

August 2021 -Issue #58 **Editors**, Lynn Raymer <u>liraymer@hotmail.com</u> and Vigdis Stefansdottir, <u>viggastefans@gmail.com</u>

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#### Editor's note



I am so pleased to be your Director of Communications. What is that you ask? Being an international organization with members living all around the world, communications really is an important piece of the organizations. When I volunteered to help with the newsletter years ago, I never expected what happened.

Although we are only required to have an annual newsletter, Cheryl asked Esther and I to do quarterly newsletters. It has evolved over the years. In the beginning, many of the articles were written by board members or Esther or me. Esther and I developed a strong friendship. As I got to know other members through email responses to the newsletters, or meeting them at RI convention, we added more stories from other members. When I sent out an email just before beginning work on the newsletter, it expanded to include many more stories from members.

This last year, with the advent of Zoom meetings, the organization itself began to coalesce in new ways. More members began to be really involved. My position in support of the board became a member of the board, I added partial responsibility for the website as well as the Facebook page. And because of seeing folks on Zoom, when I requested help, I got it. I am so pleased that Vigdis Stefansdottir, Reykjavik Grafarvogur Rotary Club, Reykjavik Iceland has joined me as Editor.

Over the last couple of years Diana Barden, Secretary, and I have been working with a webmaster for our fellowship website, rotariansquilt.org to update the website. We are pleased to have Candace Boone, Rotary Club of Fredericton Sunrise, Waterville Sunbury, New Brunswick, CANADA join us as administrators for the website. The new By-Laws have been added to the members area of the website.

I am looking forward to continuing to get to know more of you through the newsletter, conventions and Zoom meetings. Please continue to share your stories with us. It is so interesting to learn about your skills and projects.

See you again soon.

Marílyn (Lynn) Raymer, Rotary club of Southwest Pacífic County Península, Washington State, USA. Co-Editor of Threads, Fellowship Newsletter

www.rotariansquilt.org

# BAARACK

Greetings to all Quilters & Fiber Artist

As I sat down this evening I thought of different topics to write about. But the story of BAARACK just came to the top of my list. I saw a photo of him in and a short article in a local newspaper. I shared it with my "knitting sistahs" and then the emails kept on asking - so where is he now. And so begins his story.

From his wandering away from a ranch in Victoria, AU he was lost for many months or maybe years before being found by a member of the public and taken to a home for "lost animals". Sheep need to be shorn annually or the fleece will continue to grow and grow. That was Baarack's fate. He had difficulty seeing and was underweight and had I would guess difficulty forging for food since the wool covered his eyes. Taken to Edgar's Mission Farm Sanctuary about 132 miles north of Melbourne, AU he was greeted by a team of caring people. There he was shorn of **78** 



pounds of fleece. But his hooves were in great condition as he had been running over rocks in the forest and "he was in a bad way" said Kyle Behrend.

With prompting by my "knitting sistahs" I searched the web and found the Sanctuary where he was taken. I sent them an e-mail and asked what has happened to Baarack? I never expected to hear back but the next day there was a message waiting for me.

It seems I was not the only one interested in him as the folks at the sanctuary were hearing from folks around the world and they created a message board to let everyone know that he is doing well. With the ability to move freely and much thinner he was getting nourishment and lots of water to quench his thirst. Today he is thin but gaining weight and is a very happy fella. You can



read more about him and make a donation to the Sanctuary (<u>https://www.edgarsmission.org.au</u>) who cares for him and other animals. I am posting before and after photos of a very determined animal who survived in the forests around Lancefield,

Victoria, Australia. If you have articles in your local papers or magazines about Baarack you might want to send them to the Sanctuary.

Oh yes, the shorn wool/fleece was to a museum.

Esther Arlan.

If you read stories like this, send them along to Lynn to share with us in the next Newsletter.

Yours in Fellowship

Esther

www.rotariansquilt.org

# Tools of the Trade

Summer has arrived in different parts of the world. While we here in the United States are battling destructive forest fires on the West Coast here on the East Coast we have had record rainfall. Wish we could send the rain to where it is needed. But wherever you are I hope you are safe.

