In Memoriam: George Stephen Crane

Rotarian Malaria Partners has suffered the profound loss of its Director for Strategic Engagement, Steve Crane. Steve was a dear friend to many RMP board members and a super-active member of the Rotary Club of Seattle for 11 years. He passed away unexpectedly June 27th, in his sleep at the age of 77.

Steve was known for his tireless dedication to the eradication of polio and malaria. His impact on RMP was huge and we will be challenged to fill his shoes. Steve Crane was born September 18, 1941 in New Jersey, grew up in Cincinnati, Ohio and attended Princeton University. He transferred to and graduated from Stanford University, before attending graduate school at Johns Hopkins University. His business career included increasingly responsible positions at National Cash Register, Weyerhaeuser, Continental Can, American Field Service and the administration of Washington State Governor John Spellman. Before joining RMP, Steve worked with small and large international nonprofits and foundations through his consulting company, Crane International.

A multi-sport athlete in his youth, Steve was stricken by polio at age 13. Though told he might never walk again, Steve demonstrated his trademark grit and determination by joining the Princeton swim team, hiking, sailing, and traveling the world. Later in life, when post polio syndrome confined him mostly to a wheelchair, he still maintained that high activity level. Steve traveled to Washington D.C. several times to advocate at the U.S. Congress for continued polio eradication budget support. Past Seattle 4 president, Ralph Munro, said that on these trips Steve was still going strong after long, exhausting days of meetings. His big smile and booming laugh were engaging and endearing to everyone he met.

In difficult circumstances, Steve was indomitable. On an Ezra Teshome (RMP Board member) led polio immunization trip to Ethiopia, he endured the difficulties of non-ADA hotels and the long trip to a rural immunization site where his reward was placing vaccine drops in the mouths of children. In Dacca, Bangladesh Steve overcame the obstacles of narrow alleys and rocky paths to join the joyous dedication of a new water system. He never held back, he never complained.

For his polio work, Steve was recognized as a Global Citizen at the 2014 Global Citizen Festival in Central Park, New York. He also received the District Service Award for a Polio Free World. Steve leaves behind his daughters Elizabeth Fleming (husband Paul), Sarah Crane ( fiancé Avery Swanson), son Paul (wife Katie), brothers Robert and Bradford, and granddaughters Frances and Charlotte Fleming.

Notes of condolence can be sent to “Sarah Crane” scrane1@nd.edu.
Rotarian Malaria Partners (RMP) is a non-profit organization run by Rotarians and NGO leaders. We focus on Advocacy within the Rotary community and on field projects in the areas where malaria is most prevalent. RMP works in close alignment with national malaria control programs in endemic countries, and has established two chapter organizations in Zambia (RMPZ) and Uganda (RMPU).

RMP’s efforts, in concert with our strategic partners, can reduce malaria morbidity and mortality, and meet the World Health Organization’s (WHO) criteria for national or sub-national pre-elimination.

**Advocacy**

We advocate for support of Malaria elimination through presentations at numerous Rotary clubs throughout the U.S. and Africa.

In addition, we participated in numerous international Malaria advocacy events in 2018/2019 to bring forth visibility and funds for malaria prevention and treatment.

**December, 2018**

Katakwi Malaria Control Project Phase Two Official Audit by strategic partners
RMP Treasurer, Jeff Pritchard, joined representatives from partner organizations the Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation, the President’s Malaria Initiative and Pilgrim Africa, in joint meetings and review of the ongoing malaria elimination project in Katakwi District, Uganda.

**January, 2019**

Rotary International Assembly
Presentation by District 5030 Governor Elect, Bill McElroy, on RMP’s work at the Rotary International Assembly attended by worldwide Rotary District Governors Elect.

The Alliance for Malaria Prevention (AMP)
RMP Ambassador, Jim Moore, represented RMP at the AMP meeting in Geneva. This year’s theme was “Reaching the WHO Global Technical Strategy 2030 Targets: Threats, Opportunities”

**February, 2019**

Rotary President Elect Training for the Pacific Northwest
RMP attended the Pacific Northwest PETS (President Elect Training) with a booth to introduce RMP projects.

**Oklahoma Large Club Presentation**

RMP Ambassadors Nancy Osborne and Dr. Bill Hammond presented to the world’s largest Rotary club.

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**About**

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The Gambia/Senegal

RMP’s small grant program, supplemented by the generous commitment of Normal RC/Chicago Rotary Club provided support for a project initiated by Banjul (The Gambia) Rotary Club member, Dr. Emma Bruce, regarding support for anti-malaria projects in her 10 country district, providing public education support for the national LLITN (insecticide treated bednet) distribution program planned for May 2019. Banjul Rotarians mobilized the country’s First Lady, Vice President and Minister of Health in support of their project.

