all—made good for those who sponsored their fund-raising sail in the amount of £2,600.

The Inner Wheel

by Jenette M. Petitt

I HAVE BEEN keeping in touch with Inner Wheel activities through the *Rotary Service Magazine*. Paul and I are amazed and thrilled at the magnitude of its benefactions . . . may God bless your every endeavour."

Thus wrote Jean Thomson Harris, wife of Rotary founder Paul Harris, from her Chicago home in 1946 to Mrs. W. Winkler, founder president of the Inner Wheel Club of Edinburgh, Scotland, Jean Harris's birthplace. In her letter, she accepted honorary membership in the Edinburgh club.

Already known to Paul and Jean Harris for some years, Inner Wheel, a service organization for wives and female relatives of Rotarians, was officially begun in Manchester in the north of England in 1924 on the tenth of January, the day now appointed and observed annually as World Inner Wheel Day. The wife of a Manchester Rotarian, Mrs. Oliver Golding, founder of Inner Wheel, was the first president.

During Rotary's development in the British Isles, various groups of women had been working separately in support of

Rotary ideals under names such as "Rotary Ladies," "Ladies Auxiliary," and "Wheel of Service." Traveling widely and speaking of Inner Wheel to both Rotarians and their wives, Mrs. Golding was instrumental both in establishing new clubs and in persuading other existing groups to unite in the name of Inner Wheel, an appropriate designation evolved from the Rotary emblem. In addition to working closely with Rotary, these clubs were also able to organize service and undertake charitable work particularly suited to women.

Early growth was steady and it is proper to record here the support and benevolence of the Rotarians in Great Britain and Ireland (R.I.B.I.) who gave the ladies a platform at various district conferences and at the annual R.I.B.I. conference.

In 1931, the first club overseas was formed in Ballarat, Vic., Australia, thanks to a Rotarian who, having visited Britain on a business trip, returned home and spread the word. In 1934, with 79 clubs in existence, came the formation of the Association of Inner Wheel Clubs in Great Britain and

Ireland, retitled the Association of Inner Wheel Clubs in 1947 to acknowledge other clubs throughout the world. In 1948, the first district beyond the shores of Britain was formed in The Netherlands. That year, clubs totaled 525. Worldwide growth continued and by 1960 there were almost 200 clubs in 10 districts in various countries outside Britain.

Tribute must be paid to the British group who, in 1962, invited members from Denmark, the Netherlands, Norway, and Sweden to serve on its council so that they might obtain experience for managing their own affairs and establishing their respective national councils.

In 1967, International Inner Wheel was born and, like Rotary International, it became the parent body for the movement. This justified the prescience of Paul Harris when

the districted countries where the potential is unlimited. We are always mindful of our isolated outposts: those "Members at Large" who are now unable to enjoy club life, and the non-districted clubs who are ever hopeful of extension within their particular areas.

Triennial world conventions contribute enormously to international fellowship between members from different nations. Long-lasting friendships ensue, providing opportunities to exchange hospitality and see the way of life elsewhere. Next month, May 11-13, the fifth convention will be held in Paris, France.

Administratively guided by an international constitution, clubs enjoy considerable autonomy and are free to choose their own projects and the method of achievement. As you



Left: In September 1981, the Inner Wheel of the Rotary Club of Suncheon, Korea, donated relief items to a family stricken by Typhoon Agnes. The collection included 151 pieces of clothing, 10 boxes of noodles, and many blankets and other household items.

more than 30 years earlier, in conversation with Mrs. Golding, he had said he was "well-disposed towards the concept of Inner Wheel as an international movement."

Operating now in 2,377 clubs in 52 countries throughout the world, 75,000 wives and female relatives of Rotarians are the workforce of International Inner Wheel, one of the largest international women's organizations in the world today, united without regard to colour, race, or creed. There are associations in Australia, Great Britain and Ireland, India and Sri Lanka, and a corporate group in the Philippines. National councils exist in Denmark, the Netherlands, Norway, and Sweden. At present the 16 members on the International Inner Wheel board represent Belgium and Luxembourg, Canada, Egypt, Jordan, France, Germany, Israel, New Zealand, and the United States of America, plus those countries mentioned above.

Our hopes for future extension lie not only in these areas where our organization is firmly established but also within