With many folks having received COVID vaccine shots people are visiting family and friends. Many of us have not seen family or friends for quite some time so it is welcome that we can do it again. With that in mind I put together some ideas to think about when packing up to travel. The last thing that I do is double check to see if I have enough yarn for the item I am working on. Canvas if it is a small project and fabric swatches if I want to add a new piece of fabric to my stash. But after getting everything together and starting a trip nothing is as frustrating as having left something back home. So here are a few ideas I have read about or used when that happens:

If you are in the US here are some substitutes if the tape measure has decided to disappear. Since all our paper money is the same size a:

- dollar bill measures 2-1/2 inches by 6 inches
- credit cards are all about 2 inches by 3-1/2 inches
- a woman's size 8 shoe is approximately 10 inches
- and your hand span is about 7 inches when spread out.



# Stitch markers - look around and you might find:

- a paper clip
- soda can tab
- floss yarn tied in a knot and contrasting color
- small rubber band

# If you left the scissors behind - or they were taken when you went thru security a:

nail clipper or the cutting tool on your floss container.

The stitch holder might be more of a challenge but:

paper clip

clean straw

large safety pin

embroidery thread

double pointed needle

a necklace - but know the length using a dollar bill

I have added a new item to my bag of supplies: a

small magnifying class with a light. Found at a Dollar Store near me. I purchased a dozen and have been giving them out as token gifts to friends who are crafters. Other things that can be used for measuring is a large envelope (8-1/2 inches by 11 inches) available for the front desk of most hotels; pen or pencils come in handy (I once taught a group of men in a remote village in Israel using a sharpened pencil on both ends to do the bubble stitch); a sheet of paper is 8-1/2 inches by 11 inches (folded) has many uses. The magazine you brought along to read or has the pattern you were working from. Or you could sit back and relax.

The front desk of hotels/motels is a source for some of the items mentioned. If you are lucky a member of the staff might be a quilter, knitter or crocheter.

The coming week will be a test for me as I have organized a yarn crawl for my knitting group. We will be meeting in person celebrating that we are all vaccinated and meeting face to face. Looking forward to what's new in yarn and fabric that can be added to our stashes. We have a driver and a large van to carry home our purchases.

So wherever you are - enjoy summer with family and friends.

Esther Arlan. Nashua New Hampshire. U.S.A.



# What is in the handbag?

We all carry items in our handbags and tool boxes and here are a few I never leave home without:

Swiss knife: purchased years ago and a life saver. It has a scissors, file, tweezers, toothpick and pen. They are all the same size - 1-3/4" and the case is about 3 inches. A whistle which fits nicely in my bag and my newest item - the magnifier with a LED light that I purchased in the dollar store for the grand sum of \$1.00. Another tool that can be used to measure something is a pencil - a new pencil is about 7 inches in length. A golf pencil is about half that size.

If you have other tools that you carry in your quilt, knitting or crochet kit please let us know so we can add it to our travel kit or handbag.



Esther Arlan. Nashua New Hampshire. U.S.A.

I have several lovely quilt books I could give to an interested new member. Maybe other members might want to do the same.

Díane Krans



# Tooth Fairy Pillows

I've been making Tooth Fairy Pillows for the Houston Convention. I have ten so far and I'm also planning on making table runners. Over the past year I have completed several UFO's which makes me feel very productive. Happily, my small quilt group has started meeting in person again and it looks like we have all been working through our stashes.



Krístí Sutton, Poulsbo-North Kítsap Rotary Club, Poulsbo, WA USA

# Rainy Days quilt

This is officially called my Rainy Days Quilt. I cut, fused and created 42 blocks over a 3 day period. It's the Missouri Star Cactus Carnival pattern. Now I need to appliqué stitch all the pieces together, then sew blocks together, select borders and backing and have it long arm quilted.

Brenda Cressey. Paso Robles Rotary Club. Tempelton, Californía. U.S.A.



# Project Linus

I am sure you have all heard of Project Linus but for those of you who haven't I will tell you:

We are a non-profit organisation which provides blankets and quilts for children in need. For example when a child goes into hospital they are given a quilt and then they take it home with them. Our blankets and quilts are lovingly made by adults and children from all walks of life and many different sources.

Project Linus began in the US in 1995 when Karen Loucks saw a newspaper article showing how much comfort a blanket gave a child cancer victim, so she

decided to organise making blankets and quilts for her local children's cancer unit and she started spreading the word and it soon took off. Since that time several million blankets and quilts have been delivered worldwide.

