The official newsletter of the Rotarian Action Group for Blindness Prevention





"The gift of sight . . . Protect it, Save it, Restore it"

Another year of "Doing Good in the World" DONOR ADVISED FUND HELPS FUND M.G. PROJECTS work that is necessary and then submitting it to PDG Schloer. All of the information

PDG Walt Schloer is a RAG Board member as well as the administrator of the Blindness Prevention Donor Advised Fund (BP-DAF). This fund is a sub-entity of The Rotary Foundation and is used to provide support funding to various Blindness Prevention Projects. The fund was established in 2001 by Past RI President and RAG Founder, Frank J. Devlyn. The sole purpose of the fund is to provide financial assistance to Blindness Prevention projects around the world.

During the 2011-2012 Rotary year, the BP-DAF helped to fund 21 Blindness Prevention projects totaling \$42,000 in grants. These funds are then matched \$.50 on the dollar by The Rotary Foundation prior to the final funding for the Matching Grant.

Even in these difficult economic times, BP projects are still being completed around the world. But now, more than ever, projects need funding assistance from every possible source. Blindness Prevention is our organization's #1 mission and the DAF supports that mission through its financial resources.

Contributions from the DAF come from various sources. A primary source is the proceeds from PRIP Devlyn's "Frank Talk" books. Individuals may also contribute to the DAF.

RAG members can request assistance from the BP-DAF by completing the paper-

work that is necessary and then submitting it to PDG Schloer. All of the information necessary to complete the paperwork is available on the RAG web site at http://www.rag4bp.org/daf.htm

If you have additional questions, you can contact PDG Schloer at the following: <u>Email: wschloer@gmail.com</u>

In addition, Schloer recommends that all who are seeking funding for projects, post their projects on the Matching Grants web site at

http://www.matchinggrants.org

Hundreds of thousands of people, worldwide have been the beneficiaries of these grant projects since 2001. Following are just some of the 21 projects that were funded by the BP-DAF during the 2011-2012 Rotary year.

MG#75910-India

Hosted by the RC of Calcutta Victoria, Calcutta, West Bengal, India D-3291. The International Partner was the RC of Leland Area, Leland, North Carolina, USA D-7730. The grant ws to help fund equipment and set up an eye hospital for cataract surgeries in Kakdwip, West Bengal. India.

MG#76494-India

Hosted by the RC of Madras Fort, Chennai, India, D-3230. The International Partner was the RC of Singapore, D-3310. The grant provided funds for the purchase of eye-related medical equipment.

(Continued on page 7)

Officers (2011-2012)

Chairman PDG Thomas Kwako

Immediate Past Chair Dr. Ken D. Tuck, MD

Vice Chairman PDG Walt Schloer

Executive Secretary Harriett Schloer

Treasurer PDG Phyllis J. Nusz

Board Members

- Philippe Caron
- PDG Rekha Shetty
- Dr. Ravishankar Venkatasubbiah
- Selvarajah Sunderavel
- Kulasegaran Sabaratnam
- Gabriel Minder
- Gowri Rajan
- PDG Todd Lindley
- PDG Manjit Sawhney



2012 Lisbon Convention Photos



PRIP Frank Devlyn and all of his friends from Pakistan



Most of the hearty group that showed up for the annual meeting at 8:00 in the morning. BRAVO!!!



Luggage Tags, Luggage Tags, and More Luggage Tags, We made more than 2000 of them in Bangkok!





There she is . . . The RINGMASTER! Her "job" at the convention as Executive Secretary for the RAG and the CGF is sort of like "herding cats"!

Shezad and Mark actually look like they are 'enjoying" making all those luggage tags.



Vice Chair, PDG Walt Schloer, Dr. Cheema (Pakistan) and Chairman, PDG Tom Kwako take one last pic before they tear down the booths and ship them home 'till next year.

