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# ◆ Fragile Earth ◆

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## Rotarians Conquer Mt. Pop

Six years ago, a group of dedicated Rotarians stood at the base of an imposing mountain, here now called Mt. Pop. They peered up the icy, sheer cliffs, wondering if it was even possible to reach the summit. San Antonio, Texas, USA, site of the 92nd International Convention of Rotary International this past June, was the path through which the peak of Mt. Pop was conquered. Led by a tall sherpa guide, 2000-01 Rotary International President Frank Devlyn of Mexico, whose fierce determination to scale the mountain inspired others to go where they had never dreamed, the summit of Mt. Pop was finally achieved, and the flag of Rotary International was squarely planted on the peak for all to see never to be removed.

Conferences on Population & Development (Zurich, New Delhi and Brasilia) to further explore Rotary's role in this global issue. He, on behalf of the Board of Directors of

Devlyn's leadership and courage in this effort must be recognized and appreciated. Shifts in direction always attract criticism (check the editorials in last year's *Rotarian* magazine). But think back to women gaining voting rights and to the abolishment of slavery; unpopular at the time, but now regarded as inalienable human rights. And think forward to our future challenges: the elimination of child labor and prostitution; the elimination of female infanticide; the elimination of Female Genital Mutilation; the empowerment of women and the provision of reproductive health options to all families of the world, just to name a few. There is still formidable work to be done, requiring even stronger leadership in the coming years. But to President Frank – we salute you!



Now Mt. Pop is not the highest mountain we seek to conquer. But is an essential accomplishment along the path. In the end, we must also defeat Mt. Poverty, Mt. Polio, Mt. World Understanding, Mt. Peace and Mt. Earth. But still, Mt. Pop must be better understood, explored and mastered. As we stand on the crest of Mt. Pop, surveying the teeming world of suffering humans below, we must bring meaning to our victory; we must apply the principles we've learned to allow others to share our success.

Rotary International formalized a working partnership with the United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA), documented by a Memorandum of Cooperation. (To view the Memorandum of Cooperation, please visit UNFPA's website at [www.unfpa.org](http://www.unfpa.org).) And at the San Antonio Convention, he empanelled four plenary sessions addressing the population issue, in high profile agenda spots, with expert presentations and engaging discussion. But most importantly, he enabled Rotary and its 1.2 million Rotarians around the world to attack this insidious problem – the imbalance between numbers of people and the resources upon which we all depend – by organizing hundreds of service projects designed to confront the population problem.



Mt. Pop, we now know you. But we must still survey your character, explore your caverns and master your elements. We must define more paths to the top, accessible by everyone. In this way, we will eventually conquer all of the mountains of the world, and Rotary will finally achieve World Understanding and Peace.

◆ Buck Lindsay

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## Indira Reddy of India Presented the Nafis Sadik Award for Courage

At RIFPD's Annual General Meeting, held on June 26th, during the Rotary International Convention in San Antonio, Texas, Dr. Indira Reddy was presented the *Nafis Sadik Award for Courage*.

Dr. Indira Reddy was born in India to the Brahmin family. While in medical school, she met Hari Reddy. Dr. Indira's family was of the sacred cast and Dr. Hari's family was of a lower cast. Against her family's wishes, she married Dr. Hari Reddy in 1969. With her marriage, Dr. Indira began a life of challenging false customs and outdated practices of traditional Indian culture.

In an effort to avoid further shame to their families, Drs. Indira and Hari moved to a remote state of Guntakal in Southern India to start their medical practice. This remote area proved to be the perfect place for Indira to begin her humanitarian

work. While seeing patients as an Obstetrician and Gynecologist, she learned of the local women's lack of knowledge on reproductive health and family planning. Using patient visits as an educational opportunity, she educated the local women on reproductive health and family planning matters. Her ability to speak nine languages enabled her to reach the majority of the women in the community.

Dr. Indira has also been successful in reducing childhood marriages in this remote part of India. Children as young as five and six are offered for marriage. Dr. Indira educated the parents and prevented many of the marriages from taking place. She organized local Women's Forums to educate local women on the sad consequences of these

childhood marriages. Against pressure from local leaders and even threats against her life, Dr. Indira continued the Women's Forums until the practice stopped voluntarily among the local families.

