



社長文告



親愛的扶輪社友，

大約 30 幾年前的某個 6 月初，我預定到拉斯維加斯出差。當時我加入扶輪大約 6 年，自視是個活躍的社員。我出席每次例會，擔任扶輪社秘書，認識同社的每個人。可是對我來說，扶輪就像是個社區組織，它把我和拿索——或許還有巴哈馬群島——連結在一起，可是也不過就這樣。

我不曾想過巴哈馬以外的扶輪，我也不曾有過參加國際扶輪年會的念頭。可是那年春天，我發覺到我的拉斯維加斯行程剛好與扶輪國際年會撞期，心裡便想：何樂而不為？我送出我的註冊報名表，繳交費用，沒有想過這次的經驗會改變我的人生。

當我走過年會的大門，整個人大受震撼。知道我隸屬於一個在全球各地擁有超過 100 萬名社員的國際組織是一回事，可是站在那裡、身歷其境體會這點卻完全是另一回事。我參加每一場全體會議，逛過友誼之家的每個攤位，並瞭解一些我以前不知道在扶輪能夠做的計畫。那場年會不只是讓我大開眼界，還讓我敞開心胸。它激勵我徹底改變看待扶輪的方式、扶輪能為我做什麼、以及我能為扶輪做什麼。這股激勵與啟發此後一直跟著我——每年還會更新，在每一場扶輪年會。

2019 年 6 月，來自世界各地的扶輪社員將會聚集在德國漢堡參加第 110 屆國際扶輪年會，一起「緊抓難忘的片刻」(Capture the Moment)。許多人跟我一樣已經參加年會很多次；許多人會是第一次參加。無論你是期待與老朋友敘舊、為新的扶輪年度尋找靈感，或僅僅是要看看扶輪到底是什麼，每個人都會在漢堡找到屬於自己的時刻。

漢堡是一個連接德國與世界的港都，數百年來都是一個經濟及文化薈萃中心。這是個十分美好的地方——沿著湖岸散步，搭船遊覽易北河，到餐廳用餐，欣賞動人的音樂，探索精彩的博物館。它也是歐洲渡假的理想出發地。

如果你是年會常客，你絕對不會想錯過在漢堡可以找到的友誼與激勵。如果你不曾參加過年會，請考慮我所提出的邀請。在 12 月 15 日之前到 riconvention.org 註冊可享有最優惠的費率——讓這場年會成為你的扶輪之旅的激勵力量。

BARRY RASSIN 巴利·拉辛
國際扶輪社長



PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE



Dear fellow Rotarians,

One early June, more than 30 years ago, I had a business trip scheduled to Las Vegas. I had been a Rotarian for about six years, and I thought of myself as an active member: I attended every meeting, I'd served as club secretary, I knew everyone in my club. But for me, Rotary was very much a community organization. It connected me to Nassau and perhaps even to the Bahamas — but no farther.

I had never given much thought to Rotary beyond the Bahamas, and it had never crossed my mind to travel to a Rotary convention. But that spring, I realized that my trip to Las Vegas would coincide with the Rotary International Convention and thought, why not? I sent in my registration and paid my fees, never suspecting that the experience would change my life.

When I walked through the doors of that convention, I was stunned. It was one thing to know that I was part of a global organization with over a million members around the world. It was something else altogether to stand there in the middle of it. I went to every general session, looked in at every booth at the House of Friendship, and learned about projects that I hadn't even known you could do in Rotary. That convention didn't just open my eyes. It opened my mind. It inspired me to completely change the way I saw Rotary, what Rotary could do for me, and what I could do through Rotary. That inspiration has stayed with me ever since — and is renewed every year, at every Rotary convention.

In June 2019, Rotarians from all over the world will converge in Hamburg to *Capture the Moment* at the 110th Rotary International Convention. Many, like me, will have been coming to conventions for years; many others will be coming for the first time. Whether they're looking to connect with old friends, to find inspiration for a new Rotary year, or simply to see what Rotary is all about, each of them will find their own moment in Hamburg.

Hamburg is a port city that connects Germany to the world and that has been an economic and cultural hub for centuries. It's a wonderful place to visit — to stroll the shores of the city's lake, take a boat trip on the Elbe River, dine out, hear great music, and explore fascinating museums. It's also the ideal place to kick off a European vacation.

If you're a regular convention goer, you absolutely won't want to miss out on the friendship and inspiration you'll find in Hamburg. And if you've never been to a convention, please consider this my personal invitation. Register at riconvention.org by 15 December for the best rate — and let this convention *Be the Inspiration* for your Rotary journey.

BARRY RASSIN

President, Rotary International