Draft Board Meeting Minutes 2012

DRAFT MINUTES RAG for Blindness Prevention

Board of Directors Meeting

Friday, May 4, 2012 – 6:00 PM

Pathumwan Princess Hotel Bangkok, Thailand

6:00 PM – Board members gathered in the lounge of the Pathumwan Princess Hotel for drinks prior to dinner. Those in attendance were:

- * Chairman, PDG Tom Kwako and his guest
- * Vice Chair PDG Walt Schloer
- * Exec. Secretary, Harriett Schloer
- * PRIP Frank Devlyn and Gloria Rita Devlyn
- * Dieter Brodel
- * Mark Harbison
- * Shehzad Ahmed
- * Manjit Sawhney and Rita Sawhney
- * Gowri Rajan
- Christian Garms (guest of Chairman Kwako Chairman of the I.A.P.B)

At 6:30, the group adjourned to the private dining room to eat dinner.

The Board meeting was called to order at 7:00 PM by Chairman, Tom Kwako. Complete introductions were made by going around the table for self-introductions.

<u>Minutes</u>

The minutes of 2011 Board meeting in New Orleans were approved as presented by the Executive Secretary.

Treasurer's Report:

In the absence of the Treasurer, the Executive Secretary gave the Treasurer's report. There was a brief discussion on the RAG's financial status. The Treasurer's report was unanimously approved as presented. Secretary.

Executive Secretary's Report

The report of the ExecSec was unanimously approved as presented.

BP-DAF Report

The DAF report was presented by Vice Chairman, PDG Walt Schloer and the BP-DAF Administrator. The report was unanimously approved as presented.

Unfinished Business

<u>1. The annual Election Results</u> were presented by the Executive Secretary. New Board Members are as follows:

- * Mark Harbison (Hawaii, USA)
- * Shehzad Ahmed (Pakistan)

- * Dieter Brodehl (Germany)
- * Jean Villeval (completing term of Gabriel Minder) (Mexico)
- * Members of the Nominating / Election Committee
- * Chairman, Tom Kwako
- * Vice Chair, Walt Schloer
- * Immediate Past Chair, Ken D. Tuck, MD
- * Exec. Secretary Harriett Schloer
- * Treasurer Phyllis Nusz
- * Board Member Gowri Rajan
- * Board Member Manjit Sawheny

<u>Members for consideration and eligible for nomi-</u> nation next year to the Board (3 positions):

The ExecSec explained that three Board positions would be expiring next year . . . Jean Villeval, Selva Sunderaval, and Kula Subaratnum. The following two board members are eligible for re-election and have indicated a desire to have their names placed on the ballot

- * Jean Villeval (Mexico)
- * Selva Sunderaval (USA)

There will be one more vacant office. Members of the Board are to review the list of members that will be provided by the ExecSec and make recommendations based on those who have been participating in recent RI Conventions.

<u>Update on Status of RAGS as discussed last year</u> <u>per RI Board Decision(s)</u>

Chairman Kwako then explained the various meetings of the "Synergy Committee", that he has been involved in during the past several months which are setting the foundation for the future operation of the RAGS, their operations, and how they will "mesh" with The Rotary Foundation in future project activities. The group has made an initial "grouping" of each RAG under the 6 areas of focus and the Chairperson of the group. Marian Bunch (Chair of the HIV RAG) has had frequent and direct contact with TRF and RI. This is still a "work in progress" and as yet no final decisions have been made or approved by RI or TRF and none are expected prior to the October Board meetings. There has been, however, an update to the RI Code of Policies which defines the Purpose of the RAGS as follows:

42.020. Rotarian Action Groups 42.020.1. Purpose

A Rotarian Action Group shall be an association of Rotarians who have as their purpose the advancement of the Object of Rotary by providing assistance and support to Rotary clubs, districts, and multidistricts in planning and implementing large-scale, community development and humanitarian service projects.