After her success in eliminating childhood marriages, many local political parties invited Dr. Indira to join their cause. However, Dr. Indira declined to join any political organizations and prefers to volunteer for causes that further all citizens of India regardless of political and cast system affiliation.

Dr. Indira and Dr. Hari have organized and volunteered their medical services at many Family Planning rallies in India. These rallies are held in small towns and are designed to educate married couples on reproductive health and family planning. Topics such as prevention of AIDS, contraceptive methods, proper pre-natal and post-natal care and the importance of breast-feeding are discussed.

Dr. India was the first female Rotarian to receive the prestigious "Service Above Self" from Rotary International. A major donor to the Rotary Foundation, she is currently serving as monitor on the 3-H Cancer Hospital Grant in Nepal.

Dr. India and Dr. Hari have one child, Aurovind, who is currently in his last year of medical school. Dr. Indira is currently at home in India, recovering from typhoid fever which she contracted while visiting a remote area of India to encourage local Rotary clubs to initiate Matching Grant projects.

❖ Information provided by Dr. Hari Reddy



*Dolapo Lufadeju and Buck Lindsay present Indira Reddy of India the Nafis Sadik Award for Courage. Looking on are Sarah Clark of the Packard Foundation and Dr. Hari Reddy.*

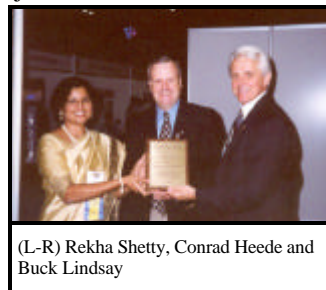
## Conrad Heede Named Honorary Lifetime Member

The Rotarian Initiative for Population & Development has named PDG Conrad C. Heede of Bedford, Texas, USA, an Honorary Lifetime Member of RIFPD in recognition of his outstanding contribution to the population and development movement.

"Conrad single-handedly found sponsors for over 130 population-based Matching Grant projects in six months," said Vicci Cornette, RIFPD Executive Director. "As soon as a new project application was received in our office, Conrad was asking for the paperwork so he could find a sponsoring Rotary club."

A Zone Coordinator for the Task Force on Population and Development, Conrad contacted clubs in the Dallas/ Fort Worth area and asked for their support.

"By going to visit the clubs with the applications in hand, it made it easier to obtain commitments from clubs," stated Heede. "I was familiar with the projects so I could describe in detail how the project would benefit the local citizens."



(L-R) Rekha Shetty, Conrad Heede and Buck Lindsay

If the club didn't commit to a project during Conrad's visit, he would leave a copy of the Matching

Grant application with the club so if they later decided to sponsor the project, they had the necessary paperwork. He then followed up with each club to again encourage their sponsorship of the project.

"Most clubs are eager to be involved in a project that has real value to a community," said Heede. "It just takes time to contact each club, get to the right person and explain the project to them."

In six months time, this dedicated Rotarian has made a difference in the lives of thousands of people around the world. ❖  
*Vicci Cornette*

## Why Do We Need UNFPA?

A young mother brings her desperately sick baby to an occasional clinic at the local school. A woman in a refugee camp delivers her baby safely. A man learns how HIV is transmitted, how it causes AIDS, and what he can do to prevent it. A woman with three children decides to have no more. These people will never meet. They live in different countries, but they have one thing in common: UNFPA, the United Nations Population Fund.

The young mother and her sick baby are from a village in Nicaragua. The woman had walked for two hours. The doctor diagnosed the infant with pneumonia and rushed them to the nearest hospital. If the clinic had not been in that village on that day, the baby would have died. The clinic is part of a local health network operated by a women's group and funded nationally by UNFPA.

The refugee woman delivered a baby in a tent, on a clean plastic sheet, with the umbilical cord being cut with a new razor blade. Simple, , but preventing infection saves women's lives. UNFPA, working with the Red Cross and the UN High Commission for Refugees, provides safe motherhood kits to medical teams in refugee camps.

