



Newsletter Volume 1- Fourth Edition

November 28th, 2016

Good Day to All,

This is the fourth edition of our Quarterly newsletter/updates, to and about each of our member organizations.

Alzheimer's/Dementia Rotarian Action Group - Provides information and support to Rotarians as they address dementia and Alzheimer's related issues in their local communities.

A/DRAG Officers

CHAIR: Dave Clifton, USA. diclifton@comcast.net (Member, Rotary Club of Sharon, MA.)

VICE CHAIR: Bill Shillito, USA dg07-08@rotary7670.org (Member, Rotary Club of Catawba Valley, NC) (Newly Elected)

SECRETARY: Greg Garofolo, USA. greg.garofolo@gmail.com (Member, Rotary E-Club of New England)

TREASURER: Delos Lander, USA. dlander@yourislandbank.com (Member, Rotary Club of Martha's Vineyard, MA)

Our Vision and Mission

We are Rotarians and Rotaractors that have extensive leadership experience around Alzheimer's including:

Patient, Family, and Community Education – including statewide and national programs

Patient Care – front line of care including physicians, providers, and family care givers

Prevention – including leading research in the field and large-scale program management

Research for a Cure – day-to-day access with leading researchers working on the treatment, research, and cure for Alzheimer’s and dementia

Strategic Partnerships and Expertise – collaboration with national and international organizations

Our Vision

To leverage our members’ extensive experience, resources and the Rotary network to support and promote Alzheimer’s and dementia-related projects of all sizes at the local Rotary, district, and international level through providing a global platform for collaboration, education, and support.

Our Mission

The Alzheimer’s / Dementia Rotarian Action Group (ADRAG) supports its vision by supporting Rotary and Rotaract clubs and districts as they plan and execute meaningful projects and programs centered on Alzheimer’s and dementia. This support will take many forms including the education of 1.2 million Rotarians and Rotary leaders on the latest scientific research in the fight to find a cure for Alzheimer’s

disease and about the disease's devastating impact on communities and families. ADRAG will also promote Rotary and Rotaract projects that work within Rotary International's Disease Prevention and Treatment [Area of Focus](#) among the communities Rotary serves in over 200 countries around the world.

Member Updates

From Member at Large:
Past Governor Dick Pratt

Bill—I understand that you had a chance to watch our recent TV program reflecting what our small club here on Martha's Vineyard has accomplished and continues to work on---A review of that show in the upcoming newsletter should interest and excite those fortunate enough to get the next issue--!!--- -As a reminder---For those who would like to see and enjoy the show---**Please follow these instructions for access -----Google MVTV.ORG---hit "review on demand"---in the box provided type in ROTARY and there you have it--!!--It's 36 minutes of GOOD Rotary stuff**— Any questions let me know
Dick Pratt

Dear Past Governor Dick,

I did indeed watch your programming. I recommend that all of our Readers take the opportunity to go to your broadcast site. They will enjoy the visit and learn ways to help get our "message" out to more Rotarians and "Not-Yet Rotarians". Thank you for sharing your message. A/DRAG Editor Bill

Rotarians Easing Problems of Dementia

<http://repod.org.uk>



Based in the United Kingdom, Rotarians Easing Problems of Dementia (REPOD) is a joint initiative between members of various Rotary Clubs who have recognized the need for increased support in the community for families affected by dementia.

A/DRAG, is receiving recognition from the highest levels of Rotarians in Britain and Ireland.

RIBI announced that Debbie Hodge of the Rotary Club of Ware in District 1260, has been elected President of Rotary in Great Britain & Ireland for Rotary year 2018/19.

Commenting on her election, Debbie said: “I am delighted and honoured to have the opportunity to serve as President in 2018/19, and will seek to share my enthusiasm for Rotary Service with our members and the wider community as we continue to put Service Above Self.”



Debbie Hodge of the Rotary Club of Ware Selected as RIBI President for Rotary Year 2018-19

Rotarian Dr. Geri Parlby reports:

Hi Dave and friends,
Back at the Lisbon convention in 2013 in the early days of A/DRAG, Rotarian Debbie Hodge from RIBI in the UK met with Mike Curren and asked to be kept in the loop so she could eventually become part of the RAG. Debbie will be RIBI national president in 2017/18 and dementia, social isolation is high on her list of projects and I now sit on her community service committee. She is keen to be re-connected with A/DRAG. Can I link her up with you Dave?