Draft Board Meeting Minutes 2012 (cont'd)

(January 2011 Mtg., Bd. Dec. 137)

At this point, Chairman Kwako stated that he interprets the policy as meaning that it is the RAGS responsibility to take the lead in implementing large scale project sand that is what he wants to see our RAG plan for the future.

At this point, the Executive Secretary read the entire policy as written above and stated that based on the way the policy is worded, it is clear that the role of the RAGS is to "Provide assistance and support" to Clubs, Districts, etc. in the planning and implementation of large-scale projects and NOT to be responsible for initializing or implementing said projects. It is up to the clubs, districts, etc. to take the lead and call on the RAGs for the "expertise" necessary to insure their success.

A lengthy conversation occurred at this point as to the "interpretation" of the policy. Finally, as there was some disagreement, the ExecSec moved and the Vice Chairman seconded that

"It shall be the role of the Rotarian Action Group for Blindness Prevention to provide assistance, support and expertise to clubs, districts and multi-districts with regard to the planning and implementation of largescale projects. However, the BP RAG'S involvement shall NOT include financial assistance nor shall the BP RAG be the entity that takes the lead in implementing, planning and developing projects."

The motion carried with only one abstention from Chairman Kwako.

<u>Application for Tax Exempt Status</u> – The Exec Sec stated that she had not yet filed for Tax Exempt status with the Internal Revenue Service until the status of the autonomy of the RAGS had been determined. Now that this has been cleared, and it is the BP RAG's desire to increase its financial resources, she will file the necessary paperwork with the IRS. Once tax exempt status is acquired, she will be able to begin writing grants on behalf of the RAG for the Blindness Prevention Donor Advised fund. Grants which are given to the BP-DAF are not considered funds given to the RAG. However, once the DAF is funded with additional grants for project funding, the DAF will also be able to provide financial assistance to the RAG to cover administrative expenses. It was moved and seconded that she proceed with the Tax Exempt application and begin working on grant applications as soon as possible.

Google Discussion Group – The Exec Sec reported

on the use (rather the lack thereof) of the RAG Google Discussion Group. As there was no response to the Group and Board members and officers are now using it, she recommended that the group be disabled following the convention. It was moved and seconded that the BP-RAG Google Discussion Group be disabled. Motion carried unanimously.

ISO 26000: Worldwide Social Responsibility

Standards http://www.iso.org/iso/iso catalogue/ management and leadership standards/ social responsibility/sr iso26000 overview.htm#sr-1 Note: Gabriel Minder brought this item before the entire RAG at the 2011 Annual Meeting and it was tabled until this year's Annual Meeting. The ExecSec recommended that we not pursue this. The worldwide establishment of this ISO standard would be appropriately assigned to The Rotary Foundation to review, consider and then implement if they felt it should be done for TRF. However, our RAG does not have the time or resources to implement this so the ExecSec moved that the BP RAG no longer consider this, that it not be moved forward to the Annual Meeting and that it be removed from all future agendas. Motion was seconded and carried unanimously.

New Business

<u>Current RAG Financial Status</u> – The Exec Sec described <u>in detail</u> what it costs for our RAG to exhibit each year at the annual RI Convention. If we sign up 20 members each year at the convention as a result of exhibiting we "barely" cover our costs to do so. This year we won't. That, however, is the importance of gaining new members during the convention. Therefore we must continue to do this.

Report on results of first Annual RAG Assessment

The Exec Sec reported on the first annual Assessment of all RAG members. Of our 250+ members, only 3 paid the annual \$25 assessment. This was discussed in detail and decided to continue the assessment next year. The ExecSec will send out the assessment notifications in January.

Role and Purpose of the RAGS as defined by RI/ TRF in Rotary COP (sent to Board prior to meeting) As this item was discussed previously at this meeting there was no further discussion at this time.