The organisation began here in the UK in March 2000 as a result of a Birmingham quilter's desire to help



sick children. We now have a large network of volunteers across the UK who donate their time and skills to create beautiful quilts and blankets. All sizes, patterns and colours!

Our aim is to provide a sense of security and comfort to sick and traumatised babies, children and teenagers through the provision of new home-crafted patchwork quilts and knitted and crocheted blankets. This gives volunteers across the UK the opportunity to contribute to their local community, which is so satisfying.





Our area Co-ordinators deliver around 3,500 quilts and blankets to sick, disabled and disadvantaged children across the UK each month. We cannot reach out to every child in need but we do try to show that someone cares and provides the reassurance that comes with being snuggled up in a quilt made just for them that will not be taken away at the end of the day.

My group of just 7 lovely ladies has been running since 2011 and we have donated 2,296 quilts to Linus...just think of all that fabric!!! Lots of it donated to us. We supply our local hospitals, London hospitals as well as Young Carers, Foster Care, Sickle Cell Support and many more.

If you are interested in helping Linus just check their website in your local area and Country.

Helena Daniels. Fellowship Vice Chair. Cheam Rotary Club. Carshalton Beeches. UK

# Pet projects

I have several "pet projects" in which I normally start a social media page, introducing the issue, ask for volunteers and off we go. I have already told you about some of them but the last one is to make fidget blankets for the elderly and dementia patients. This is still a small project but I hope it will grow as there is very much need. The pictures show some of the blankets (they are about 40-50 cm each side). None of those are mine though, but a woman with a very bit heart. Sunna Reyr is her name and she lives in the Westfjords of Iceland.

#### vígdís Stefansdottír



www.rotariansquilt.org





https://www.shambelliehouse.org/

New member, Ann Hill, has shared a video of a quilt show: <u>Quilters of Shambellie 2019 Quilt</u> <u>Exhibition - YouTube</u>

Art Quilt Elements 2022 Exhibit Exhibitions - Art Quilt Elements

# My "sewing" room

Often, when I spend time with social media, I see room after room, filled with all kinds of sewing and knitting and other crafty material.

The rooms are in all shapes and sizes but share one common thing: the owner loves crafts of some or many kinds and has found a way to organize the vast amount of material, machines and what ever comes with it. Remember the phrase: "She who has most fabric/yarn when she dies, wins". Well, there you go!

I happen to live alone in a fairly small apartment, appr. 83 square meters. The bedroom is large and I shamelessly use half of it for my crafts. Well, really my crafts are all over the flat but I live in the dream that it is semi - organized! At least sometimes. Anyway, I love IKEA's ideas and some time ago I bought myself these wall-organizing thingies where I put all my sewing small things.

When one has too many interests, knitting, sewing, patchwork and crocheting...there comes the need for a space.

vígdís Stefansdottír, Rotary Reykjavík Grafarvogur, Iceland.



## Memories



What are memories made of? Different things - births, weddings, work, retirement - you name it and a memory will pop into your head. When we were "retired" from our professional careers we packed up our bags, a houseful of furniture and memories and moved to a small village in the Adirondacks. Plans were carefully designed - we would stay in Saranac Lake, keep the condo and travel. That did not happen - we stayed there for over 25

years and became part and parcel part of the community. We joined Rotary and a new world opened up to us. Along the way we looked at our "stuff" and put things into boxes that we just could not part with. Fast forward to our move to New Hampshire (to be near one of your kids) and there remained boxes of stuff I just could not part with.

Long story short about a year or so ago trying to think of a gift for my other half (Lionel) had become a challenge, after 66 years of marriage, as we no longer needed or wanted certain things that were part of a past life. So on Father's Day I did research on Men's Neckwear and presented Lionel with a replacement tie that he lost on one of our travels. Little did I know when I started that there would be lots of history behind ties. I copied all I could find and bound it into a booklet for him along with the tie. Fast forward again - while looking for



fabric with FLOWERS for another square I found a box marked "Lionel's Old Ties". I had saved them to make them into a guilt.

