



Rotary International President's Personal Representative Confirmed

DG Bernie is delighted to announce that Past World President Ron D. Burton has accepted the invitation to be this Year's President's Personal Representative at the District 9790 Conference, and will travel to Yarrawonga and Mulwala with wife Jetta, in March.



Ron and Jetta, are Paul Harris Fellows, Benefactors, Major Donors, and members of the Paul Harris, Bequest, and Arch C. Klumph Societies.

For several years, Ron has virtually dedicated his life to Rotary and is one of the most senior and influential people in the in the Rotary World. He has served as Rotary International President (2013-14), Rotary International Director (1998-2000), and Rotary International Foundation Vice Chair (2008-09) and Trustee (2006-10), He will assume the role of Rotary Foundation Chair (2018-19).

He attended the World Rotary Convention in Sydney, 2014, as Rotary International President and had this to say about his life in Rotary,

"I cannot even imagine how different my life would be, if I had not made the choice to put Rotary front and centre. I can't even count

the friends I wouldn't have made, the places I wouldn't have gone, the experiences I wouldn't have had. No matter how much I do for Rotary, no matter how hard I work now, I can never repay Rotary for how much it's done for me — for how much it's changed my life. I chose to engage Rotary — I set out to change lives — and the life I changed the most was my own"

Ron has said that while Rotary can't be everything to everybody, there are so many opportunities for each of us in Rotary today that you'd be hard pressed to find a Rotarian who couldn't find something they could really get behind. For him, it was The Rotary Foundation, and for someone else it might be water projects or literacy or Youth Exchange. It's that little bit of magic that's waiting for each one of us, and it's different for every Rotarian — the thing that makes your heart warm and makes you say to yourself: "Yes! This is why I'm in Rotary; this is why I'm a Rotarian." We've learned that the higher we aim in our Rotary service, the more we can achieve.

Ron D. Burton retired as president of the University of Oklahoma Foundation Inc. in 2007. He is a member of the U.S. Supreme Court Bar, the Oklahoma Bar Association, and the Cleveland County Bar Association. He is also a member of the American Bar Association, the ABA Section of Taxation Exempt Organizations Committee, and the ABA Section of Real Property, Probate, and Trust Committee on Charitable Organizations. A Rotarian since 1979, Burton has served RI as director, president's aide, RI president's representative, committee and task force member, Rotary information counsellor, zone trainer, International Assembly group discussion leader and moderator, Council on Legislation representative, and district governor. His extensive service to The Rotary Foundation includes vice chair and member of the Foundation Trustees, vice chair of the Future Vision.