Role of the RAG-BP in the Future (under Future <u>Vision</u>) – Chairman Kwako then laid out his "vision" for the RAG as it would function under Future Vision

Draft Board Meeting Minutes 2012 (cont'd)

and how he envisioned the RAG being aligned with a specific area of focus. There was discussion about the RAG being aligned with more than just the "Disease Prevention" Area of Focus, but as stated above with regard to the Synergy Committee, TRF has done a "preliminary" alignment of each RAG and our RAG has been placed under Disease Prevention. There will be further discussion of this as we enter Future Vision next year.

RAG internal communications – The Exec Sec once again expressed her great frustration with the lack of communication on the part of many of the officers and Board members. When she sends out email she gets **very slow** response and more often than not she gets no response. This makes it very difficult for her to perform her duties, especially when a vote or other type of feedback/input is required. She asked, once again, for all Board members to please pay attention to the messages that she sends and get back to her ASAP with comments or a decision.

<u>RI approval of direct mail to districts</u> –

The ExecSec stated that the RI Board has now approved all RAGS having directly communication with Districts and inquiring if they, in turn, can get approval to contact clubs directly. RI is providing the RAGS with the names of all sitting DG's and DGE's and their email addresses to facilitate this process. This will be a very good way for the RAG for BP to make district and club leaders aware of what we can do to help them with Blindness Prevention projects. The ExecSec will use this list during the coming Rotary year to contact the Districts.

RAG Breakout session during Convention -

Chairman Kwako explained that RI only allowed the RAGS to have a "joint" breakout session explaining what each of the RAGS does and how they can be of help to clubs and districts. Each RAG presenting would be given 5 minutes to do so and following the presentation, they would each have a table where people could come and sit down and talk to them. The ExecSec has worked with the breakout Chair, Marian Bunch (HIV RAG) to put together the PowerPoint presentation that will be used. It is hoped that as many Board members as possible be able to attend.

RAG "Opportunities and Goals" (Chairman's Vision for the future)

* <u>BP project in every Rotary club every year</u> – Chairman Kwako stated that once again, he would like to see every Rotary club become involved in a Blindness Prevention project every year. Board members discussed the "feasibility" of expecting this to get done with all that Rotary clubs have to do. Vice Chair Walt Schloer stated that it is even doubtful that it would be possible to get all Districts to participate in a BP project each year. Several stated that it is a "lofty" goal but not realistic. It was suggested that we could add it to our mission statement but would prefer not to make that decision without input from the general membership. It was decided to table this matter until next year for further discussion and during the coming Rotary year we would attempt to get feedback from the membership. Motion to table was moved and seconded. Motion carried unanimously.

Monthly Newsletter

The ExecSec reiterated once again how very, very difficult it is to gather enough information for an **annual newsletter** from our membership to meet the minimum requirements for filing our annual report to Rotary International. The idea of a monthly newsletter at the current time is not feasible as she cannot be expected to create a publication of this type without input from many sources. It was moved by the ExecSec and seconded that there be no monthly newsletter. Motion carried unanimously.

RAG Global representatives

This would be similar to the WASRAG model: Chairman Kwako presented a proposal to organize our RAG based on the WASRAG model with Global Representatives. He explained in detail what he had in mind and what their responsibilities would be. Following his presentation, the ExecSec presented statistics to the Board based on the number of members in our RAG and other RAGS. WASRAG has many thousands of members and we have approximately 250+. They have multiple members in every country in the world. We do not. Clean Water and Sanitation is an Area of Focus all its own and is the area in which Rotary does more projects than any other. We simply do not have the membership to put such an organizational structure in place. She moved that we not consider appointing Global Representatives until our membership grows to the point where we can truly cover a majority of the globe with our members. Motion seconded and carried.

Identify BP Project & solicit "partners".

