

**Rotary International Convention - Attendance Grant Report to District 5160**  
**Carolyn Briody, Mt. Shasta Rotary**  
**June 22, 2022**

**Seeing the World Through the Eyes of a New Rotarian**

Having just returned from Houston, Texas and my first Rotary International Convention, I would like to summarize my experience and impressions.

First, there are a lot of Rotarians in this world, approximately 1.4 million! And although “only” 11,000 or so attended this year’s convention, it was very impressive to see men and women of all ages, many wearing traditional clothing from their country, a Rotary name tag with their country of origin around their neck, and always a smile to greet you.



The Convention consisted of a daily General Session with seating for the 11,000 attendees and big screens set up to be able to see and hear esteemed Rotary speakers from anywhere in the Convention Hall. Then there were the break-out sessions every afternoon where specific projects were presented and shared in depth.

My favorite part, however, was the House of Friendship where booths were set up by Rotarians from around the world, some as Rotary Action Groups and some as Rotary Fellowships. Here you could talk in depth and ask questions one-on-one with Rotarians who are actually working on or with a specific project. This is where the best part of Rotary speaks to me personally... individuals who believe in and are excited about what they are doing to help others around the world.



I learned so much about Rotary and global projects! Most meaningful were the personal connections made with people from around the world. A few highlights: I sat down with a couple from India who are setting up rural mobile units for breast cancer screening.

I talked in-depth to a couple from Zambia as part of the Desmond Tutu lap desk campaign with a goal of 20 million portable desks for 20 million rural African school children.



I talked at length to a Rotarian from Uganda trying to acquire used hospital equipment. AND I made some new friends in our district!



There are so many possibilities to help the world through Rotary, and I am excited to be learning more about them, with a goal of participation for myself and my local Rotary club and district.



**Attendance dates: June 3-8, 2022 Summary of eligible expenses**

International Convention Registration	675
5 nights lodging in Houston	663
Airline flights	737
Ground transportation	102
District Social	50
Miscellaneous food	50
<b>Total</b>	<b>2277</b>