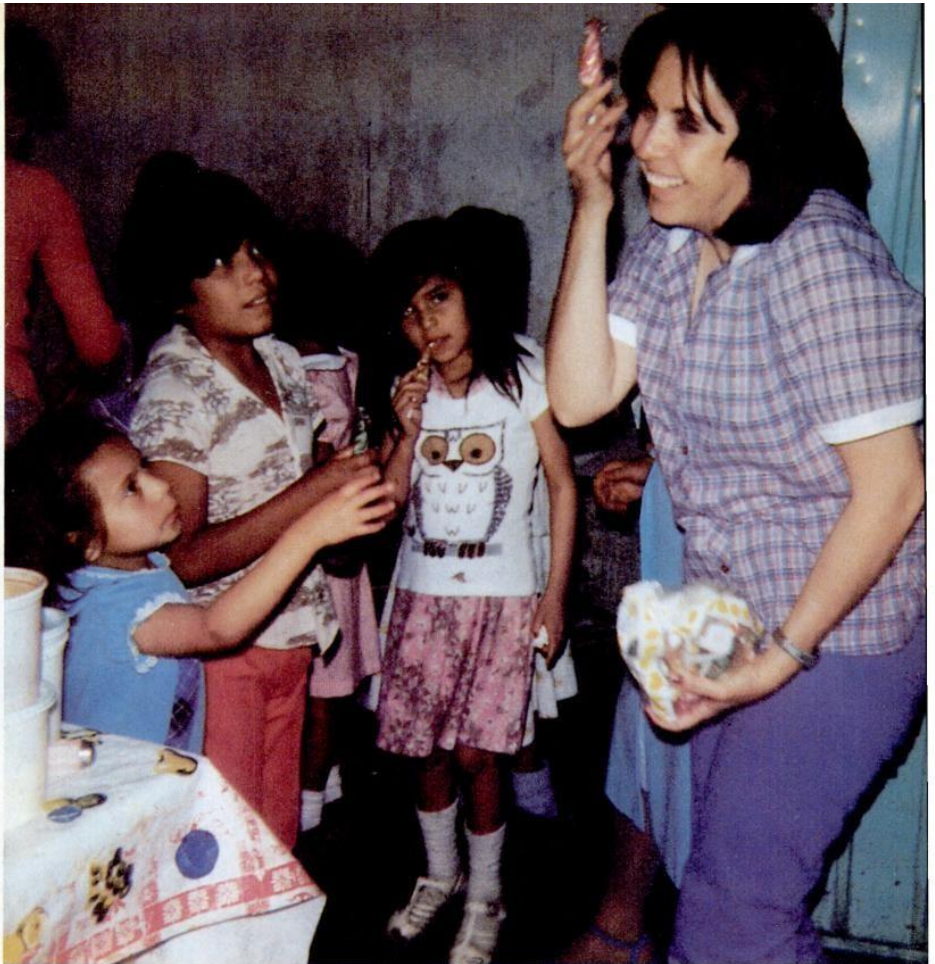
see in these pages, the range of service is as wide and varied as Rotary's own, the needs of others being met by caring and concerned members. As a matter of interest, the 1981-82 theme is "Be Concerned" and this concern is extended to those among us who may be in adversity. Particularly we cater for the widows of Rotarians who remain in membership and who may transfer to any club worldwide should the need arise. So then, in these ways, International Inner Wheel works and strives and will continue, I am confident, to produce caring members, concerned:

- to promote true friendship
- to encourage the ideals of personal service
- to foster international understanding. ☸

● Mrs. Pettitt, Scottish by birth and now a resident of Tadlow, Royston, England, is the president of International Inner Wheel for 1981-82. She is the wife of Walter Pettitt, a member of the Rotary Club of Sandy. For more about her busy personal life and accomplishments, see *By the Way*, page 6.

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Below: Wives of Rotarians of Aeropuerto, Uruguay, arrange provisions of food and books they have collected for a public school. Help to schools and educational projects in general rates high on the priority lists of Rotarians' wives throughout the nations of South and Central America.



Above: The personal, health, and educational needs of underprivileged children are a constant concern of the wives of Mexican Rotarians. Here, a Rotary Ann of Ciudad Satelite distributes sweets during a Children's Day celebration.

'Las Damas de Rotary' by Rita Corrêa da Costa

TODAY MORE THAN ever, much is being said about the binomial Rotary woman. The impassioned words expressed at the 1978 R.I. convention in Tokyo, Japan, by an intransigent defender of the admission of women into Rotary still resound in our ears.

My heart also holds the stimulating words of the Board of Directors of Rotary International regarding the remarkable work developed by the organizations of Rotarian wives and families. They gave me courage to analyse the real and valid participation of the Rotarian's wife in the attainment of the ideal of service. I do not have sufficient data to talk in terms of international scope, but I have seen dignifying examples of the efforts of Rotarians' wives in Latin America.