* Chairman Kwako presented his idea that with the

Draft Board Meeting Minutes 2012 (cont'd)

coming of Future Vision now is the time for our RAG to step up, identify a specific project, take the lead and then solicit partners to join us in this endeavor. The ExecSec once again reminded the Chairman that earlier in our meeting we had voted NOT to be the leader on a BP RAG project but rather to support clubs with expertise who were planning BP projects. She reminded him of our financial status... we have no funds to participate in such a project... the Vice Chair stated that the BP-DAF could not be counted on to support any such project with more than the traditional \$2000. The ExecSec reiterated that the Board had made its decision and there was no need to address it again at this time.

<u>Identify "partners" and/or International organi-</u> <u>zations to work with</u> -

* At this time, Chairman Kwako continued the previous conversation by calling on Christian Garms, Chairman of the International Association for the Prevention of Blindness (IAPB) to explain what the two of them (Tom and Christian) had been discussing for the past several days prior to the start of the convention. He provided literature on the IAPB for all present and explained how the IAPB works and how its membership is made up. Chairman Kwako and Chairman Garms (IAPB) are proposing that our two organizations work together on Blindness Prevention projects worldwide through a "partnership", the terms of which will need to be determined.

At this point, the ExecSec reminded everyone that a proposal to have the RAG become a member (ie: "join" the IAPB) had been made at the Copenhagen Convention. Following that convention, the Secretary contacted RI on behalf of the newly renamed RAG to find out what RI's policy is on Rotary organizations joining/becoming members of other international organizations. Rotary's policy is very clear . . . no Rotary organization may become a "member" of any other organization. By doing so, the Rotary organization may risk being "dissolved" as an organization by Rotary International. However, Rotary did say that a RAG could execute a "Memorandum of Understanding" between the two organizations that would allow them to work cooperatively on various projects and endeavors. This was reported to the Board at the Salt Lake City convention the following year and the Board voted at that time to pursue implementing said MOU. However, as of the date of the Bangkok Board

meeting this has not occurred. The RI ruling on "joining" other organizations still stands.

Following the ExecSec's explanation, there was a lengthy discussion among the Board members as to whether or not we should proceed with a "partnership" with the IABP. PRIP Devlyn stated that he felt such a relationship would be beneficial to the RAG as he is in favor of expanding the work of our RAG as much as possible. Several others asked Chairman Garms what he and the IAPB expected to gain from a "partnership" with the RAG as we do not have funds to "invest" in projects, only expertise and experience; still others asked if it wouldn't be better to prepare a MOU as originally decided in Salt Lake City, get it drafted and then have the Board vote on it.

After further discussion it was moved by Chairman Kwako that "The RAG for Blindness Prevention pursue a 'partnership' with the International Association for Blindness Prevention for the purpose of cooperating on Blindness Prevention projects". The motion was seconded by PRIP Devlyn. The Chairman then called for discussion wherein several felt that the motion was too broad and needed to be made more specific with regard to the RAG's involvement to insure we remained within RI guidelines and to insure that we followed the current Code of Policies.

The ExecSec then moved to amend the motion to state "... pursue a partnership with the IAPB for the purpose of sharing information, expertise, and volunteers, without providing financial assistance when collaborating on Blindness Prevention projects." The amendment was seconded and passed unanimously.

A vote was then taken on the amended motion which passed 7 to 1 with only Chairman Kwako voting against..

To "formalize" the relationship, the Executive Secretary moved that the Chairman of the RAG and the Chairman of the IAPB draft a formal Partnership Agreement (or MOU) for presentation and approval by the Board at the Lisbon Board meeting. NOTE: <u>Until that agreement has been approved by</u> the Board, no action may be taken jointly or individually on the part of the RAG and/or IAPB with regard to "partnering" on projects.

Board Mtg. Minutes (cont'd)

Booth Staffing:

The ExecSec then passed out the Convention booth signup sheet and asked that everyone please sign up for a shift staffing the booth during the convention so the burden would not fall solely on the shoulders of just a couple of people.