Truth be told I will not live long enough to do that project. But I dusted off the box, brought them upstairs and

The Dancers by Renoir - a favorite and a Rotary tie that is still in use. together we reminisced over where did I get this tie? Is it still in style? Why would I have even bought a tie like that? So

knowing that I just could not toss them out I sent out a message to our kids - we are getting rid of Dad's ties - Do you want any of them for memories? Immediately came text messages - yes - do not toss them until I can see them and pick out a couple. So here is what is going to happen to "those ties" I am going to pick out a couple for each of our children and then pick out ties to send to our grandchildren. If anyone of them wants to make a tie quilt or pillow they will get all of the ones in the box plus the dozens hanging on racks in the closet! Retirement means no ties needed.



The Duke of Windsor demonstrating how to knot the "the Windsor" knot



Small collection of Lionel's ties from 45 years ago. There are about 75 ties in a box.

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The history of ties goes back a few thousand years. The terracotta sculptures in China showed figures with ties. As an aside I worked in an exclusive tie shop as a teenager growing up in Philadelphia, PA

The History of Neckwear - from a simple scarf to an intricate ascot- a long story going back to 221 BCE. From a "cartwheel ruff" to the birth of the cravat. From Louis XIV's jabot (1701)to 1920s and the "modern" tie. From different ways to tie a knot to a bolo. All the "stuff" you need to know is on the internet. Wondering what gift to give - why not a tie!



Esther Arlan. Nashua New Hampshire. U.S.A

# The Un-picker story

In 2008, Mrs Lena Wiman from a small country town in Sweden, invented a unique method of removing all those threads that remain in the fabric after you have unpicker a seam. She found that a soft rubber type material would grab hold of those lose ends and pull them out on mass.

So she contact Sewgroup International the producer of Hemline, SewEasy and



Klasse' notions/haberdashery, and they then assisted her to develop the most ideal plastic material and shape, which after testing removed the loose threads quickly and easily. Today this magic material can be found on the end of a un-picker the world has come to know as a SeamFix.

Lena then took out a patent to protect her invention, US patent No.8,713,766 and commissioned Sewgroup to produce the un-picker and sell in in their range of sewing notions. Seamfix un-pickers immediately became a top selling item and these are now sold in some 30 countries with sales approaching one million !



Interestingly, her idea, also started a revolution in un-pickers and now you can buy un-pickers, double- ended, with a magnifying glass, or even with a light! The humble unpicked will never be the same thanks the Lena!

So the take-a-way from this story, is that if you have an idea on a new and better way of tackling a sewing or craft problem, best to share it with a trustworthy developer and see what comes out of it. You Tube Seamfix demonstrated: https://www.youtube.com/results? search\_guery=seamfix+seam+ripper

Tony Castley. Epping Rotary Club, PDG D9680. NSW Australia

# Quilt shows and festivals



In a normal year, there are abundance of quilt shows in the world. The larger ones draw huge crowd from all over and quite often people go every year, forming friendship along the way.

As I live in Iceland and usually travel around Europe, my quilt show is the Festival of Quilts, taking place in Birmingham, UK every year. I have been there numerous times and last year August was a bit empty, due to lack

of quilt shows. But, everywhere was the same and we all looked forward to 2021 when we could again meet in large halls, watching fabulous quilts and talking to friends.

Then round 4 or 5 or whatever started - the Delta variant which seems to be able to infect vaccinated people as well. All good intentions left and again, the Festival of Quilts will be out of my reach as I am not ready to either get infected or infect others.

For those of you that want to know more about the Festival, here is the link to the homepage:<u>https://www.thefestivalofquilts.co.uk</u>

vígdís Stefansdottír

Share ideas on facebook at Rotarian Fellowship of Quilters and Fiber Artists. Or send ideas for articles to:

liraymer@hotmail.com or viggastefans@gmail.com

We mourn the death of Jim Minshew, husband of our Chair, Cheryl Minshew. We think of her and their family during this time and will give her the time she needs as she grieves. Meanwhile, I know that she is pleased with the progress the fellowship has made in the last few months and looks forward to being back with us in time. She reports that she has received 20 floral squares and they were all of the right size. (Hopefully pictures of a working layout will be sent in the next few days.) Keep working on your projects for the Houston Convention and keep your loved ones close.

