

# NEW ORLEANS





Steamboat rides along the mighty Mississippi



The legendary French Quarter



Cajun and Creole cuisine prepared by world-class chefs



The festive spirit of Mardi Gras



Lively music worthy of the birthplace of jazz



# JOIN US

Ray Klinginsmith and Judie RI President, 2010-11



## Let the Good Times Roll ... Again!

Rotary conventions are unique and special events, and I am pleased to invite Rotarians and their guests to attend the 2011 RI Convention in one of my favorite cities, New Orleans!

New Orleans is one of the most historic cities in the United States, yet it is also a modern metropolis with an outstanding convention center. New Orleans is back in full swing with more restaurants and bars than ever before, waiting to welcome you. The world-famous French Quarter has a Mardi Gras atmosphere all year long... Walk the streets and you will hear the hum — the beat — the rhythm — that is New Orleans. The birthplace of jazz! A city that has something for everyone.

New Orleans is truly a special place for me. It was the port where I boarded a Lykes Line freighter in 1961 to sail to South Africa as a Rotary Scholar to study at the University of Cape Town. When the ship sailed under the big bridge over the Mississippi River, I entered an exciting world of new continents, new cultures, and new countries. It was a trip that has lasted a lifetime!

Now the convention during my year as RI president will be held in the New Orleans convention center at the base of that big bridge under which I sailed as a Rotary Scholar. An astonishing coincidence! I look forward to celebrating my 50 years of active involvement in Rotary with Rotarians from around the world!

Rotarians are making the world a better place! So let's meet in New Orleans and celebrate what Rotarians do better than anyone else in the world:





# Celebrate the Rotary year

The RI Convention is not only an opportunity to celebrate a successful Rotary year, it's a chance to learn strategies that will help you become more effective in your Rotary service.

From inspirational plenary sessions to informative workshops to the House of Friendship, Rotary's annual international meeting offers unparalleled networking and fellowship opportunities:

- Learn about innovative humanitarian service projects
- Develop strategic partnerships with other clubs and districts
- Build lifelong friendships with Rotarians from around the world

# Rolling on the river

New Orleans, Louisiana, is a perfect setting for the fellowship and fun that is at the heart of a Rotary convention.

New Orleans offers a unique blend of sights and sounds, with traces of Spanish, French, and African influences, seasoned to perfection like a hearty jambalaya. New Orleans' music and art communities continue to flourish with constant innovation and improvisation. It's a city with soul, a place with a dynamic and inherently creative culture.

There's never been a better time to visit New Orleans.





Five years after Hurricane Katrina, the city is back with more hotels and restaurants than ever before. This vibrant community is a living testament to the spirit of overcoming adversity — and celebrating the good times along the way.

Admire the lacy ironwork balconies as you stroll through the French Quarter. Take a leisurely cruise on the Steamboat Natchez. Enjoy an impromptu street performance in Jackson Square with the St. Louis Cathedral for a backdrop. Climb aboard the historic St. Charles Streetcar to view antebellum homes in the lovely Garden District. Discover the many art museums and galleries now housed in the old Warehouse District.

Above all, enjoy yourself — and let the good times roll.

# Steps from the Riverwalk

The newly renovated New Orleans Ernest N. Morial Convention Center will be the site of the 2011 RI Convention, including all plenary sessions, breakout sessions, and the House of Friendship. This state-of-the-art facility overlooking the majestic Mississippi River is an easy walk from many downtown hotels.

The convention center is also just steps from the Riverwalk Marketplace, where you're sure to find the best gifts and tastes of New Orleans among the unique collection of 140 shops, eateries, and pushcarts. You can also catch a ride on the Riverfront Streetcar and enjoy the view of the parks and docks on your way to the historic French Market.

# In the company of friends

To help visiting Rotarians sample the best that New Orleans has to offer, the members of the Host Organization Committee have arranged a variety of ticketed events and excursions.

Get to know local Rotarians during the traditional Host Hospitality Night. Spend a leisurely afternoon listening to the Sounds of the South Concert, featuring Dixieland jazz, gospel, blues, and zydeco music.