Myths, misunderstandings, and a "culture of silence" about HIV and AIDS have contributed to the rapid spread of infection, which now affects 36 million women and men worldwide. But leaders can break the silence: and when they speak out, people will listen. UNFPA is vigorously working with Governments, NGOs and the local health services to provide education and services to prevent the spread of HIV/AIDS infection.

Kofi Annan, Secretary-General of the United Nations, has called for "a national broad-based effort to defeat AIDS, involving communities, churches, women's groups, micro-credit organizations and trade unions." More partnerships are required to make services available to all who need them.

In Malawi, a young woman named Mary was in hospital for the birth of her third child. She and her husband had decided they would have no more children. The two older children already needed immunizations and were of school age and needed books and school clothes. Mary wanted to see that her children had everything they needed. Luckily the hospital was equipped to offer her family planning services under an UNFPA-supported program with the national health service.

These are typical of UNFPA programs, funneling small amounts of money where they can do the most good in more than 140 developing countries, for reproductive health, for programs to strengthen women and build families, for men's awareness and responsibility.

Most people in developing countries live near the edge of survival – in fact the World Bank says that half the world lives on less than \$2 a day. And poverty is not just about money – it is about self-respect, dignity, choices.

Poor families are vulnerable families. AIDS, like malaria, TB and other infectious diseases, is found much more widely in poor countries and poor people. In many African countries today – and maybe Asian countries tomorrow, unless we can prevent it – older people are looking after a generation of orphans, maybe 13 million of them. Those children have probably lost their chance of escaping a life of poverty and deprivation.

*"The family is the heart of every society.... In poor countries, saving the family depends on saving women's lives."*

Maternal mortality is virtually unknown in prosperous countries, but among poor women and poor countries, it takes a terrible toll. Globally, a woman dies every minute as a consequence of pregnancy or childbirth. In one African country, when a woman is about to give birth she calls her children and bids them farewell. She is going on a long and dangerous journey, she tells them, and she may never return.

When a woman dies, a family may die with her. Men who lose their wives in childbirth are often poor men who have no money for medical care. They may also lose their children – in poor families, a newborn whose mother dies is very likely to die too, and her other children are also at greater risk.

The family is the heart of every society. It is the base on which security and prosperity is built. And in poor countries, saving the family depends on saving women's lives.

Often, saving women's lives comes down to some very simple interventions, so simple that most people in richer countries take them for granted. Take family planning, for example. In richer countries, family planning is a convenience, allowing couples to make their own decisions about whether and when to have children.

But in poorer countries, family planning can be the difference between life and death. A pregnancy in a developing country has a one in 30 chance of ending in the death of the mother. In one study in Bangladesh maternal deaths fell by half when family planning use increased from 5 per cent to 40 per cent of women.

Motherhood should be safe – with care in pregnancy and women having their babies in a clean environment with trained attendants and emergency services standing by. Only half of births in developing countries can rely on such services. A third of women do not have even one medical exam during pregnancy.

This can change. And indeed there is universal agreement that it must change. Every country in the world agreed in 1994 that there should be universal access to reproductive health services, including family planning, by 2015. It is also agreed that maternal mortality must be reduced by 75 per cent by 2015.

UNFPA had a hand in making this agreement possible. Population has always been a sensitive issue – after all it deals with a very private part of our lives. And there has been much debate about whether or not population growth in developing countries was too fast and should be curbed.

UNFPA's contribution was to show—together with its partners in developing countries and donor nations—that women and men actually wanted family planning and would use it of their own free will, if they had access to it. One result is that well over half of all couples in developing countries are using family planning today. If we can give people what they want—and need for their health and the health of their families—families will be smaller and population growth will slow on its own accord.

That understanding paved the way for the International Conference on Population and Development of 179 nations under United Nations auspices in 1994. Out of that conference came the afore mentioned agreements on family planning and maternal mortality, among other issues.

And how do we pay for it. The nations of the world have agreed that the program can be done for about \$20 billion a year – with two-thirds to come from the developing countries themselves. In global terms \$20 billion is a small amount – about what the world spends on armaments in 10 days. Is that too much to pay for saving women's lives, building strong, healthy and happy families, and attacking ill-health and ignorance, the very roots of poverty?