Dr. Bruce carried the elimination message to TV and radio. Rotarians and Rotaractors were trained in the message “Zero Malaria Starts with Me” and carried it into rural villages where LLITNs were being distributed.

Arua Rotary Club

With the support of an RMP small grant the Rotary Club of Arua in partnership with Kulua hospital, increased support for malaria prevention education in border area with high malaria transmission. The project consisted of procurement of 300 Long-Lasting Insecticide treated mosquito nets and 2,000 anti-malarial doses. In addition the project supported advocacy efforts through Procurement of 15 bicycles by Kulua Hospital and 50 malaria-branded t-shirts by Arua Rotarians.

Katakwi Uganda Phase I

Global Grant, Soroti Central Rotary Club, D9211 and D5030;

Treatment, IRS, surveillance, with 83% reduction in malaria

May, 2019

Districts 5030/5080 joint Rotary Conference, Spokane, Washington
RMP held a special breakout session with presentation by Board member, Frank Boosman.

Bill Gates joined the stage as keynote presenter on Rotary polio efforts and the opportunity to use the established polio infrastructure to address malaria elimination in future

June, 2019

Rotary International Convention, Hamburg, Germany
RMP Board Members joined with RMP Zambia and RMP Uganda Board Members from 170 countries in Hamburg, Germany to attend the 110th Rotary International Convention.

RMP hosted a reception for partner Rotary organizations, and staffed a booth in the House of Friendship that provided exposure for Rotarians Against Malaria (Australia).

July, 2019

Malaria Gordon Research Conference
RMP provided sponsorship and Board Member, Frank Boosman, attended the conference focused on “Translational Malaria Research in Patients and Populations”.

PROJECTS

We are passionate Rotarians, dedicated to major projects in endemic malaria zones that are intended to be scalable and sustainable in the reduction of malaria morbidity and mortality.

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Katakwi Rotary Malaria Control Project, Phase II, Global Grant

In Phase Two, 210 community-based Village Health Team workers (VHT’s) will move from household to household on a weekly basis, rapidly detecting and preventing any new malaria infections as they arise to drive prevalence to zero. Over 26 U.S. and Ugandan clubs support this ongoing Global Grant.

Copperbelt Zambia Malaria Elimination Project, Phase I

In close coordination with the National Malaria Elimination Centre (NMEC) and its objective of eliminating malaria by 2021, RMP and RMPZ participating clubs are launching a series of projects in the Copperbelt Province to train and equip Community and Health Care Workers (CHWs) to detect, treat and prevent malaria.

Phase I is a Rotary Global Grant and will train 301 CHWs from the districts of Masaiti and Mpongwe utilizing the NMEC’s training curriculum. The first of eight CHW training sessions began July 8, 2019 with nationally certified facilitators working closely with the host Rotary Club of Ndola Mukuba and the district health offices (DHOs). The Rotary Club of Federal Way, Washington, is the International Partner.

After their training session is complete, the CHWs receive medical supplies, cell phones and bicycles. The cell phones allow them to report regularly to the DHOs and the bicycles improve mobility to serve their communities. The last training session will be completed in early November 2019.

Copperbelt Zambia Elimination, Phase II

Now in the design mode, Phase II will be a $1.2 million Global Grant project that equips, trains and deploys approximately 1,100 Community Health Workers (CHW) in four districts of the Copperbelt Province. It will follow the same project structure as Phase I with RMPZ clubs working with facilitators and the Chililabombwe District Health office.

Phase II should initiate training sessions in the fourth quarter of 2019.

Copperbelt Zambia Elimination, Phase IA

Phase IA will be a Rotary Global Grant to train and equip 200 CHWs in the Chililabombwe District of the Copperbelt Province. It will follow the same project structure as Phase I with RMPZ clubs working with facilitators and the Chililabombwe District Health office. RC Kitwe will be the host club and the Rotary Club of Aspen, Colorado will be the International Partner for this Global Grant.

Phase IA should initiate training sessions in the fourth quarter of 2019.

Last year we provided malaria interventions to 8,000 families and 48,000 people in Uganda.
ORGANIZATIONAL PARTNERS

We highly value our strategic partnerships.

RMP has formed strong, collaborative partnerships with National, Regional and Provincial Health officials, PATH/MACEPA, The Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation, the Peace Corps, Unicef, the Alliance for Malaria Prevention (AMP), Pilgrim Africa, the USAID President’s Malaria Initiative (PMI) to Fight Malaria in East Africa and with Rotarian organizations: Rotarians Against Malaria (RAM), and Rotarians Eliminating Malaria - A Rotarian Action Group (REMaRAG).