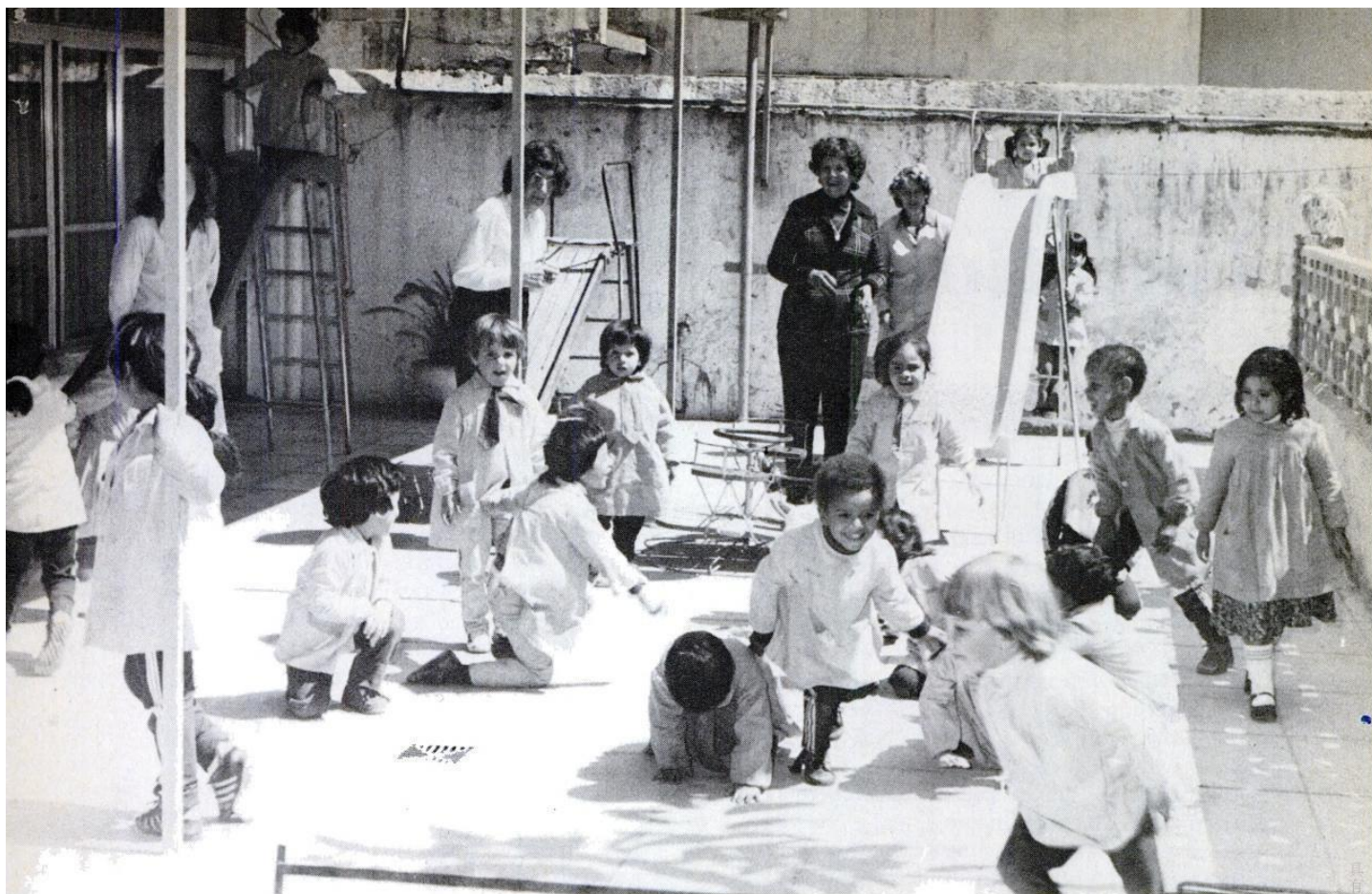
I do not defend the admission of women as official members of Rotary clubs, although I value enormously the great capacity of the woman in all sectors of human life. I know that women, clever and educated as they may be, also have hearts full of love, understanding, and compassion, but I am not personally convinced that it would be good for Ro-

tary clubs to have women as official, active members.

I am a great admirer of Rotary; I recognize the solidity of its structure, and would like to see it preserved. But I wonder: How would Rotary be without the help, dedication and interest of the Rotarian's wife? The feminine potential is immeasurable and the work performed by women great, based and inspired as it is on the Rotary objective.

In Latin America, a large majority of the Rotary clubs have associations of Rotarian families. Under such names as House of Friendship (*Casa da Amizade*) and Family Circle, they struggle to assist the destitute and minimize the community's more pressing needs. Organized and managed by Rotarians' wives, they follow a work plan independent from the Rotary clubs' activities. When they do act in conjunction with the clubs, they never compete, but serve as instruments of support and complement.

Hospitals, asylums, orphanages, nurseries, vocational schools, and other institutions receive substantial help from these devoted women. They minister to physically and men-



The Niño Jesus daycare center for low-income children is a favorite project of the ladies' group of the Rotary Club of Ciudadela, Argentina. The ladies also help support schools, retirement homes, and hospitals, and give scholarships to needy school children.

tally deficient people, young people addicted to drugs, alcoholics, mendicants, prisoners, and many others.

Especially in small towns, there is no doubt that a large part of what Rotary proposes to do is only achieved when Rotarians have the understanding and full support of their wives. When these wives are motivated as an entity, their strength accumulates, their enthusiasm increases, and, through unselfish activity undertaken with great love, they achieve impressive results. When the ideal of service inflames the hearts of Rotarians' wives, many of Rotary's dreams become reality.

In Santos, in the state of São Paulo, Brazil, where I live, the dream of a Rotarian physician came true—with his wife's help. Leão de Moura decided to dedicate a great part of his time to victims of poliomyelitis. With faith, hope, and resolution, he and his wife worked together to make the dream a reality. They transmitted their enthusiasm to the Rotarians and wives of the Santos Rotary Club, who joined in support of their "House of Hope," and expanded it into a model of assistance to the physically and mentally deficient child.

The Rotarian dreamt, and his club supported the idea, but it was undoubtedly the devotion, love, and effective work of his wife, aided by the wives of his fellow Rotarians, that made the work prosper and become a dignifying testimony of the "Rotarian and wife" union in favor of a worthy cause.

In São Paulo, our state capital, the association of Rotarian families has the effective participation of the wives of members of the 30 Rotary clubs in the city. It is a powerful organization, and its accomplishments many. Its work is based on Rotary plans and purposes, and Rotarians cooperate, as needed. The Rotary club and the association complete each other in a perfect union.

I would like to emphasize another facet of the valuable and remarkable devotion of Rotarians' wives in their mission of awakening interest and enthusiasm for Rotary in the wives of new members. With a better knowledge of Rotary designs and objectives, these women will be able to support and encourage their husbands, and to understand their devotion to this extraordinary movement.

When a woman learns to know and admire Rotary, she becomes a strong ally. She offers the wealth of her heart and the power of her imagination to its objective, and finds great happiness in serving it.