Frank Devlyn, former President of Rotary International, had the vision and dedication to place population and development issues on the policy agenda of Rotary International. He pledged to work with UNFPA to reach our common goals. Rotary and UNFPA can work together to help women and men escape from poverty by providing them with the opportunities and the tools to improve their lives and the lives of their families, in addition to promoting the future well-being of their communities and country. ❖

*By Alex Marshall, UNFPA, Editor of the*

## 61 WAYS ROTARIANS CAN SAVE THE PLANET

BY ROTARIAN WERNER FORNOS, PRESIDENT THE POPULATION INSTITUTE

### Reproductive Health and Family Planning

1. Discuss with your partner the number and spacing of the children you desire to have.
2. Practice and encourage male responsibility in reproductive decisions and parenting.
3. Adopt a child.
4. Sponsor an adoptive child.
5. Emphasize at every opportunity that abortion is not a method of family planning.
6. Condemn all forms of force or coercion in reproductive health care.
7. Use birth control measures and/or condoms as a method of family planning.

### Education

8. Reduce female illiteracy.
9. Increase education on reproductive health and family planning, to reduce the number of unintended pregnancies.
10. Encourage communities to provide HIV/AIDS education to all citizens of the community – young and old.
11. Promote gender equality.

### Increase Employment Opportunities for Women

12. Provide skill training for women.
13. Teach women presentation skills.
14. Write a resume for a woman in need.
15. Provide personal attributes training.
16. Provide dependability training.
17. Become involved in your community.
18. Encourage equal employment opportunities for both men and women.
19. Work to increase personal income. (Women who work and earn a salary typically have fewer children.)

### Reduce Infant and Maternal Mortality

20. Men, as partners, should assist and be involved in all phases of pregnancy.
  21. Ensure proper pre-natal and post-natal care is provided for both mother and child.
  22. Sponsor infant immunization programs.
- ### Environmental Activism
23. Plant trees as a club beautification project.
  24. Adopt a highway. Keep it clean and plant wild flowers so the medians don't have to be mowed.
  25. Take a bus, ride a bike, or walk to work and other places instead of using a car.
  26. Grow your own vegetables.
  27. When camping "Take only pictures, leave only footprints," – in other words, do not litter and preserve natural surroundings as they are meant to be.

### 28. Volunteer time to pick up trash in a public park.

### 29. Start a community environmental group.

### Energy & Water Conservation/Reduce Waste

30. Recycle. Encourage your local government to charge by the bag for waste disposal and charge nothing for recyclable products.
31. Use washable glasses, cups and plates instead of paper products.
32. Build a compost
33. Save water by flushing periodically instead of each time you use the restroom.
34. Be conscious of landfill capacity.
35. Use front load washing machines. They use less water.
36. Line dry your clothes.
37. Hand wash your dishes.
38. Be conscious of how much toilet paper you use.

39. Wash your clothes in cold water.
40. Don't leave the water running while you brush your teeth or shave.
41. Don't shower for longer than five minutes.
42. Unplug appliances – they still consume energy when you are not using them.
43. Buy used clothing.
44. Consider using alternative forms of energy (solar and windmills, for example)
45. Don't take a bag from a store if you don't need it.
46. Use Tupperware.
47. Use a Nalgene or reusable bottles for beverages.
48. At the grocery store, put more than one kind of vegetable in the same plastic bag.
49. Read the newspaper on line instead of buying one.
50. Be creative! Use interesting paper for a mural or collage.
51. Pay attention to watershed, conservation, and zoning laws and abide by them.
52. Use both sides of a piece of paper.
53. Be aware of the quantity you need and only take or use that much.
54. Carpool.
55. Stay on trails so that you don't create erosion.
56. Be careful with your possessions so that they last longer.
57. Use a cloth towel instead of paper towels.
58. Send an e-mail instead of a letter.
59. Buy electronic airline tickets.
60. Turn off your computer at the end of the day.
61. Turn off lights when you don't need them.