ROTARIAN PARTNERS

Over 70 Districts and Clubs have partnered and contributed financially to RMP supported malaria projects, including on Rotary global grants:

**District 5030:**
- Ballard
- Bellevue
- Bellevue Breakfast
- Bellevue Sunrise
- Des Moines/Normandy Park
- Duvall
- Edmonds Daybreakers
- Emerald City
- Federal Way
- Fremont
- Kent
- Kirkland
- Lake Forest Park
- Lake Union
- Lynnwood
- Maple Valley
- Mercer Island
- Mill Creek
- Puget Sound
- Queen Anne
- Rotary Passport Club- QA
- Redmond
- Renton
- Sammamish
- Seattle 4
- Shoreline
- Southcenter
- University District
- Vashon
- West Seattle

**United States:**
- Aspen, CO
- Bar Harbor (MDI), ME
- Bambridge Island, WA
- Honolulu, HI
- Key Biscayne, FL
- Larcher Foryth, GA
- Long Beach, CA
- Mt. Vernon, WA
- Oakland 3, CA
- Parker, CO
- Portland, OR
- Normal, IL
- San Francisco 2, CA
- Tacoma 8, WA
- Washington, DC

**District 5450**
- District 5620
- District 6490
- District 7620
- District 9101

**Tanzania:**
- Bahari
- Bukoba
- Dar es Salaam
- Dar es Salaam N.
- Oyster Bay

**Uganda:**
- Nateete Kampala
- Soroti Central
- Arua
- Kisugu Victoria View
- Entebbe
- Jinja
- Masaka
- Gulu
- Kyotera
- Arcacia Sunset
- Nkumba

**Zambia:**
- Chipata
- Kalulushi
- Mansa
- Maluba
- Mufukira
- Ndola Mukuba
- Ndola Kafubu

**The Gambia**
- Banjul
RMP UGANDA (RMPU)

Uganda’s fight against malaria is gaining momentum as more and more stakeholders enter the fray. At the national level, the Ministry of Health recognizes that malaria intervention efforts must transition from control to elimination, and that advocacy is a critical but missing component.

Rotarian Malaria Partners Uganda plans to lead the advocacy charge by making full use of the amazing potential of Rotary International, and its brand, to leverage and rally support.

June 2019 Highlights

The legal registration of RMPU was completed in June, 2019, allowing the official setup of offices and board.

RMPU conducted a combined first board meeting and strategic planning workshop on the 19th and 20th of June. The workshop was facilitated by the Board Program lead Ossiya Solomon and had sessions facilitated by Dr. Jimmy Opigo, Program Manager for the Uganda National Malaria Control Department, and Mr. Philip Okello Apira, the Rollback Malaria (RBM) Private Sector Chair.

On the 22nd of June, on the invitation of the RMPU Board, and at the home of the outgoing District Governor Ken Mugisha (and RMPU board member), Dr. Opigo made an initial presentation to all country Rotary Presidents on the status of malaria in Uganda and the role of advocacy towards elimination of malaria.

Next Steps

RMPU has an aggressive set of actions as its next steps:

- Initiating discussion with the Uganda Parliamentary Forum of Malaria to determine common ground and pitch for a Rotary Mega fellowship with Parliamentarians.
- Initiating a national blood donation drive in partnership with National Malaria Control Division, Red Cross and National Blood Bank to increase available blood donations by 100% to 50,000 units, to cater for increased anemia cases resulting from the recent malaria upsurge.
- Coordinating through the Rotary District governor a mobilization of all in-country Rotary and Rotaract clubs to integrate malaria control in their Family health days.
- Mobilizing the general public through social media, public radio and TV on personal preventive measures to prevent and treat malaria.
Rotarian Malaria Partners Zambia (RMPZ) continued to broaden its membership in 2018-2019. Significantly the End Malaria Council of Zambia has asked RMPZ to join the Council. The End Malaria Council convenes senior level multi-sectoral stakeholders (businesses, health organizations and NGOs) to complement Zambia’s National Malaria Elimination Program.
2019 DONORS

Individuals

John Adams
Annette Baesel
Frank Boosman
Corinne Cavanaugh
Linda Cheever
Ken Colling
Raymond Connell
Steve Crane
Bo Darling
Charley Dickey
Jim Duncan
L. Robin Dubrin
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Foundations

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Kyrene Rotary Club Foundation
Normal Rotary Club Foundation

Corporation

Bloodworks Northwest