



Fellowship of Rotarian PDGs (and Friends)



Chair *Vice-Chair* *Secretary* *Treasurer* *Registrar*
Ray Klingensmith *Johrita Solari* *Ann Lee Hussey* *Bruce Baumberger* *Philippe Lamoise*

June 2014 Newsletter

The 2014 convention in Sydney is now history, and both the convention and our fellowship activities were very successful. Official numbers for the convention are not yet available, but the attendance was nearly 20,000 with representatives from more than 150 countries. What an amazing network of Rotary friends from all around the globe! What a wonderful organization!

All of the pre-convention activities for the PDGs Fellowship were held at the Rotary Down Under office in Parramatta, and we could not have received better hospitality. Bob Aitken, who is retiring as the Executive Director of RDU, is also one of the directors for our fellowship, and he and his staff, along with some PDG volunteers, were our hosts for the Friday events. So we are indebted to Bob and the RDU staff, -- particularly Judy Drake, -- along with PDG Phil and Nerrie Lacey and PDG George and Cathie Papallo, for providing a low cost event for us in the high priced city of Sydney!

The Friday events started with a board of directors meeting, and then moved to the annual general meeting (the AGM) with about 70 members and spouses present. The two meetings were highlighted by the election of new officers due to the inability of Ray Klingensmith to serve another year as the chair in light of his increased involvement with The Rotary Foundation for the next two years. As a result, the following persons were elected as officers for the 2014-15 Rotary year: Johrita Solari and Bruce Baumberger – Co-Chairs; Ann Lee Hussey – Vice Chair; Tom Thorfinnson – Secretary; Floyd Lancia – Treasurer; and Philippe Lamoise – Registrar and Webmaster.

The initial terms of three directors, Jason Chan, Geeta Manek, and Jim Moulson, will expire on 30 June of this year, and all three of them were reelected for three year terms beginning on 1 July. They will serve along with Bob Aitken, Gulam Vahanvaty, Henrique Gomes de Almeida, Mario Cesar de Camargo, Penny Offer, and Steve Leonard, whose terms are continuing. One of the major interests of the new officers is to engage all of the directors in a more effective way during the next year.

There was some meaningful discussion during the AGM about the objectives and goals of the PDGs Fellowship, and further information about the meeting will be available when the minutes for the AGM are posted on the website in the next month or so. Following the AGM, a delightful reception for members and spouses, along with the 2010-11DGs and spouses, was held at the RDU House, and more than 80 people enjoyed some friendly Australian hospitality.

The PDGs Fellowship booth in the House of Friendship was visited by countless PDGs and spouses, and it was staffed by an amazing number of volunteers. Special thanks to Johrita Solari and Bruce Baumberger for their work in organizing and staffing the booth. Still another “good show” by the PDGs Fellowship!

For questions about the fellowship, please contact the 2013-14 secretary, Ann Lee Hussey, at annlee001@yahoo.com, or the registrar and webmaster, Philippe Lamoise, at Philippe@Lamoise.net.