Best wishes

YIR

Geri

It is with much pleasure that we announce that the Chair of REPoD, Dr. Geri Parlby, has been awarded the 'Rotary International Service Above Self Award' for her outstanding contributions to the REPoD effort over the 6

years since its inception. We feel that all who know her will feel that this award was well deserved.

McCusker Alzheimer's Research Foundation

<http://alzheimers.com.au>



MCCUSKER
ALZHEIMER'S
RESEARCH FOUNDATION

The McCusker Alzheimer's Research Foundation is a not-for-profit organisation established in 2001 to enhance medical research into Alzheimer's disease in Western Australia.

The major research projects currently supported by the Foundation include:

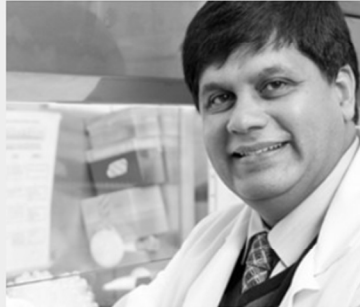
- Blood-Based Protein and Lipid Biomarkers for Diagnosis of Alzheimer Disease
- Programs investigating the role of genetics in Alzheimer's disease
- Developing agents that selectively target the enzyme responsible for beta amyloid generation
- The role of diet in the prevention of Alzheimer's Disease
- Identification and validation of peptide agents that neutralise beta amyloid toxicity
- Molecular and neuropsychological predictive markers of cognitive decline
- The role of testosterone in Alzheimer's Disease

If you would like further information about any of these projects, please [contact us](#)

MEET OUR TEAM



CEO
Dr Judy Edwards



DIRECTOR OF RESEARCH
Ralph Martins AO



DIRECTOR OF MEDICINE
A/Professor Roger Clarnette

Coins for Alzheimer's Research Trust (CART)



A Project of the Rotary Clubs of North America

The purpose of The CART Fund (Coins for Alzheimer's Research Trust) is to collect and provide dollars for leading edge research for the cure/prevention of Alzheimer's disease (AD). A project adopted and funded by currently 15 Rotary Districts and various Rotary Clubs in North America.

Rotary CART Year 2016-17 saw The CART Fund reach record levels of giving and more importantly Research Funding.

Five (5) Research Institutions as well as five incredibly talented Primary Researchers received funding at The CART Annual Board meeting in May of 2016. This is a record. The funding amount was a record number as well: \$600,000.

The primary (signature) method of raising funds is for Rotary Clubs who adopt the project to empty their pockets/purses of loose change at each weekly Rotary meeting. Then those Rotary Clubs Collect, Report and Remit the funds to their respective District CART Chairs.

19 Rotary Districts (representing over 1,000 Rotary Clubs) from Virginia to Florida now support The CART Fund. This is fueling our efforts to identify and fund cutting edge research. Each and every one of our Grant recipients report to us how critical The CART Fund is and was in advancing their research. Many of our grant recipients have gone on to attract significant grant funds from the NIH or major pharmaceutical firms.

[Do It Yourself Rotary Club CART Program \(25 min.\)](#)

Whether Coins for Alzheimer's Research Trust (CART) is new/just beginning in your club, or a long supported effort, here is a do-it-yourself, ready-to-go CART program.

- 1) Stream the made-for-TV episode: "[Remembering No More](#)" (22.5 minutes, free of commercial advertisements). After watching this program, please send feedback to execdir@cartfund.org.
- 2) Q&A using [Frequently Asked Questions](#) about CART.



Cure Alzheimer's Fund

<http://curealz.org>

Exciting Announcement: First of it kind.....



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**ROTARY AND CURE ALZHEIMER'S FUND CO-SPONSOR RESEARCH
FOCUSING ON WHY WOMEN GET ALZHEIMER'S MORE THAN MEN**

(CHICAGO, IL) – OCTOBER 11, 2016 – Rotary and Cure Alzheimer's Fund today announced an agreement to co-fund a new, groundbreaking research project to search for female-specific genetic and other factors contributing to women's risk for Alzheimer's disease. In total, the two organizations will provide a grant of \$375,000 for this critical research.

The total Alzheimer's patient population is now estimated at 5.6 million in the United States and over 45 million worldwide. Two thirds of those afflicted are women. In the United States, it is estimated that more than 3 million women over the age of 65 are suffering from the disease. A woman at 65 faces almost twice the risk of developing Alzheimer's disease in her lifetime as does a man of the same age and nearly three times at age 75. Yet, very little is known or understood about why women are at such a

higher risk. This research will investigate sex-linked and other factors that determine disease risk, age of onset, and rate of disease progression - critical information that can contribute to the pursuit of a cure for both sexes.

