



**BULLETIN
JERUSALEM
ROTARY CLUB**

Chartered 1929
Club #13459 District
2490

18 March 2020



Club #13459

**Club Officers
2019-2020**

President

Robert Hammer

Secretary

R/ Geert Cohen Stuart

Treasurer

Eli Kenner

Immediate P/P

David Seligman

Board Members

P/P Don Edelstein

P/P Eli Kenner

P/P Ruth Harris

PDG Irène Lewitt

R/ Russ McDougall

R/Mark Mina

PE/Dieter Ziulkowski

Today's Program -

due to Corona virus no meeting and program until further notice

Foundation Greetings:

Shlomo and Yedida Khayat have an anniversary to celebrate on March 22

and Maureen Fain will blow out candles on her birthday cake on March 23

Foundation Thoughts of the Week:

While we are not meeting because of the coronavirus pandemic that we and all the world are experiencing, we wish good health to all, follow the advice of the experts and REMEMBER THE FOUNDATION

Upcoming Events

25 March, 2020, tba



The President's Corner

Dear Friends,

During our regular meeting on 11 March, the question was raised whether, in view of public health concerns over the Coronavirus (Covid 19) pandemic, we should suspend our regular meetings. After brief

discussion, it was clearly the consensus of opinion, that even if we are erring on the side of caution, it would be better to suspend regular meetings until it was prudent to resume them.

By reason of age alone, the majority of club members are at enhanced risk for infection. Reducing public exposure would be beneficial. While some consider Israeli public health restrictions unnecessarily stringent, it appears that this has considerably slowed the course of the illness in this country, as compared to other countries. See, Yair Schindel, M.D., "Israel's aggressive response to the Coronavirus is actually perfect." Times of Israel Blogs, 12 March 2020.

Suspension of regular meetings does not mean club activities will cease. For example: Our project with the Boulder Colorado [USA] Rotary Club to address unsafe disposal of electronic waste in the West Bank, in cooperation with a Palestinian NGO, has had its first phase funded. We should be receiving these funds shortly, and will disburse them as the project progresses.

All committees should continue to function and to meet periodically, in members' homes, electronically or on paper. Planning and preparation for our annual presidential changeover (24 June at Beit Shmuel) will continue. Attempts will be made to utilize electronic means to continue our meeting programs.

Meanwhile, best wishes to all for continued good health,

Robert Hammer



International Toast – Rotary Club of Mainz, Germany

Three historical events that happened on the day of our Rotary meeting on 18 March:

1662 First public bus service begins, promoted by Blaise Pascal, operate in Paris as the "Carosses a Cinq Sous" until 1675. Paris in the era of Louis XIV was the one the world's most populous cities (with Beijing, London and Istanbul): it contained more than five hundred thousand residents in 22,000 residencies, five hundred major roads, 100 public squares, nine bridges. In a corporation founded in November 1661 on the initiative of Blaise Pascal, the Marquis de Sourches and the Marquis de Crenan, the entrepreneurs presented a request to establish an operator for "carriages which would always make the same journeys...and would always leave at scheduled times". Mathematician Blaise Pascal was born on June 19, 1623, in Clermont-Ferrand, France. In the 1640s he invented the Pascaline, an early calculator, and further validated Evangelista Torricelli's theory concerning the cause of barometrical variations. In the 1650s, Pascal laid the foundation of probability theory with Pierre de Fermat.

1673 Lord Berkeley sells his half of New Jersey to the Quakers. John Berkeley, 1st Baron Berkeley of Stratton (1602 – 26 August 1678) was an English royalist soldier, politician and diplomat. From 1648 he was closely associated with James, Duke of York, and rose to prominence, fortune, and fame. He and Sir George Carteret

were the founders of the Province of New Jersey, a British colony in North America that would eventually become the U.S. state of New Jersey.



Blaise Pascal



Lord Berkeley and Sir George



Andreas J Hofmann

1793 The first republican state in Germany, the Republic of Mainz, is declared by Andreas Joseph Hofmann. Mainz is the capital and largest city of Rhineland-Palatinate, Germany. The city is located on the Rhine river at its confluence with the Main river, opposite Wiesbaden on the border with Hesse. Mainz is an independent city with a population of 217,118 (2018) and forms part of the Frankfurt Rhine-Main Metropolitan Region. Mainz was founded by the Romans in the 1st century BC during the Classical antiquity era, serving as a military fortress on the northernmost frontier of the Roman Empire. The Jewish community of Mainz dates to the 10th century CE. It is noted for its religious education. Rabbi Gershom ben Judah (960–1040) taught there, among others. He concentrated on the study of the Talmud, creating a German Jewish tradition. Mainz is also the legendary home of the martyred Rabbi Amnon of Mainz, composer of the Unetanneh Tokef prayer. The Jews of Mainz, Speyer and Worms created a supreme council to set standards in Jewish law and education in the 12th century. During the French Revolution, the French Revolutionary army occupied Mainz in 1792; the Archbishop of Mainz, Friedrich Karl Josef von Erthal, had already fled to Aschaffenburg by the time the French marched in. On 18 March 1793, the Jacobins of Mainz, with other German democrats from about 130 towns in the Rhenish Palatinate, proclaimed the 'Republic of Mainz'.