On behalf of the fellowship, Lynn Raymar



#### Jim's BBQ sauce

One year Jim decided to make up some for Christmas presents and wrote down the recipe. The directions read "Cook the shit out of it." For the memorial, Cheryl and her daughters made some of the sauce and jarred it and everyone who came to the memorial was given a small jar of the sauce. Some people wanted his recipe so the family got a website so anyone who wanted it could get it. To get the recipe go to <u>cooktheshit.com</u>"

# Work during confinement



This is what I did, while in confinement!

Yvette Maríe Yolande Rotary Club of Líbota de Brazzavílle, Brazzavílle, Republic of the Congo

# Ideas for fundraising

Could you please share ideas for things to make for fundraising? You can send them to either one of us: Lynn Raymer <u>liraymer@hotmail.com</u> or Vigdis Stefansdottir, <u>viggastefans@gmail.com</u>.

One idea I would like to put forward is to " sell" drain bags (for breast cancer patients) or some other similar items at conventions. The idea is to get the money

for bags without giving any bags to the person buying, but send them a picture of the bags we make. Then we would give the bags to nearest hospital or whomever is responsible to giving them out.



vígdís Stefansdottír

If you would like to hear what was said at the "Show and Tell" go our webpage or Facebook at: <u>www.rotariansquilt.com</u> or https://www.facebook.com/groups/293729047405186.

Our next zoom will be in September and we hope you will join us.



The RFQFA pin

The original pin was made for the Newsletter Banner. It now includes more than one type of arts, patchwork and knitting. The pin is available at conventions.



# General Zoom Meeting July 24, 2021

Thirty-two members attended the RFQFA General meeting on Zoom in July. Joining us were members from Australia, Canada, England, Iceland, Scotland, So. Africa, and the USA.

Vice President Helena Daniels opened and moderated the meeting. Secretary Diana Barden reported that our bank balance is \$8,318 US and that several members have been renewing their dues as Lifetime members (\$100 US). Annual members will be sent notice that their renewals (\$15 US) are due and can be paid by credit card on the RFQFA website <u>www.rotariansquilt.com</u>. Diana is also working on getting everyone a roster.

Director of Communications Lynn Raymer was happy to announce that Vigdis Stefansdottir from Reykjavik, Iceland, is going to help with our fellowship newsletter!

Members enjoyed a little "Sew and Tell" sharing their current projects and helping with techniques like Prairie Points. Rod Buffington from Springfield, Illinois USA, is a professional artist and has made quilt paintings for Rotary International Presidents. He has been featured in the Rotarian Magazine. He uses watercolors with bits of fabric in his whimsy geometric designs. His prints are sold with \$50 US of the profits going to TRF Polio fund.

New member Ann Hill from Scotland talked about the World Wide Whispers Quilt Project. Whispers is a collection of quilts from Scotland, Ireland, The Netherlands, USA and Canada. The collection is currently on tour in the USA and raises awareness about dementia. It will be in Philadelphia Pennsylvania September 16-19 and at the Pacific International Quilt Festival in Santa Clara Californian USA October 14-17.

President Cheryl Minshew is still collecting blocks for the spring/floral quilt. They are to be 10  $\frac{1}{2}$  unfinished. Please send to Cheryl by mid-August.



Díane Barden, Rotary Club of Madera

Blocks that have already arrived.





### BYLAWS OF THE ROTARIAN FELLOWSHIP OF QUILTERS AND FIBER ARTISTS

#### **ARTICLE I - NAME**

Section 1.1. The name of this Rotary Fellowship shall be the Rotarian Fellowship of Quilters and Fiber Artists, hereinafter known as "RFQFA"

#### **ARTICLE II - PURPOSE**

Section 2.1. The purpose of the RFQFA is to promote the sharing of ideas and new techniques for members who enjoy the use of fiber as an art form. It will also promote an appreciation of fiber arts in all cultures throughout our history.

The RFQFA will promote understanding and friendship with Rotarians, partners of Rotarians, Rotaractors, Inner Wheel and Peace Fellows worldwide who share a common interest in all forms of fiber art.

The RFQFA shall operate in compliance with Rotary International's policies for Rotary Fellowships, but it shall not be an agency of, or controlled by, Rotary International.

#### **ARTICLE III - MEMBERSHIP**

Section 3.1. Membership in the RFQFA is open to all Rotarians, partners of Rotarians, Rotaractors, Inner Wheel and Peace Fellows who have an interest in any form of fiber art.