Dive into an Evening of Fun, Food, Fellowship, & Fins at the Audubon Aquarium of the Americas. And be sure not to miss the French Quarter Dining Experience, where you'll be able to savor the world-class cuisine of the city's best restaurants.



# The Big Easy

You can complete all your registration forms online — it's safe, easy, and convenient. See the following pages for step-by-step instructions and contact information for all inquiries.

### Early registration

Take advantage of special preconvention pricing by registering early. Don't delay: The early registration deadline is Wednesday, **15 December 2010**.

#### First-timers

If this will be your first Rotary convention, be sure to attend one of the convention orientation meetings on Saturday, 21 May. Hosted by the International Fellowship of Rotarian Convention Goers, the session will give you insider tips for getting the most out of your convention experience.

### Visas and letters of invitation

Do you need a visa to enter the United States? Upon registration, RI will automatically send a letter of invitation to those who are residents of countries requiring a visa. RI processes all forms on a first-come, first-served basis, so please register by Wednesday, 15 December, and apply for your visa well in advance to allow adequate time to complete the visa application process.

#### **Hotel accommodations**

Rotary International, in conjunction with official convention housing provider Experient Inc., has reserved a block of rooms for Rotarian use during the New Orleans convention. This arrangement enables Rotarians to take advantage of special convention discounts and offers.

### **Expand your horizons**

You can add to your convention experience in many ways.

- Showcase your 2010-11 service project in the Club and District Projects Exhibition in the House of Friendship. For information, contact exhibitor@rotary.org.
- Organize a tour group from your club or district. For information, contact ri.registration@rotary.org.
- Organize your own event. Download the Unofficial Affiliate Events form at www.rotary.org/convention or request one from uae@rotary.org.
- Learn what goes on behind the scenes by volunteering as a sergeant-at-arms. Sign up when you register.
- Plan your family vacation around the convention. Day trips from New Orleans can include viewing historic sugar plantations along River Road,



touring an alligator farm, or even venturing (with a guide) into the Cajun bayou.

- Continue the work that Rotarians and others have done to rebuild New Orleans. Click on the Voluntourism link on the convention bureau website, www.neworleanscvb.com.
- Stay up-to-date on all convention news by subscribing to the convention newsletter through Member Access at www.rotary.org.









# How to register...



Here's a quick reference guide for the steps you need to take.

The convention registration process involves three different organizations: Rotary International for the convention and RI-ticketed events, the New Orleans Host Organization Committee for host-ticketed events, and Experient Inc. for hotel reservations for both individuals and groups.



# Before you register...

# Decide if you'll register with a group or as an individual

Your choice will affect how you register for the convention. You can register yourself and up to four guests online, but if you have a group of six or more, you'll need to submit a paper registration form. If you have a group of 25 or more, contact RI Registration Services (ri.registration@rotary.org) for information and instructions.

## Choose your travel dates

Check the preliminary schedule on the back page of this booklet and select the preconvention activities you wish to attend. It's best to determine your travel dates before you start the registration process.

QUICK TIP: For the most up-to-date schedule, go to www.rotary.org/convention.

# Make your reservations...

# Register for the convention and RI-ticketed events

Using Member Access at **www.rotary.org** to complete your registration online is convenient and secure. Within two business days, you'll receive an e-mail acknowledgment with your registration number; and within a week afterward you'll receive your registration confirmation.

If you are a citizen of a country in the U.S. Visa Waiver Program, you must apply for entry authorization online at **https://esta.cbp.dhs.gov** at least one week before departure for the United States.

QUICK TIP: Find information on visa requirements and the Visa Waiver Program at travel.state.gov.





### Register for host-ticketed events

Local Rotarians on the Host
Organization Committee have arranged
several cultural excursions and host
hospitality events to help visiting
Rotarians enjoy their stay in New
Orleans. For details and to register for
host-ticketed events and tours, visit
www.rotarycon2011.com. Keep the
good times rolling and take a hostsponsored tour before or after the
convention.

QUICK TIP: E-mail your questions about host-ticketed events to hostevent2011info@gmail.com.