## RIFPD Officers and Country Chairs

### Officers

Chairman	Adedolapo Lufadeju
Vice Chairman	Robert Zinser
Secretary	Buck Lindsay
Treasurer	Hari Reddy
Communications	Rekha Shetty
Islamic Countries	Salem Mashhour

### Country Chairs

American Samoa	Michael Dworsky
Australia	Henry Bodman
Austria	Karl-Heinz Wolff
Bangladesh	Habibullah Khan
Belgium	Hessel Danser
Belize	Marcelo Coyi
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Botswana	Derek Hudson
Brazil	Adelia Villas
Canada	Rob McLeod
Canada	Laetitia DeWitt
Congo	Victor Kanyinda
Cook Islands	John Fallon
Cote D'Ivoire	Paulin Claude Danho
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Egypt	Salem Mashhour
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Finland	Mauri Paunikallio
France	Pierre Badere
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Ghana	Mike Asafo-Boakye
Guam	Abi Adigun
Guatemala	Steve Dudenhoefter
Guinea	Amadou Diarra
Hong Kong	William Benter
India	Hari Reddy
Indonesia	Natalia Soebagio
Israel	David Neumann
Italy	Piero Marcenaro
Japan	Tario Kanno
Kenya	Eric Krystall
Korea	Kee Hyong Kim
Lebanon	Gilbert Boghossian
Malaysia	Kewg-Bin Lee
Mali	Amategue Dolo
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Mozambique	Ismael Amade
Nepal	Lachhe Bahadur K. C.
Netherlands	Warner de Putter
New Zealand	John Birbeck

Nigeria	Adedolapo Lufadeju
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Russia	Alexandre Makatsaria
Samoa	Marco Kappenberger
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Singapore	Rosy Nakhoda
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Zambia	Patrick Chisanga
Zimbabwe	Robin Evans

## Dangers of Population Explosion: A Warning

By PDG Raj Krishna Das, District 3120, India

Rotary International recognizes that two of the main road blocks on the path to world peace are economic disparities and the population explosion. Statistics on both counts point to despair and disaster. And since both are interconnected the situation becomes even more grim.

1. India is the second most populated country in the world after China, whose land mass is three times that of India. On May 12, 2000, the population of India reached the one billion mark and is increasing at the rate of 45,000 per day. Fifty children are born every minute in India out of which only 33 survive. The rest die because of poor health of the mother, unhealthy conditions and under nourishment.

2. The total land mass of India is only 2.5% of the world, but it is burdened with 16% of the world population.

3. If the birth rate remains the same and the population of India keeps increasing by 1,800,000 per year, there will be no food, drinking water, school rooms, or medicine for two-thirds of the people. There will be no space on roads to walk much less squat.

4. Pollution from the poisonous gases emitted by vehicles and factories makes breathing difficult and hazardous. Noise from horns and blaring loudspeakers causes deafness. Water in all major rivers of the world is polluted, unfit to drink and in some cases, harmful for irrigation as well.

5. Deprived of all basic amenities villagers are migrating to neighboring cities. It is estimated that 75% of India's population lives in villages. But if the migration to town continues unabated, 61% of India's population

will be urban within 25 years, increasing the load on roads, housing ration, medical care and schooling.

6. The worst effects may come from law and order problems and in maintaining the safety of peace-loving citizens. Heinous crimes like murder, abduction for ransom and rape will increase many fold.



7. Our societies, already suffering from the scourge of corruption due to greed and abandonment of moral values, will further deteriorate all around, especially on the family front. Husbands, wives and children will drift further apart.

8. The extent of economic disparity is enormous. Only 345 families control the wealth of 45% of the world population. About a billion, nearly one in every six persons in the world goes to bed at night with an empty stomach, even after a day's hard labor. About 100 million children survive each day on only their mother's assurance that their fathers will be home soon with food.

9. About 900 million people in the world are illiterate and are do not have access to medical services. The information revolution ushered in by computer technology has sensitized the "have-nots" of the abundance of riches and

and food available on earth, which has led to unrest. The 'haves' are not safe. Professional terrorism is being adopted to address social, economic and political problems.

It is very heartening to learn that Rotary International has taken up the cause of population under Devlyn's theme of "Create Awareness, Take Action." The

Indian Government has done its best on this front by enacting statutes, policies, laws and awareness. India adopted family planning as a National Programme in 1952, and has allotted huge sums of money for creating awareness. This has resulted in the prevention of 200 million unwanted births. Still our population has tripled from 300 million in 1947 to 1 billion in the year 2000.