Retiring Board Members

Chairman Kwako then thanked all of the retiring Board members for their service to the RAG. This includes Gabriel Minder, Rekha Shetty, and Philippe Caron, and

2013 Board Meeting

Fri., June 21, 2013 – 6:00 PM (Lisbon, Portugal)

Location TBD Be sure to make your travel plans so you will be in Lisbon in time for the board meeting. Best to arrive the day before, pick up registration materials on Friday and then attend Board meeting on Friday night. It will be a dinner meeting.

Respectfully Submitted,

arritet Chloer

Harriett H. Schloer Executive Secretary May 8, 2012

DAF Funded Projects (cont'd.)

(Continued from page 1)

MG#76879-Fiji

Hosted by the RC of Taveuni Island, Cakaudrove, Taveuni Island, Fiji, D-9920. The International Partner was the RC of Sisters, Oregon, USA D-5110. The grant provided funds for an auto refractor, a Sonomed E-Z Scan and medical supplies for the Taveuni Eye clinic.

MG#76008-India

Hosted by the RC of Ludhiana Central, Punjab, India, D-3070. The International Partner was the RC of Causeway Bay, Hong Kong, D-3450. The project funded a Phaco Emuilsification Machine at Shri Krishna Charitable Hospital in Ludhiana.

MG#76552-Sri Lanka

Hosted by the RC of Kandy, Kandy, Central Sri Lanka,

D-3220. The International Partner was the RC of Cataraqui-Kingston, Inverary, Ontario Canada, D-7040. The project funded 10 eye camps providing spectacles and cataract surgeries.

MG#75627-India

Hosted by the RC of Hooghly, D-3291. The International Partner was the RC of Guildford, Surrey, England, D-1250. The project funded 1000 IOL surgeries for vision impaired in rural areas of District 3291, West Bengal, India.

MG#75628

Hosted by the RC of Purulia, West Bengal, India, D-3291. The International Partner was the RC of Guildford, Surrey, England, D1250. The project funded 1000 IOL surgeries for the vision impaired in Purulia, West Bangal, India.

MG#76152

Hosted by the RC of San Miguel, San Miguel, El Salvador, D-4240. The International Partner was the RC of Brockton, Marshfield, Massachusetts, USA, D-7950. The project funding helped provide a new ophthalmic laser to ASAPROSAR in Elsalvador.

MG#75286

Hosted by the RC of Kabul, Afghanistan, D3272. The International Partner was the RC of Susa e Val-Susa, Torino, Italy, D-2030. The project funding provided equipment at Noor Eye Hospital in Heart, Afghanistan.

GG#25499

Hosted by the RC of Chiang-Mai Airport, Chiang Mai, Thailand, a D-3360. The International Partner was the RC of San Jose East-Evergreen, California, USA D-5170. The projected funding helped provide eye clinic services and equipment for mobile clinics.



Draft Minutes of Annual Meeting-2012

DRAFT MINUTES

2012 Annual Meeting May 15, 2012 8:00 AM Rotarian Action Group for Blindness Prevention

Bangkok Convention Center Bangkok, Thailand

- Welcome: The meeting was opened at 8:00 am by PDG Tom Kwako, Chairman of the RAG. There were 12 members of the RAG present at the meeting who then introduced themselves. (A few more members came in during the meeting once they arrived at the Convention Center which was about 15 miles from downtown Bangkok. The early hour was not conducive to major attendance this year as everyone had to rely on buses to get them to the center.
- Minutes: Minutes of the 2011 Annual meeting were read by the Executive Secretary. It was moved and seconded that the minutes be approved as presented. Motion carried.
- **Treasurer's Report:** The Treasurer's report was presented by the Exec Sec in the absence of the RAG Treasurer. It was moved and seconded that the report be approved as presented. Motion carried.
- **New Officers and Board Members:** The officers who have been elected to serve for the next two years are as follows:
- * Mark Harbison (Hawaii, USA)
- * Shehzad Ahmed (Pakistan)
- * Dieter Brodehl (Germany)
- * Jean Villeval (completing term of Gabriel Minder) (Mexico)
- * Members of the Nominating / Election Committee
- * Chairman, Tom Kwako
- * Vice Chair, Walt Schloer
- * Immediate Past Chair, Ken D. Tuck, MD
- * Exec. Secretary Harriett Schloer
- * Treasurer Phyllis Nusz
- Board Member Gowri Rajan
- * Board Member Manjit Sawheny