On the grave of Jean Harris, the guardian angel of Rotary founder Paul Harris, is the simple epitaph: "I did all I could." These plain words express, in a wonderful way, the sincere goals of the organizations of Rotarians' wives.

May God protect and bless them; may Rotarians all over the world forever recognize and support the devoted efforts of these authentic "guardian angels" of Rotary. ☉

● Rita Corrêa da Costa is the wife of R.I. Past Vice-President Paulo Viriato C. Costa, chairman of the 1981-82 R.I. districting committee. Paulo served as chairman of the 1981 R.I. convention committee and Rita served beside him, making Rotarians and their wives from around the world feel right at home in São Paulo and Brazil.

Women's clubs in action

Organization

The ways in which Rotary-related women's groups organize themselves vary as widely as do their projects.

- In District 434 in Chile, Rotarians' wives are organized into 33 commissions with a total of 900 members. The commissions are subdivided into service committees which serve all age groups, infants through the elderly—in a service range from individual care projects to large social undertakings. The Quinta Normal club has one joint subcommittee with wives of Argentinian Rotarians. "Our work," the ladies of District 434 conclude, "reflects what women are able to accomplish when we make up our minds to do it, and when we are prompted by the ideal of Rotary."
- Piracicaba, Brazil, has four Rotary clubs with an "association of family members."
- The women's club of Redondo Beach-Riviera Village, California, U.S.A., meets monthly, and elects a new president each June. At each meeting each member contributes a dollar to a fund for Paul Harris sustaining memberships for Rotarians' wives.
- In Culver City, California, U.S.A., wives of new Rotarians are invited to a Rotary information meeting, where they meet the wives of the other club members.

Club service assistance

Rotarians long ago learned that their wives have practical ideas to apply to clubhousekeeping and the day-to-day routines that add up to efficient club service. When the Rotary Club of La Jolla, California, U.S.A., accumulated more club banners than it could display handily, members' wives organized the pennants into a permanent display by mounting groups of them on cloth panels.

- In Saskatoon, Sask., Canada, Rotarians' wives handle the telephoning when important club functions approach.
- The "Rotary Women's Friendship Club" of Tokyo-Arakawa, Japan, helps the Rotary club with club and community activities and assists at the district conference.

A place in the limelight

There is a flair for entertainment among the wives of Rotarians. In Portage La Prairie, Man., Canada, their "most direct and visible" support is participation in the club's fundraising variety show where they fulfill roles as members of the chorus, actresses, script writers, and makeup and costume people.

- A chorus line made up of the Rotary Anns of Kingston-Frontenac, Ont., Canada, gives a comic Christmas performance for residents of a home for the elderly.
- The women's "Flower Chorus," wives of members of the

Rotary Club of Tokyo Seihoku, Japan, is a favorite attraction at nursing homes and other community institutions.

Welcoming the homeless

The women's group of the Rotary Club of Nordenham, Germany, has sponsored settlement of a Vietnamese refugee family of seven in a furnished home rented by the township.

- Wives of Rotarians of The Abingtons-Clark Summit, Pennsylvania, U.S.A., aid a resettled Laotian refugee family. This group also helps "battered wives."

Role models and teachers

Rotary's vocational service avenue, too, benefits from the feminine touch.

- Wives of Rotarians of Table Bay, South Africa, have established a vocational training program which teaches poor women of the community to sew for profit.
- The Rotary Anns of Randolph, New Jersey, U.S.A., join their husbands each October, during "Vocational Service Month," for a Career Day. High school students "shadow" a Rotarian or a Rotary Ann through a typical workday. Rotary Anns also give talks on their careers, including the "full-time career of motherhood and homemaking."
- PAIAC, an agency established in 1970 by a group of Mexican women who responded to the invitation of the Apostolic Delegate from the Vatican to help Mexican Indians, now has 28 aid centers in remote sections of Mexico. For several years it has had support from the wives of Tacubaya Rotarians. Initially they organized two sewing centers to which they donated sewing and knitting machines, thus providing the Indians an opportunity to learn a trade as they make clothing for their families. In 1980-81, with the help of the "Rotary United Fund," the ladies organized three more shops and distributed a ton of powdered milk among the centers for children and the elderly.
- Women who serve Rotary often find that Rotary serves them as well. In 1981 the Rotary Club of Ciudad de Guatemala, Guatemala, signed an agreement with the U.S. Agency for International Development (A.I.D.) Mission in Guatemala for a (U.S.) \$305,000 grant to serve as seed money for a "Women in Development" project. The purpose: to motivate, train, and finance projects owned, managed, or operated by women in rural low income sections of Guatemala. This club's women's committee recently completed construction of a school building in a nearby rural settlement.

"Whither thou goest"

When Rotarians serve abroad—as doctors, or dentists, in refugee camps (see photo, page 52), as business or agricultural counselors—their wives often go right along.

- In April 1975, a F.A.I.M. (Fourth Avenue in Motion) work party of Heidelberg, Vic., Australia, Rotarians and their wives set out to build a hospital at Togatia House, a small farm for delinquent young males run by the Salvation Army in Papua New Guinea's Eastern Highlands. A previous work party had begun the hospital, and this team of 15 members (11 men and 4 women) completed it. While their husbands did construction work, the wives provided meals, carrying water in buckets from tanks and coping with laundry for the

whole work team. It was all worth it—the hospital treated over 30,000 patients in its first 15 months of operation. When Togatia House was completed, the team moved on to the Western Highlands to build a “potato store.” Team members paid all of their own fares, including insurance.