“Alzheimer’s disease is decimating one out of four families in the United States and is costing the government more than \$200 billion per year in medical costs. It must be stopped,” said Dee Lander of the Rotary Club of Martha’s Vineyard. “Cure Alzheimer’s Fund, with its extensive database of Alzheimer’s genetics and strong record of scientific achievement is well-suited to conduct this research.”

“As a Rotary Member who is passionate about the important research being done to move towards the prevention and reversal of Alzheimer’s, I could not be more pleased that the Cure Alzheimer’s Fund and The Rotary Foundation have come together to support this project,” said David Clifton, member of the Rotary Club of Sharon, MA and Chair of the Alzheimer’s/Dementia Rotary Action Group. “This cutting edge research will be vital in ensuring that we continue to see breakthroughs in the study of a complicated disease that affects so many people around the world.”

The research team will be headed by Rudy Tanzi, Ph.D., Chairman of the Cure Alzheimer’s Fund’s Research Consortium, Vice Chair of Neurology and Director of the Genetics and Aging Institute at Massachusetts General Hospital, and the Kennedy Chair at Harvard Medical School. He has been a leading researcher in the genetics of Alzheimer’s disease for over 30 years. He recently received the Smithsonian American Ingenuity Award for his contributions to Alzheimer’s research.

“We are delighted to collaborate with Rotary as we tackle one of the most difficult conundrums relating to the disease. Understanding the difference in response of women and men to the disease has been a subject which researchers have been reluctant to take on because of its complexity. The influence of the differences in the XX and XY chromosomes is one issue which has never been explored extensively. Another is the differences in the human biomes of men versus women, and then there are multiple potential causes due to hormonal and life cycle differences. These are all

issues we will be addressing in our research,” said Jeffrey Morby, Co-Chairman and Co-Founder of the Cure Alzheimer’s Fund.

The initiative for this project was begun by the Martha’s Vineyard Rotary Club, with the support of the Toronto Rotary Club. Rotary funding contribution to the project was provided by The Rotary Foundation, a non-profit Charity.

About Rotary: Rotary brings together a global network of volunteer leaders dedicated to tackling the world’s most pressing humanitarian challenges. Rotary connects 1.2 million members of more than 35,000 Rotary clubs in over 200 countries and geographical areas. Their work improves lives at both the local and international levels, from helping families in need in their own communities to working toward a polio-free world. Visit rotary.org to find out more about Rotary. Video and still images are available on the [Rotary Media Center](#).

About Cure Alzheimer’s Fund: Cure Alzheimer’s Fund is a non-profit dedicated to funding research with the most promise of preventing, slowing or reversing Alzheimer’s disease. Since its founding in 2004, Cure Alzheimer’s Fund has contributed over \$45 million to research, and its funded initiatives have been responsible for numerous breakthroughs and genetic discoveries. It supports one of the largest databases in the world of the genetics of Alzheimer’s disease. It has received a perfect 100% rating from the Charity Navigator organization. Visit CureAlz.org to learn more about Cure Alzheimer’s Fund.

From the Desk of A/DRAG Chairman and Past Governor David Clifton: Dear Rotarians and A/DRAG members, Happy Holidays and Happy New Year. It has been an exciting and busy year for all involved with A/DRAG.

I wish to point you to some upcoming exciting events:

Rotary International Convention June of 2017 in Atlanta.

A/DRAG applied for and received acceptance/approval from RI for a Breakout session. (More information soon). Location Time and Date (TBD)

A/DRAG applied for and is awaiting approval for a location in the House of Friendship. More information soon.

A/DRAG applied for a meeting room to conduct our Annual Board Meeting at the RI Convention Site. More information soon.

I am excited about the research funded by CAF and RI with matching funds. See the letter above.

Happy Holidays to all

Dave

From the Editor

It is my pleasure to be the editor for the Alzheimer's/ Dementia Rotarian Action Group Newsletter.

I encourage each and every one to send me your updates and input. Let me know what you would hope for me to highlight in our (The A/DRAG's) information-newsletter.

You may be aware that Rotary International now requires that we publish and distribute at least three newsletters per calendar year.

My plan is to publish this newsletter quarterly on this schedule: Feb (submissions to the editor for entry by January 30th). May (submissions

to editor by April 30th), August (submissions to the editor for entry by July 30th) and November (submissions to the editor by October 30th)

Newsletter by:

Bill Shillito



EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR: THE CART FUND

GOVERNOR 2007-2008

ROTARY CLUB OF CATAWBA VALLEY

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