We Rotarians will have to face the population problem on both the Awareness and Action fronts. On the Awareness front, people are only aware that the Government wants them to have fewer children, but attribute this to the Government's inability to provide food, shelter, medicine and education. They must also be made aware that it is in their own interest to have more manageable family sizes. Secondly, people must be convinced that although children are God's blessing, babies are made by human effort. They do not drop from heaven with copulation. Thirdly, men must be convinced of the importance of their role in employing healthy methods of family planning. Their unwillingness to participate actively must be dispelled.

Recently, it was discovered that 90% of the village level workers entrusted with the job of spreading the message of family planning never visited the village to which they were assigned. We, as Rotarians, cannot afford to be complacent on this count. We have to be lead the way in changing cultural expectations. ❖

## Nigeria Moves Forward with 3-H Green Revolution

By PDG Dr. Bill Leonard, District 6890, Florida, USA

"The world needs Nigeria to succeed," declared US President Bill Clinton in a speech to the National Assembly of Nigeria on a "visit to nudge Africa's most populous country to civilian rule, after 16 years of debilitating dictatorship" (New York Times, August 27, 2000). During this period of military rule the country's agriculture, which employs 70% of its work force, suffered, and Nigeria, once a food exporter, became a food-importing nation.

This Rotary *World Community Service* project to improve agriculture in Nigeria is the result of a visit to Northern Nigeria by Past District Governor Bill Leonard and Dr. Jay Palmer, chemist, both Rotarians of District 6890 in Florida. The trip, funded by the Rotary Foundation, allowed them to meet with Rotarians and government officials of Plateau State, visit farms and map out the project plan. Plateau State has good soil, abundant rainfall. It has an elected government, headed by Chief Dariye, a competent businessman and Rotarian, anxious to help the people of that State.

Most of the farm families have an average per capita income of US \$300. Support of the State government has been assured. Under the local leadership of District Governor Lemmy Ijioma, Rotary clubs in Jos, capital of Plateau State, and in other cities have been organized to supervise and monitor the project.

Plateau State has three distinct areas: a northern plateau at 4,000 feet elevation, with a major crop of coffee; a large central area at about 3,500 feet elevation, with major crops of corn and potatoes; and a low watery section whose major crop is rice. Sites were chosen in each of the three areas. The first is to the north and is a farm operated by a Farmers Federation which grows coffee, corn, potatoes and acha. The plan is to increase the planting of coffee, corn and acha, and to level off the growth of potatoes by planting groundnuts near other crops and to start raising chickens and hogs. The second site is in the Central area and is a cooperative raising corn and potatoes. In this area, the soil needs lime to improve crop yields, and additional chick-

ens, sheep and cattle farming will be started. The third site is in the south, where young farmers now raise rice, along with corn, millet, peanuts, sorghum, yams and cassavas. The plan calls for increasing all crops, upgrading cattle by breeding with Brahman bulls and the initiation of aquaculture.

Soil samples taken from each of these three sites will be tested to determine present composition and opportunities for enhancement. It has been established that soils at Site 2 are heavy in aluminum and iron, and need to be neutralized with limestone. In several sites, greater use of soya or peanuts is required to resort nitrates. On all sites, more fertilizer is needed, especially of the granular single superphosphate type. Also to be added are other essential trace elements needed by humans – boron, copper, zinc, iodine, manganese, chromium, nickel, cobalt, selenium and molybdenum. Thus, the fertilizers would serve not only to increase crop yields,

but also to improve the health of humans. The rationale for the use of such fertilizers is found in Jay W. Palmer's, "An Approach on Improving the Health of Human Populations", Florida Scientist, Summer 2000.

The project envisions that farmers will be given microloans for seed, fertilizers and equipment, on the condition they take courses in agronomy from an expert instructor, follow modern agricultural practices and initiate raising of livestock, poultry and, on Site 3, aquaculture. Further, instruction in canning and preserving will enable farmers to save much of the produce now wasted, and the provision of small trucks will assist the farmers in marketing their products. The Rotary Foundation required applicants for the grant to identify the persons responsible for managing the program in Nigeria and in the United States, and to indicate how the project would be evaluated. The total grant for this 3-H agricultural project in Plateau State was US \$250,000. ❖

By Dr. Bill Leonard, PDG

*"... the farmers will be given microloans... on the condition they take courses in agronomy from an expert instructor, and follow modern agricultural practices..."*

## Test Your Energy I.Q.

Answer each question below (True or False) and rate yourself on your knowledge of energy use and abuse in the home and on the road.