The widest avenue

Simply because of the nature of its projects—care of the elderly, the young, the needy—Rotary’s community service avenue attracts more help from women than any other.

- The Feminine Wheel of the Rotary Club of Barracas, Argentina, traditionally has one major project per year. In 1968–69 it was a “Child’s Day” donation of dolls made by members to children at the pediatric ward of a local hospital. In 1969–70, it was donations of furniture to a neuropsychiatric hospital and remodeling and equipping of a new geronto-psychiatric service sponsored by Wheel members. Succeeding years brought additional major donations of necessities and equipment to community child-care, hospital, and educational facilities. Since 1975, the Wheel has divided annual donations amounting to several million pesos among these projects.

- The wives of Rotarians of Goiânia-Campinas, Brazil, donate clothing, food, and medicines to victims of floods; distribute rice to slum dwellers; Christmas gifts to jail inmates; Mother’s Day gifts to needy mothers; baby clothing to unwed mothers; and sanitary products to social agencies. They also aid exceptional and orphaned children.

- A bountiful Christmas gift distribution to some 1,800 people is a major project of the *Casa da Amizade* (“House of Friendship”) of the Rotary Club of Santa Vitória, Brazil. Each year the ladies visit poor families to select the ones most in need.

- The motto of the Feminine Wheel of the Rotary Club of Vélez Sarsfield, Argentina, is “A light of hope for those who suffer.” This club’s accomplishments include an employment bureau for the disabled; distribution of wheelchairs, canes, and orthopedic equipment to handicapped persons; and remodeling of dormitories at a children’s home.

- Since its organization in 1963, the *Casa da Amizade* of the Rotary Club of Frutal, Brazil, has been instrumental in the construction and maintenance of a school which today enrolls 1,200 students. This club also provides lunches to a home for the aged and an orphanage, and clothing for the infant residents of the latter.

- The Crippled Children’s Centre in Kitchener, Ont., Canada, is a major interest of the Rotary Anns of that city, who transport the children to and from the treatment center and serve there regularly as volunteers.

- For 19 years, 1959 to 1978, the Rotary Anns of Beaufort West, South Africa, ran the “Rotary Anns’ Baby Clinic,” managed by the club’s “senior Ann,” Sister Margareth Warren. The project was financed through membership fees, contributions, and profits made by selling powdered milk to mothers at a reduced rate. In 1978, the Anns turned the thriving clinic over to the municipality of Beaufort.

- Projects of the wives of Rotarians in Boston, Massachusetts, U.S.A., emphasize service to women. They support “Rosie’s Place,” a hot-meal spot for the city’s homeless women, and Transition House, a home for abused women.

- A recent blood drive organized by the Rotary Anns of

Pawley’s Island, South Carolina, U.S.A. (population 500), yielded 20 litres (43 pints).

- The wives of members of the Rotary Club of Toronto, Ont., Canada, make practical and recreational articles for patients at a cancer hospital and a hospital for handicapped children. The Toronto “women of Rotary” are also looking forward to staffing the House of Friendship at the 1983 convention—quite a hostessing assignment, as their counterparts in previous convention cities can attest, but one that is always handled with grace and verve.

- Fire safety is the special concern of the Rotarians and Rotary Anns of Valley Center, California, U.S.A. The Valley Center Volunteer Fire Department depends almost entirely on private contributions and the Anns recently coordinated a successful fund-drive in its behalf. The Rotary Club of Valley Center won District 534’s community service award in 1979–80 for its support of the fire department.

- The women of Rotary in many lands are active in “Meals on Wheels,” a program which provides hot meals to the elderly and homebound. Wives of the 46-member club of Wangaratta, Australia, delivered 15,057 Meals on Wheels in 1980.

- The “Cherry Blossom Group,” wives of Rotarians of Tokyo Koganei, Japan, spend much time visiting the ill and elderly, and raising funds for orphans and disabled persons.

- City beautification, especially the clean-up and maintenance of a pedestrian tunnel, is the special pride of the women’s group of the Rotary Club of Noda East, Japan.

- The Mid-Tennessee County Fair held in Lawrenceburg, is the largest county fair in the state of Tennessee, U.S.A. All the fairgrounds and all buildings were donated by the Rotary Club of Lawrenceburg. The facilities took 25 years to develop and the club spends \$30,000 annually to operate them. Wives of Rotarians play a major part in the project’s success. Not only do they work at the annual fair, but they also assist the Rotary club in its year-round operation of the fairgrounds concessions.

- In Germany, the women of Rotary of Bad Kissingen, work with senior citizens, assist at an orphanage, and help children evacuated from Poland. The Rotary Anns of Bayerwald-Zwiesel, initiated a building project for a school for the handicapped. The imaginative Anns of Kitzingen turned an empty lot into a garden for a nursing home. The wives of Miltenberg Rotarians are active in a “Help in Life” circle, which cares for the elderly, the handicapped, and the needy in general. A Red Cross Old Age Home is a project of wives of Rotarians of Donauwörth. They visit the residents, take them shopping, and entertain them in their homes.

- Fund-raising for housing for handicapped people is a concern of wives of Rotarians of Baden and Wettingen, Switzerland. They also work in therapy rooms at nursing homes and perform personal and hospital services for the residents.