Section 3.2. Types of Membership: There shall be two types of memberships:

Annual—Dues are paid yearly. Membership year begins July 1.

Lifetime—Dues are paid one time only and are valid for the lifetime of the member.

Dues amounts will be determined by the Board of Directors at the Annual Meeting and listed in the Policies and Procedures.

*Section 3.3* The Board of Directors, by affirmative vote of two-thirds, may suspend or terminate a membership for cause after an appropriate hearing.

#### **ARTICLE IV - OFFICERS**

*Section 4.1.* The RFQFA's officers are a Chair (must be an active Rotarian in good standing), Vice Chair, Secretary, and Treasurer. The terms of officers shall be two years and shall coincide with the Rotary year, July 1 through June 30.

#### **ARTICLE V - BOARD OF DIRECTORS**

The RFQFA will promote understanding and friendship with Rotarians, partners of Rotarians, Rotaractors, Inner Wheel and Peace Fellows worldwide who share a common interest in all forms of fiber art.

Section 5.1. The RFQFA shall be governed by a Board of Directors ("Board") including four officers and no more than five directors. The directors are Communications Director, Membership Director, Regional Director, Service Director and Director at Large. The number of directors shall be determined by the RFQFA. There are no requirements for the board members (other than the Chair) to be Rotarians.

Section 5.2. Terms for officers and directors are staggered every two years and are eligible for reelection when their term has expired or until a successor is elected. Terms shall commence on July 1 of the calendar year elected and end on June 30 of the terminal year.

**Proviso:** Current officers will remain as officers until the 2022 Rotary International Convention.

Section 5.3. The officers shall perform the duties and functions usually attached to the title of their respective office, together with such other duties as may be prescribed by the RFQFA's Board of Directors. Job duties shall be outlined in the Policies and Procedures.

### **ARTICLE VI - MEETINGS**

Section 6.1. An annual meeting of the members in good standing shall take place during the RI Convention each year, or elsewhere as determined by the RFQFA's Board of Directors. At this meeting, the installation of incoming directors and officers and other business shall take place. The exact date, time, and location of the annual meeting of the members shall be set by the Board of Directors and announced to the members at least 30 days prior to the meeting.

*Section 6.2.* An annual meeting of the incoming RFQFA's Board of Directors shall take place immediately following the annual meeting of the members.

Section 6.3. The membership shall meet a minimum of six times annually or at the discretion of the Board of Directors.

Section 6.4. The Board of Directors shall meet a minimum of six times annually or at the discretion of the Board of Directors.

Section 6.5. Quorum of members present at any meeting shall be 20 members.

Section 6.6 The Board can conduct business between meetings via electronic means. The vote will be ratified in the minutes at the next regularly-scheduled meeting.

### **ARTICLE VII - ELECTION OF DIRECTORS AND OFFICERS**

Section 7.1. A Nominating Committee shall be appointed by the RFQFA's Board of Directors and so indicated in a notice to the members. Notice sent by mail or transmitted via email to the last known address of the members shall be considered good and sufficient notice.

Nominating Committee shall receive nominations for expiring officer and director positions until a specified deadline, whereupon nominations shall be closed. The Nominating Committee may also offer its own nominees for election. All nominees must indicate their willingness to serve by a specified deadline to be considered valid nominees for election.

Section 7.2. The names of the nominees for officer and director positions shall be distributed electronically to the members at least 30 days prior to the annual meeting of the members.

Section 7.3. The slate of officers and directors shall be presented at the Annual Meeting. Further nominations can be made from the floor. If there is only one candidate per office, the vote may be taken by voice. If there is more than one nominee for a position, the vote will be taken by poll. The candidate with the most votes will be declared elected.

*Section 7.4*. Officers-elect of the RFQFA will serve as non-voting members of the Board of Directors until their term of office begins on the next July 1.

Section 7.5. A vacancy in the RFQFA's Board of Directors, or any office, shall be filled by appointment by the RFQFA Board of Directors.

Section 7.6. A director or officer may be removed from office for just cause by a two-thirds vote of the RFQFA's Board of Directors, or, by a two-thirds vote of the membership. An officer or director's right of a hearing to challenge the removal is detailed in the Policies and Procedures.