1. The United States uses more energy per person than any other nation in the world.
2. In the afternoon, you should keep the draperies closed on all west-facing windows to block out the hot sun.
3. Thermal-lined draperies and outdoor awnings can significantly reduce the energy required for air conditioning.
4. A home that is dry during the winter must be kept warmer to be as comfortable as one with a higher humidity level.
5. Landscaping is important to home energy conservation.
6. Weather-stripping doors and caulking windows can save up to 10 percent of home energy costs.
7. The furnace/air conditioner will run for longer periods of time when the air filter is dirty.
8. The lower the temperature setting on your water heater, the less energy you will use.
9. It is usually less expensive to take a bath than a shower.
10. It does not matter where the water heater is located in your home, as long as it is in proper working order.
11. The home heating and cooling system is the major residential user of energy.

### Answers

1. True. 6 percent of the world's population uses 36% of all energy consumed.
2. True in summer, but false in winter.
3. True. They block sun and keep you house cooler.
4. True. A humidifying device not only increases comfort, but helps save energy.
5. True. Trees provide shade in summer and allow sun in the winter.
6. True.

*Continued on Page 8*

### What "Least Developed" Really Means

- There are 49 countries listed by the United Nations as "Least Developed Countries" (LDCs), up from 21 when the category was first created in 1971.
- In the LDCs, the average annual-per-capita GDP (in 1997) was \$235, compared with \$24,522 in the developed countries.
- Average life expectancy in the LDCs is 51 years; in the industrialized countries it is 78 years.
- One child out of every 10 in the LDCs dies before his or her first birthday.
- Half of the population of the LDCs is illiterate.
- With approximately 10 percent of the world's total population, the LDCs account for less than 1 percent of the world's total income.
- Official development assistance to LDCs is down 45 percent since 1990.
- The LDCs share of all world exports is 0.4 percent.
- Of all the foreign direct investment in the world, LDCs get only 1.4 percent.

*from the Earth Times, April 2001*

**The Rotary Foundation will begin accepting new Matching Grant applications on August 1st, 2001.**

**In order to receive prompt approval of the application, make sure correct signatures and pro forma invoices are provided for any item costing over US \$1,000.**

### RAIN FOREST: THE LUNGS OF THE EARTH BY JON HUTCHINSON, ROTARY CLUB OF TORRINGTON, CT, USA

Trees and flora are vital to our life here on Earth, providing shade, building materials, medicines, fuel and photosynthesis. They have direct relationship with climatic conditions, the water cycle and erosion prevention.

Rain forests are aptly described as the lungs of the world. Without this resource of life's essentials, all of us in the upper life chain could not survive. Ironically, we seem intent on destroying the rain forests. The cutting, burning, clearing activities for wood, farm and ranch lands, roads, and towns is obliterating our rain forests, hectare by hectare. It is akin to the aggressive Westward Movement of the mid-1800s United States.

But that Westward Movement was accomplished at a modest pace with an ax and plow. Today, the pace is beyond calculation, aided by chain saws and bulldozers. Even conservative forecast estimate that within a hundred years, the rain forests will be 90% gone, leaving only remnants of disconnected patches in parks and reserves.

There have been attempts in the past to slow this destructive course. Following the years of colonization, many projects were instituted to conserve the rain forest. Selective cutting, set asides, quotas were put in place.

The Dutch introduced a promising system in Suriname whereby only a few trees were removed from each hectare, with more frequent harvests. Great care was taken to lessen damage to remaining trees and the soil. However, since forest conservation is a long term venture that requires patience, most plans of the past have failed.

In more recent times, other factors have entered the picture. The United Nations, Sierra Clubs, Nature Conservancy and Conservation International have organized concerned environmentalist in programs to conserve the rain forest and the biodiversity they contain. Creative programs involving land-for-taxes swaps, outright purchases and eco-tourism are now in place. Sad to say, while the tide of destruction pauses with each new idea, the overall results achieved is usually less than expected.