Loving care for children

- Rotary Anns of Durban Umhlatuzana, South Africa, have watched their “adopted daughter,” little Sithembele Gumede, develop from a sickly child suffering from kwashiorkor into a “bonny lass.” The Rotary Ann club pays for Sithembele’s care at a creche maintained by World Vision.

[text continues on page 31]



Above: The wives of Rotarians of Uruguay exemplify women's groups everywhere as true benefactors of children. Their service ranges from care of infants in hospitals to provision of food, clothing, and schoolbooks to students, kindergarten through secondary school. The wives of Rotarians of Pocitos, pictured here, contribute food, clothing, and other necessities to a local children's home on a monthly basis.



Left: The Rotary Anns of Cape Town, South Africa, assist their husbands in all their service projects, from child welfare to care of the aged. Here, they help out on an outing for children at the Strandfontein Camp. Their assistance to Rotary club projects is in addition to their own projects, in which Rotarians assist them.

Below: Rotary's youth exchange program would lose much of its force without the help of club members' wives. Here, Donna (Mrs. Donald) Ellenger, of Canton, Ohio, U.S.A., serves a nutritious breakfast and lends a motherly ear to young exchange student Alcir Santos, of Passos, Brazil. Rotarians' wives also function as hostesses and understanding counselors to scores of Rotary Foundation scholars each year.

Below: Wives of Rotarians of Comercio, Uruguay, take youngsters from a children's home for a day of fun in a local park. Uruguayan wives also extend their services to older members of the community. They give much assistance to hospitals, the elderly, and the handicapped.





Above: Rotarians' wives are frequent entertainers at Rotary functions. This women's chorus, made up of wives of Fukushima, Japan, Rotarians, is a favorite at club functions and celebrations. It brings Rotary families together in a most harmonious way.

Right: The Rotary Anns of Strand, South Africa, know that nothing boosts a woman's morale like a new hairdo. Thus their "Esperanza" project at a local home for the elderly. Strand Rotary Anns also sponsor a Christmas party for senior citizens and a blood-donation clinic.



Below: Work with the handicapped is a loving concern of Rotarians' wives worldwide. Here, the wife of a Rotarian of Tokyo Higashi Kurume, Japan, teaches a visually-handicapped woman to arrange flowers.



Most of the women of Rotary could logically hang out their shingles as fund-raising professionals. Here, in San Carlos, California, U.S.A., Chrystel Goss (left) and Alice Brauff sort donated goods in preparation for the San Carlos Rotary Club's "Junktique" garage sale, an annual event which has raised more than \$100,000 over the past 18 years. For their outstanding help in this and other club projects, both Chrystel and Alice, and other wives as well, have been made Paul Harris Fellows by members of the grateful Rotary club.



Below: Wives of Rotarians serve with their husbands everywhere, even far from home. In Hong Kong, Ann Buchanan, center, wife of Glen Buchanan, a past governor of R.I. District 963, Australia, works with a blind and crippled refugee. Glen and Ann volunteered for a tour of 3-H duty in this refugee camp.



● The Ladies Committee of the Rotary Club of Miraflores, Peru, works in a children's garden constructed by the Rotary club and now administered by the Ministry of Education. A showpiece of landscape design, the garden is used by more than 1,000 children, aged 3 to 6.

● A Mothers' Milk Bank is the special project of the wives of Rotarians of the Rotary Club of Piracicaba, Brazil. Infant mortality is high in parts of Brazil, and mothers' milk provides not only good nutrition but also protects infants from disease. Donation of the milk is authorized by a physician and the names of donors are kept confidential.

● Wives, daughters, and other relatives of the Rotarians of Sorocaba Norte, Brazil, are working to establish a child-care center for the children of working parents. Equipment for the center will be supplied by the Rotary club.

● Covenant House, in an older section of Pasadena, California, U.S.A., is a home for developmentally disabled children between the ages of 6 and 12. The home is sponsored by the graduate school of psychology of Fuller Theological College. Its staff consists of a "live-in" couple who keep house and prepare meals, and post-graduate psychology students directed by faculty supervisors. The children come to Covenant House from orphanages, foster homes, and parents who simply cannot cope with their responsibilities. The volunteer workers who serve as foster parents to the children are the wives of the members of the Rotary Club of Crescenta-Canada. The Rotary club also joined in raising funds and renovating the home.

Gentle hands for the handicapped

Regular visits to a hospital for mentally retarded children is a service activity of wives of members of the Rotary Club of Chania (Crete), Greece. Not surprisingly, the visitors customarily arrive laden with gifts.

● The Rotary Sunshine Camp for handicapped children maintained by the Rotary Club of Scottsville, is one of two such camps in Monroe County, New York, U.S.A., which receives the profits from the Ladies' Professional Golf Association Classic, played there annually. The camp receives extensive help from the Rotary Anns of Scottsville.

● Wives of members of the Rotary Club of Rochester, New York, U.S.A., also devote much of their attention to supporting a summer Sunshine Camp for physically disabled children sponsored by the Rotary club. The wives hold fundraising drives, and supply bedding, towels, and other necessities. Each summer the Sunshine Camp offers 300 physically handicapped youths two weeks of activities, including swimming, hiking, dancing, and music.

● The wives of Rotarians of Chicago, Rotary's first club, give many hours of volunteer service to the Rotary club's major project concern, the Rehabilitation Institute (for the handicapped) of Chicago (see TR for February 1980).