Review of Items discussed at the Board meeting:

Chairman Kwako and the Executive Secretary then updated the membership on items discussed at the Board meeting. As there were not items to be voted on by the general membership, no action was taken.

Marketing our RAG and attracting new members:

A lengthy discussion was then held on ways in which we can more effectively promote our RAG and gain new members. The ExecSec stated that RI is now providing all RAGs with a full contact list (in EXCEL format) of the DG's and DGE's. We are now allowed to do direct mailing to all districts to inform them of our work and encourage them to notify the clubs in their district about our RAG and how we can assist them with their Eyecare and Blindness Prevention projects.

Blindness Prevention Donor Advised Fund: Vice Chair and BP-DAF Administrator, PDG Walt Schloer presented his annual report on the grant activity by the BP-DAF for the past year. He answered numerous questions on the process of getting a DAF grant. To date this year, the BP-DAF has awarded 21 grants to Blindness Prevention projects.

- **2013 Board Meeting and Annual Meeting:** All present at the meeting stated that they were planning to attend the Lisbon convention in 2013. ExecSec Schloer will make arrangements for the Board meeting and will also set up an annual meeting time for the RAG as soon as RI make the applications available. The membership will be notified well in advance of the meeting date, place and time. We will also be posting a booth schedule so members can sign up to work in the booth.
- As there was no further business to come before the annual meeting of the RAG membership, Chairman Kwako made his closing remarks and the meeting was adjourned.
- Following adjournment, everyone gathered for a photo prior to heading to the House of Friendship to staff the booth.

Respectfully Submitted,

Slassitet Schlass i

Harriett Schloer Executive Secretary. May 15, 2012

RAG4BP Mission Statement

It shall be the mission of the Rotarian Action Group for Blindness Prevention to:

- Bring together, in fellowship and service, those Rotarians and Spouses and Rotaractors who have an active interest in the prevention of blindness and the promotion of eye health and vision worldwide.
- Provide both a platform and a forum to discuss ideas and develop appropriate cooperative programs to further our shared goals.
- Promote international understanding and peace through our common purpose and efforts.

QUALIFICATIONS FOR MEMBERSHIP

Action Group members must be Rotarians in good standing, spouses of Rotarians in good standing or members of Rotaract in good standing. They may be eye care professionals (ophthalmologists, optometrists, opticians) or other individuals interested in blindness prevention and eye car.

Lifetime membership is \$100 for Rotarians and Spouses and \$50 for Rotaractors. The annual membership assessment is \$25.00.

You can join online at http://www.rag4bp.org

Seeking Help

The RAG for Blindness Prevention is interested in expanding the promotion of eye health and vision worldwide. Our organization has regional representatives and coordinators that work with our Board and officers to develop various eye care projects.

If you are interested in becoming part of this worldwide network of eye care volunteers, please contact our Chairman, PDG Thomas Kwako or our Secretary, Harriett Schloer and let them know of your interest. Their email addresses are as follows:

PDG Thomas Kwako Email: <u>tkwako@aol.com</u>

Harriett Schloer Email: <u>in2dtp@gmail.com</u>

The Blindness Prevention Action Group at work around the world





Conferences Eve camps, 800,000+ Cataract surgeries, **Scholarships** Eyeglasses, World Sight Day, Matching Grants, Conventions, the AAO. All of this is the RAG4BP. Become part of it. Join us in helping to preserve sight.