### Reserve your hotel room

To take advantage of reduced rates, reserve your hotel room through Experient Inc. Go to **registration**.experient-inc.com/ShowROT111 for hotel descriptions and to select your room. Reservations are taken on a first-come, first-served basis, so please book early to secure your preferred hotel. Booking for RI Convention housing begins Saturday, 19 June 2010.

QUICK TIP: E-mail your questions about hotel reservations to rotary@experient-inc.com, or call 1-800-650-6913 (toll-free in North America) or +1-847-996-5885.

# After you've registered...

### Make your travel arrangements

Discounts are available on select airlines for Rotarians traveling to New Orleans for the 2011 convention. Visit **www.rotary.org/convention** for information and discount codes.

Enjoy the 2011 RI Convention in New Orleans!

# **Questions:**

ri.registration@rotary.org +1-847-866-3495



# 2011 RI Convention Preliminary Program

# Thursday, 19 May

 $15:00\text{-}19:00 \qquad \text{Convention Registration/RI Ticket Sales}$ 

(includes preconvention registration)

TBD 2011 International RYLA

TBD Youth Exchange Officers Welcome

Reception

# Friday, 20 May

08:00-18:00 Convention Registration/RI Ticket Sales

 $(includes\ preconvention\ registration)$ 

TBD 2011 International RYLA

TBD Rotary Reunion

TBD Rotaract Preconvention Meeting

TBD Youth Exchange Officers Preconvention

Meeting

TBD Youth Exchange Officers Banquet

### Saturday, 21 May

08:00-18:00 Convention Registration/RI Ticket Sales

(includes preconvention registration)

TBD Rotary Reunion

TBD 2011 International RYLA

TBD Rotaract Preconvention Meeting

TBD Youth Exchange Officers Preconvention

Meeting

10:00-11:00 Orientation for First-Time Convention

Attendees

10:00-18:00 House of Friendship

 $13:00\hbox{-}14:00 \qquad \hbox{House of Friendship Grand Opening}$ 

14:30-16:30 Sounds of the South Concert

(host-ticketed event)

 $16:30\hbox{--}17:30 \qquad \hbox{Orientation for First-Time Convention}$ 

Attendees

18:30-21:30 An Evening of Fun, Food, Fellowship,

& Fins at the Audubon Aquarium of the

Americas (host-ticketed event)



## ROTARY INTERNATIONAL®

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#### 996-EN-(510)

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### Sunday, 22 May

08:00-18:00	Convention
	Registration/
	RI Ticket Sales
09:00-17:00	House of Friendship
09:30-10:30	Interfaith Service

11:30-12:00 Preplenary Entertainment 12:00-14:30 Opening Plenary Session

(first seating)

16:00-16:30 Preplenary Entertainment

16:30-19:00 Opening Plenary Session (second seating)

### Monday, 23 May

08:00-18:00	Convention Registration/RI Ticket Sales
09:00-18:00	House of Friendship
09:00-09:30	Preplenary Entertainment
09:30-11:45	Plenary Session 2
12:00-13:30	President's Recognition Luncheon
	(RI-ticketed event)
13:45-15:15	Breakout Sessions
15:45-17:15	Breakout Sessions
16:00-21:00	Host Hospitality Night
	(host ticketed event)

# Tuesday, 24 May

08:00-18:00	Convention Registration/RI Ticket Sales
09:00-18:00	House of Friendship
09:00-09:30	Preplenary Entertainment
09:30-11:45	Plenary Session 3
12:00-13:30	President-elect's Leadership Luncheon
	(RI-ticketed event)
13:45-15:15	Breakout Sessions
15:45-17:15	Breakout Sessions
TBD	French Quarter Dining Experience

(host-ticketed event)

### Wednesday, 25 May

	3.
08:00-16:00	Convention Registration/RI Ticket Sales
09:00-16:00	House of Friendship
09:00-09:30	Preplenary Entertainment
09:30-12:00	Plenary Session 4
12:15-13:45	On to Bangkok Luncheon (RI-ticketed event)
12:30-15:00	Convention Bidding Workshop
14:00-15:30	Breakout Sessions
16:00-18:30	Closing Plenary Session

The convention schedule was current at publication but is subject to change. See **www.rotary.org/convention** for the most up-to-date information.