Watchful eyes on the elderly

In Zimbabwe, there is a serious shortage of care facilities for the elderly. The Rotary Anns of Umtali have formed a Good Neighbors Association made up of all women's organizations, service clubs, and church groups to visit, provide home care, and nursing service for older citizens. There are



Serving as hostess to visiting Rotarians and their families from all over the world is one of the most important—and one of the most pleasant—functions of the "Rotary wife." Each year following the international assembly of R.I. in Boca Raton, Rotarians and their wives of District 696 in central Florida guide hundreds of district-governor nominees and their families to Disneyland, Cypress Gardens, and to home hospitality events. Here, a group of guests from India enjoy Home Hospitality at the Windermere home of Lieser and Bill Colburn. For more on the efficient and gracious lady who arranges this six-day hospitality tour, see page 45.

Since there is no subsidy in South Africa's Western Cape for handicapped black children, a group of enterprising Cape Town women raised funds to build a center where the needs of these children can be met. The Rotary Anns of Cape Town are active supporters. Here, 8-year-old Richard Htule learns to walk using parallel bars, the "centrepiece" of the Anns' latest donation.



tion from District 203. The two women who serve on the committee find deserving students from needy families, some of whom are physically handicapped. About 30 are helped at a time and the club is at their disposition for advice, materials, and other help.

- The 15-year-old Feminine Wheel of the Rotary Club of Buenos Aires, Argentina, has a membership of 140. Among its current projects is a scholarship program for 19 students.

- In 1976, the ladies club of the Rotary Club of Brasilia-Sudoeste, Brazil, held a car raffle, the proceeds of which (300,000 cruzeiros) were contributed to the construction of an agricultural school. The school provides training to 800 students in three daily shifts, morning, afternoon, and evening. Says a former club chairwoman: "Specifically, Rotary is a service club organization whose members are men. But in reality the soul of Rotary is the woman."

Fund-raising unlimited

More than 19 years ago, wives of members of the Port Elizabeth, South Africa, Rotary Club initiated the "Oceana Tea Garden" to sell refreshments and raise money for community charities. The ladies do all their baking on the premises of the garden. In addition to home-baked scones and crumpets, they serve tea, coffee, cool drinks, and ice cream. They have raised more than R100,000 for the Port Elizabeth Community Chest, and charitable organizations not receiving aid from the Chest.

- Since 1969, Rotarians of Batavia, New York, U.S.A., with great assistance from their wives, have operated a refreshment stand at the local baseball park (see photo, page 29). In early years the wives delivered home-cooked meals which were offered along with commercially prepared refreshments. Large bags of peanuts were delivered to Rotarians' homes, where their wives weighed and bagged them in individual packages, recalls Marie Rose (Mrs. Magdi) Credi, who has documented the history and activities of the Batavia Rotary Anns in loving and precise detail. Now, she writes, several families of second and third generation Rotarians, operate the concession stand as a group, "sometimes including a younger child who has fallen asleep in the back room. . ."

In 1948 the Batavia Rotary Club initiated an annual musical production. The first show was produced jointly with the Batavia Players and directed by Lucille Carr, wife of a Rotarian. Later productions have all been directed by a Rotary Ann or two or three, and at least one year by the mother of a Rotarian.

- Rotarians' wives in Brantford, Ont., Canada, help with the Rotary club's Lobsterfest, which is annually attended by some 1,250 people.

- An "Island Fantasy" dinner-dance is a chief fund-raising function of the Rotary Club of Waterloo, Ont. Wives prepare the food. They also help supervise a "Wheel of Chance" during Waterloo's annual four-day Oktoberfest celebrations.

- When Rotarians' wives of Hermanus, South Africa, established their second-hand clothing store, the "Bargain Box," their goal was to offer a source of good quality, second-hand clothing. But over the past 20 years they have discovered that their store brings in valuable funds for other projects too. They take in the used clothing either on a commission basis,



A clothing collection drive arranged by the Rotary Anns of Pietermaritzburg East, South Africa, brought a total of 3,500 jerseys and 150 blankets for distribution among the needy of all races and age groups. The sorters pictured are club President Lilah Prozesky, right, and Secretary Aurelia Hawkins.

or as a donation. When it is a donation, they keep the full amount of the sale. When it is sold on a commission basis, they keep half the sale price, and return the other half to the donor.

- Rotary stitchery is also a money-maker. The Lancaster Rose is the name of the charming pattern the Rotary Anns of Cedar Grove, New Jersey, U.S.A., chose for the quilt their club pieced together last year. Each member of the group made a square, then helped to put all the squares together. Finally came the quilting bee and the final stitches. Chances sold on the quilt helped to raise money for Rotary scholarships and various community projects. Wives of Rotarians of Downingtown, Pennsylvania, U.S.A., also had a successful quilt project last year—their handiwork sold for \$1,200. A district-wide arts and crafts show sponsored by "The Women of Rotary" for the conference of District 747, northwestern New Jersey, brought 71 entries of fine needlework and other handiwork. The ladies' group of the Rotary Club of Santiago de los Caballeros, Dominican Republic, sews clothes to raise funds for the "Jean Harris" fund.

- An annual tea party for 1,000—a profitmaker of 5 million yen for social service projects—has brought a Rotary District Significant Achievement Award to "Rotary Chakai," the women's group of the Rotary Club of Hagi, Japan.

- Rotarians' wives of Fairport, New York, U.S.A., sponsor fashion shows, card parties, and baked goods sales to gener-

ate donations for Camp Haccamo, a camp for handicapped youths sponsored by the Fairport Rotary Club.