#### **ARTICLE VIII - COMMITTEES**

The RFQFA shall have standing committees as specified in the Policies and Procedures. The Board of Directors may appoint additional standing and special committees as needed to carry on the business of the RFQFA.

#### **ARTICLE IX - FISCAL MATTERS**

Section 9.1. The fiscal year of the RFQFA shall be the same as the Rotary year, July 1 through June 30.

Section 9.2. The RFQFA's dues shall be set by the Board of Directors and shall be due on July 1 of each year and payable in US dollars.

Section 9.3. Funds shall be deposited in a financial institution approved by the Board of Directors. The treasurer is in charge of the finances. All payments must be authorized by two officers as determined by the Board of Directors.

Section 9.4. Publication of the annual report of activities and financial statement reports will be presented annually to members and a copy is sent to RI as required each year.

#### **ARTICLE X - MEETINGS HELD ELECTRONICALLY**

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Except as otherwise provided in these bylaws, meetings of the board (and/or membership) can be conducted through use of internet meeting services, designated by the Chair (and/or board) that support visible displays identifying those participating, those seeking recognition to speak, showing (or permitting the retrieval of) the text of pending motions, allowing members to vote, and showing the results of votes.

#### **ARTICLE XI - COMPLIANCE WITH RI POLICIES**

Section 11.1. The RFQFA shall comply with Rotary International's policies for Rotary Fellowships, as set forth in the Rotary Code of Policies. The Rotary Fellowship's Board of Directors and Executive Officers shall familiarize themselves with these policies and any amendments to these policies as adopted by the RI Board of Directors from time to time.

Section 11.2 These bylaws shall be reviewed every three years.

Section 11.3. These bylaws may be amended as follows: Any member may propose a change to these bylaws by submitting the proposed change to the RFQFA Secretary. The Secretary will forward the proposed change to the members of the Board for their review. Within 30 days the Chair shall call a meeting of the Board to discuss and vote on the proposed change. If the change

is approved by the Board, the Secretary will send an electronic ballot listing each bylaw amendment, within ten days, to the membership. The members shall have ten days to return the ballot to the Secretary. An affirmative vote of two-thirds of the membership received is necessary to amend these bylaws. Amendments to these bylaws must be consistent with the RI Constitution, RI Bylaws and the Rotary Code of Policies.

### **ARTICLE XII - HARASSMENT-FREE ENVIRONMENT**

Section 12.1. The RFQFA is committed to maintaining an environment that is free of harassment. Harassment is broadly defined as any conduct, verbal or physical, that denigrates, insults or offends a person or group based on any characteristic (age, ethnicity, race, color, abilities, religion, socioeconomic status, culture, sex, sexual orientation or gender identity).

All members and individuals attending or participating in the RFQFA's meetings, events or activities should expect an environment free of harassment and shall help maintain an environment that promotes safety, courtesy, dignity, and respect to all. All allegations of criminal activity should be referred to appropriate local law enforcement authorities.

Section 12.2 The RFQFA shall promptly address allegations of harassment brought before it and shall not retaliate against those making the allegation. The Board, or a committee appointed by the Chair for this purpose, shall review and respond to each allegation of harassment within a reasonable timeframe, typically one month. If the Chair or other leaders of the RFQFA is/are the alleged offender, the immediate past chair (or most recent chair), directly or by appointment of a committee for this purpose, shall review and respond to the allegation. If the alleged offender is a member of the RFQFA's Board, he or she is expected to recuse himself or herself from the discussion. The review and/or investigation shall be dependent on the circumstances including the severity and pervasiveness of the behavior.

The RFQFA shall report allegations of harassment to the alleged offender's Rotary Club President and District Governor.

Section 12.3 The RFQFA shall protect the safety and wellbeing of all youth participating in its activities and comply with Rotary International's youth protection policies. Membership or affiliation shall not be granted to a person who is known to have engaged in sexual abuse or harassment or who is prohibited from being a member of a Rotary Club.

Bylaws Committee: Marilyn Raymer, Vicki Walter, Diana Barden, Cheryl Minshew, Helena Daniels, Esther Arlan, Rosemary Everett, Kathy Flamson and Sharon Cheadle

Adopted: May 22, 2021