

# ROTARY INTERNATIONAL

**Ray Klingensmith**  
*President, 2010–11*

Spouse: Judie



To: Rotarian Action Groups

Date: 10 November 2010

Re: New Guidelines

I am pleased to advise you that the RI board acted at its meeting last week to approve the new guidelines for Rotarian Action Groups. A copy of the board's decision, along with the new guidelines, is attached for your review.

The new guidelines are similar to the document sent to you for review and comments last month, and you will find that we were able to incorporate several of your suggestions in the revised draft that was presented to the board for consideration. I apologize for our lateness in submitting the information to you, and I appreciate your quickness in submitting your comments and suggestions.

Additional good news is the favorable response of the Trustees to the new guidelines, particularly the section calling for new methods of handling funds for your organizations. The RI directors met with the TRF trustees on Saturday morning, 30 October, and the new guidelines for RAGs were presented and discussed. Although the trustees did not take any form of vote to approve the new guidelines, several of them expressed support for the new approach.

The current RI directors have been committed from the outset to finding a solution for the disagreements which have plagued the relationship between the RI board and the RAGs for the past few years, and I hope we have now found a compromise solution that is acceptable to all parties.

As you will note in the new guidelines, your organizations will be given priority access to booths at the RI conventions, and I have verified that we can honor your priority status for this year's convention in New Orleans. Also of note, we are realigning the breakout sessions at this year's convention to fit within the three priorities of the RI strategic plan, and we will try to include several of you in the breakout groups under the Focus and Increase Humanitarian Service priority.

The general secretary will now prepare the requested policy revisions to reflect the new guidelines for the RI board to approve at its January meeting. In the interim, if you have any questions related to activities you wish to pursue that are currently prohibited, but may be allowed under the new proposal, -- or perhaps the reverse, -- I encourage you to contact Sharon Cyr and her staff for guidance by e-mail at [actiongroups@rotary.org](mailto:actiongroups@rotary.org) or by telephone at 847-866-3298.

One Rotary Center  
1560 Sherman Avenue  
Evanston, Illinois  
60201-3698 USA  
phone 847.866.3025  
fax 847.866.3390  
[www.rotary.org](http://www.rotary.org)