- Fund-raising for The Rotary Foundation is a joint effort of the wives of Rotarians in Cranston, North Kingstown, Providence, and Wakefield, Rhode Island, and Hyannis, Massachusetts, U.S.A. These women also help in District 795's famous "Million \$ Meal" program.

- For each of the past three years, about 50 wives of Rotarians in Barbados have cooked and served an elaborate and tasty Bajan Buffet; proceeds will build a home for physically handicapped children.

- An annual Christmas bazaar, arranged by Rotarians' wives, helps fill the coffers of the Rotary Club of Frankenberg, Germany. Last year's bazaar raised the equivalent of U.S. \$3,500 to support mentally retarded children integrated in a kindergarten with non-handicapped youngsters.

- The women of Rotary in Frankenmuth, Michigan, U.S.A., donate 44,000 pretzels and 2,000 loaves of bread each year to the community German Ethnic Festivals, the main source of funding for many Rotary projects.

- The annual "Big E" (Eastern States Exposition) in Springfield, Massachusetts, U.S.A., is one of the largest annual fairs in the world. The Rotary Club of West Springfield has taken over the Exhibitor's Club, a restaurant operated for the fair's exhibitors, as the club's chief fund-raiser. Their wives help make the restaurant a going concern.

- The wives of Rotarians of Stephenville, Nfld., Canada, help with the club's annual music festival. They also assist with its radio auction, which nets \$4,000 to \$6,000 per year.

Turns of the Inner Wheel

Many Inner Wheel projects are cooperative endeavors within districts rather than individual club efforts. In Great Britain and Ireland, where the Rotary-like organization began, projects focus on people in need, at home and overseas. GB&I districts support such international help organizations as the Salvation Army—some 30 such institutions in all. They respond to the needs of disaster victims, as they did following the recent earthquake in Italy. They aid Mother Teresa in her work for the destitute in India. They collect funds for and organize the eye camps sponsored in India by the Royal Commonwealth for the Blind. They also support the Ranfurly Library, an agency which dispatches textbooks and other anti-illiteracy materials to needy regions of the world, and they aid resettlement of Indo-Chinese refugees.

Australian Inner Wheel clubs support such international projects as Rotary's 3-H Program. They aid the blind in Fiji, needy schoolchildren in Indonesia and Kenya, hearing and speech-impaired children in Java, and infant-feeding projects in the Philippines. They serve local needs through Meals on Wheels, Girl Guides, the Arthritis Foundation, and countless community and regional projects.

Inner Wheel clubs were first established in New Zealand in the 1930's and their history and the work of their current 60 clubs has been carefully detailed by member Eileen Blakiston of Tauranga South. The early clubs began international service work during World War II when they sent hundreds of packets of clothing and supplies to war-torn Britain. Now, New Zealand clubs concentrate on service to

the elderly and the young. The Kihikihi club, for example, has "adopted" a geriatric hospital to which it supplies cheer as well as practical assistance. In Oamaru, along with Rotary and Rotaract, the Inner Wheel adopts delinquent boys from a nearby school, seeing to their needs, taking them on outings, and providing warm "family" contact.

Inner Wheel clubs everywhere support both international and community projects, but with different focuses. Canadian clubs contribute to Glebe House, which shelters children from the violence in Northern Ireland (see page 44). They also help El Salvadoran children through the Foster Parents Plan.

Inner Wheel clubs in India cooperate with Rotarians in the almost miraculous work being carried on in eye camps. They also assist with support of the Joe Homan's Boys Towns where boys live and are educated through eighth grade. A future town will be called Rotary Boys Town. Cancer detection, with emphasis on women, is another major concern. The Inner Wheel clubs of Sri Lanka work with handicapped children. Malaysian clubs also emphasize children's needs and those of the elderly and disabled. Singapore clubs help the handicapped and leper patients. In the Philippines, besides their well-known infant feeding programs, Inner Wheel members help curb drug abuse and provide potable water to depressed areas.

The women of the Inner Wheel of Cairo, Egypt, help subsidize the fight against rheumatic fever and operate a kindergarten for underprivileged children. The clubs of Egypt and Jordan ship relief goods to disaster areas and support the SOS children's villages in their regions. Israeli clubs help government efforts to curtail juvenile delinquency.

Italian clubs focus on the needs of the physically and financially dependent. The Inner Wheel of Putignano raises funds for a physical therapy center, an institute for the blind, and a school for deaf-mute children. The Naples club has established a public library and a program of sports activities for students. This club also trains volunteers for hospital work and gives courses in life-sustaining techniques. The Inner Wheel of Torre del Greco-Comuni Vesuviani aids unwed mothers and young local artisans. Greek and Maltese clubs aid children, and the Inner Wheel of Belgium responds quickly in emergency relief for disaster victims.

The Inner Wheel clubs of France give large support to medical projects, such as the *Hôpital Sans Frontières* (see TR for July 1977), and disease treatment and research efforts. German and Danish clubs help the elderly and the handicapped. Clubs in the Netherlands support SOS children's villages and sponsor inter-country exchange visits.

Hospitality to international students is a function that is handled with graciousness and expertise by Inner Wheel groups in Bermuda.

In Michigan, the U.S. "motor" state, the Inner Wheel club of Jackson sponsors a project to provide safety restraint devices for young children traveling in automobiles.

And so it goes around the globe; the women of Rotary enrich their husbands' organization in every way their creative minds can devise, giving their efficient and cheerful support towards holding up their half of the Rotary sky. ☉