We are all part of the problem. Industrial

nations demand an inordinate share of the rain forests raw materials. Less developed countries seek living space and income from the rain forests. We should hope for the appearance of a leader with a vision of the next hundred years, to lead us away from this destructive course. Rather than wait, it is sometimes better to look within for a solution. There is a vision in two words: child spacing.

Child spacing services for all who desire them. The result would be to reach a relatively stable global population. Achievable? Yes, consider those countries that are in balance.

The alternative is not pretty. There are now six billion people in the world. We increase 80 million per year. On every continent, we face shortages of water, arable land, food and clean air. The fight for living space fosters conflict and migration.

We have the means, the resources to preserve planet earth, however, we must change our priorities. It must become more important to achieve population levels in balance with the resources upon which we depend.

It makes little difference if we conquer space, and at the same time lose the rain forests. Rotarians are answering with support of the Costa Rican 3-H Rain Forest project. But must also support population and development, a Rotary program of education and projects.

What can you do? What will you do?

### Population & Development Conference To Be Held October 24th in Finland

A Population & Development Conference has been scheduled for October 24th in Helsinki, Finland. The Conference is one of the events celebrating the 60th Anniversary of the Family Federation of Finland and the 75th Anniversary of Rotary in Finland. Scheduled speakers include Jorma Lampen, RI Director; Mari Simonen, UNFPA—Finland; Alfonso Lopez Juarez, Director of MEXFAM and Jouko Hulkko, Family Federation of Finland. For information, please contact Mauri Paunikallio at mauri.paunikallio@pp.inet.fi or via fax at 358 6221 2030.

## New Lifetime Members

Max Abend	Lowell Lueptow
C. Donald Allen	Tracie Murray
Mona Armistead	Allan Pacela
Rexana Baker	Betram Raphael
Barbara M. Beery	Syed Mojib Raza
Patricia Brown	Robert Rockett
Bo Cheves	Ladd Seekins
Art Christakos	Mary Ann Shanley
David Coffin	David Stearns
George Cubbon	Victoria Sweeney
Lawrence Dean	Tony Tropea
Sam Guthrie	Itsuo Uenaka
Gibson Hattery	Karl Waechtler
Donald & Mary Helen Hayman	Hiroshi Yamamura
Neal Hoffman	
Melvin Kahn	
John R. Kessaram	
Roy Lave	
Bill Leonard	
Richard Lowenthal	

## Energy I. Q. Answers (continued from Page 6)

7. True. Check your filter every 2 months.
8. True. The lower the temperature on your water heater, the less energy used.
9. False. Deep baths take twice as much water as the average shower.
10. False. Place the water heater as close as possible to areas where the water is needed.
11. True. 70% of your home energy bill is for heating and cooling.

**9 to 11 correct:** Above-average Energy IQ.

**8 to 6 correct:** Average. You need to learn more about energy conservation.

**Fewer than 6 correct:** Need to learn about energy conservation. You are not only wasting energy, but your own money.

## Packard Grant Renewed

The David and Lucile Packard Foundation has agreed to continue financial support for the administrative needs of RIFPD for an additional two years. A \$300,000 grant was approved for July 2001 through June 2003. The funds will be used in North America, Asia, Africa and Europe to fund RIFPD activities.

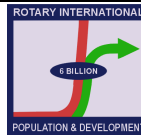
## Thank You

A significant donation was recently made to RIFPD by the Rotary Club of Memphis, Tennessee, USA in honor of Lifetime Member Jim Fri. Mr. Fri was recently named Memphis Rotarian of the Year. Along with the honor came the right for Mr. Fri to direct a gift from the club to a charity of his choosing. A supporter of RIFPD since its inception, Mr. Fri named RIFPD as the beneficiary of this contribution. Thanks Jim and Ellida!

## Fragile Earth

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Lawrenceville GA 30045 USA



To join RIFPD, send US \$10 for Annual Membership or US \$100 for Lifetime Membership along with name, address, phone & fax numbers, Rotary Club & District to address above if in the United States. For other Countries, please contact:

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