This week we are toasting the Rotary Club of Mainz on the anniversary of declaring the first Republic in Germany. Although it did not survive very long, it was a truly historic event.

Dieter Ziulkowski



Some other news

We like to draw your attention to below message that we received from Rotary International, Evanston:

Dear Fellow Rotarian,

The COVID-19 coronavirus is affecting every aspect of our lives in real time, and this puts Rotarians in an unfamiliar place. As People of Action, we are most comfortable when we are fully engaged in the world – moving freely, meeting openly, and offering helping hands. These are very difficult times for people who, like us, are at our best when we are learning, growing, and serving—together.

We are also leaders in our communities, and these times call for leadership. In many ways, this also is our time. We have proven abilities to reach out and collaborate to offer immediate help to people in need at a rapid pace. These are precisely the skills needed all over the world today. The global effort against COVID-19 depends on actions taken in every country. Rotary has the unique ability to help improve those efforts in every community and

every country.

Using all the technology we have at our disposal, we as Rotarians can continue to reach out and collaborate on big projects with Rotary clubs, Rotaractors, and Interactors. There are a number of examples where Rotary clubs are helping health authorities communicate best practices or provide needed equipment or support that have been shared with our leaders around the world.

As Rotary's president and president-elect, we have been thinking of these issues very seriously in regard to upcoming Rotary events. As you may be aware, we have made the difficult decision to cancel two Rotary Presidential Conferences honoring our relationship with the United Nations- one in Paris, another in Rome. In the near term, we recommend that Rotary districts and clubs cancel or postpone meetings or events following the advice of national and local health officials.

We know that clubs and districts are seizing the opportunity to become leaders in their communities and are making better use of technology in this time of need. For example, a Rotary e-club in Italy held a live online session about COVID-19 awareness, a Taiwan club worked with companies and a pharmacy association to donate 1,600 bottles of hand sanitizer to the city of Ji-Long, and Rotary clubs in Sri Lanka helped upgrade software and hardware for the health promotion bureau to assist its social messaging.

We cannot know quite yet what path this virus will take. We know we can play a role to help "flatten the curve," reducing the number of cases in the short term to allow our health systems to address this issue. If the collective global effort helps bring the situation under control, then we hope to re-embrace our core values at the 2020 Rotary Convention in Honolulu. Our time together will have greater meaning and purpose than ever.

Please know that we are taking a close, continuing look at our plans for the convention in June to make sure all attendees' safety will be protected. We are following the lead of the world's most trusted sources, including the World Health Organization (WHO) and the U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, for their guidance. We want you to be able to make decisions about what is best for you and your families in terms of attending this year's event.

In the meantime, this is an opportunity for us to demonstrate that *Rotary Connects the World* in innovative ways. We should be closely following the advice of the [WHO](#) and local health authorities. Again, this includes canceling Rotary club events and meetings in the short term to reduce unnecessary interactions that could cause infections. We can put a greater emphasis on the work we do in our communities by helping our less fortunate neighbors cope with the effects of isolation and fear, or by supporting our health authorities to address this situation.

We are dealing with this situation in real time. Please visit the [rotary.org COVID-19 response page](#) for ongoing updates.

This is an unprecedented challenge for nearly all of us. But it is also an opportunity for Rotarians to find new, meaningful ways to lead individuals and communities to connect and do good in the world.

We have never been prouder to be part of an organization that does so much to protect and strengthen our communities, at home and across the globe.

Kindest regards,

Mark Daniel Maloney
2019-2020, President, Rotary International

Holger Knaack
2020-21, President, Rotary International

A photo from our meeting on 11 March, 2020:



From left to right: Robert Hammer, our President; Larry Pepper, historian; Yosef Begun, former Soviet Prisoner of Zion; Dr. Dan Roginsky, former Soviet Prisoner of Zion; Art Braunstein, Head of Program, RC Jerusalem



One of our projects, past and present

From the Rotary Year 2015 - 2016:

Beth David Institute Center for the Deaf-Blind A contribution to help fund a mentoring program for students at the Kiach School for the Deaf who suffer from Usher's Syndrome. This is a congenital condition which includes deafness and a progressive loss of sight, that occurs in children whose parents are close cousins.



The Jerusalem Rotary Club meets every Wednesday at 1 p.m. (13.00) at the Jerusalem International YMCA on King David Street. On the last Wednesday of every month it meets in the evening at 7 p.m. (19.00). NIS75 covers lunch/dinner, the Rotary program and a presentation by selected speakers. Kosher meals can be ordered until 90 minutes before the start of the meeting, by sending a message to our secretary 054-4295680. Visiting Rotarians and visitors are welcome.