

社長文告

親愛的扶輪社友及扶輪家庭的所有成員：

增加我們的適應能力：那是我們新的「扶輪行動計畫」的一個目標。而今年，哇，我們看到這個能力接受考驗。

今年3月，我和蓋伊預計用30天的時間拜訪辛巴威、土耳其、及其他8個國家。在參加過辛巴威一個醫療團及倫敦的國協週活動之後，在旅程的第11天，我們正收拾行李要前往瑞士及列支敦士登。

在倫敦出席巴基斯坦高級專員公署的晚宴時，我們接獲消息說我們規劃旅程的所有地方都已經不可能前往。因此，我們沒有搭機前往蘇黎世，而是回到伊文斯敦及世界總部。

整個3月初，關於世界各地新冠病毒的消息益發嚴峻。遵循當地官員的建議，我們取消巴黎及羅馬的聯合國社長會議。不久後，世界衛生組織宣布該病毒為全球大流行病，我們也針對更重大決策諮詢有關當局。我們要求所有扶輪地區及扶輪社在進一步通知前應避免面對面的集會，以網路會議來代替。對於快速調整適應的地區及扶輪社，我們深表感謝。

扶輪理事會也舉辦有史以來第一場網路會議來做出最困難的決定——取消2020年國際扶輪年會。就像計畫出席的2萬多名註冊者一樣，我也深感失望。我們採取行動來保護年會出席者及其家人、朋友，與同事，以及那些以檀香山為家者的健康及安全，我深信我們的決定是正確的。

我要感謝2020年檀香山年會委員會、地主籌備委員會、2020年檀香山年會宣傳委員會，及扶輪辦事員，感謝他們籌備本來可能是扶輪最佳年會之一的所有努力。我感謝他們的辛苦付出。

在做出取消年會的決策之際，這一期的《國際扶輪英文月刊》正要付梓，扶輪世界還有其他許多決定仍懸而未決。未來幾期的《國際扶輪英文月刊》及扶輪地域雜誌，連同扶輪的社群媒體管道，都會讓各位掌握最新發展。

本扶輪年度一開始我們便宣導新「行動計畫」對所有扶輪社員及扶輪青年服務社社員的重要。今天，我們是出於必要性而實行這個計畫。那包括可能透過網路來辦理一個類似年會的活動。日後我們會告知各位進一步的消息。

世界快速改變，扶輪也必須因應。我們的適應力及力量將有助於我們度過這個經驗。今日，世界比以往更需要我們的領導。誠然，扶輪連接世界。

誠摯的祝福各位。



梅隆尼 Mark Daniel Maloney
國際扶輪社長



President's message

Dear Rotarians, Rotaractors, and friends,

Increasing our ability to adapt: That is one goal of our new Rotary Action Plan. And wow, have we seen that ability put to the test this year.

In March, Gay and I were to visit Zimbabwe, Turkey, and eight other countries over the course of 30 days. After participating in a medical mission in Zimbabwe and Commonwealth Week activities in London, on the 11th day, we were packing our suitcases for Switzerland and Liechtenstein.

While attending a dinner at the High Commission for Pakistan in London, we received word that it would be impossible to travel everywhere on our itinerary. So, instead of flying to Zurich, we returned to Evanston and One Rotary Center.

Throughout early March, the news about COVID-19 became increasingly serious throughout the world. Following the advice of local officials, we canceled UN presidential conferences in Paris and Rome. Soon, the World Health Organization declared the virus a global pandemic, and we consulted with authorities on more critical decisions. We asked all Rotary districts and clubs to curb face-to-face meetings until further notice and to hold virtual meetings instead. To the districts and clubs that have adapted so quickly, thank you.

The Rotary Board of Directors held its first-ever virtual meeting to make the most difficult decision of all, to cancel the 2020 Rotary International Convention. Like the more than 20,000 registrants who planned to attend, I am disappointed. We acted to protect the health and safety of convention attendees and their families, friends, and colleagues, as well as those who call Honolulu home, and I am confident we made the right decision.

I want to thank the 2020 Honolulu Convention Committee, the Host Organization Committee, the 2020 Honolulu Convention Promotion Committee, and Rotary staff for planning what would have been one of the best Rotary conventions yet. I appreciate their hard work.

This issue of *The Rotarian* was going to press as the decision about canceling the convention was made, and many other decisions across the Rotary world were still up in the air. Future issues of *The Rotarian* and of Rotary's regional magazines, along with Rotary's social media channels, will keep you informed.

We began this Rotary year promoting the importance of the new Action Plan for all Rotarians and Rotaractors. Today, we are putting that plan into action out of necessity. That includes the possibility of a convention-like experience with you through a virtual event. We will have more to say about this in the near future.

The world is changing rapidly, and so must Rotary. Our adaptability and strength will help us navigate this experience. The world needs our leadership today more than ever. Truly, *Rotary Connects the World*.

Kindest regards,



MARK DANIEL MALONEY
President, Rotary International



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