



PEACE PIPE PROPOSAL
ROTARY HISTORY COMING ALIVE

www.peace-pipe-proposal.com

Anthony Conn

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April 25, 2019

Juan Jose Martin Lopez
Rotary Club of Sevilla
Sevilla, Spain

Dear Rotarian Jose,

I send you greetings from the Rotary Club of Keokuk, Iowa (USA). You receive this letter some eighty-eight years after Keokuk Rotarian William Jewett Fulton sent out a similar letter, a letter sent in hopes of averting a repeat of the "Great War." RC Sevilla received Rtn. Fulton's letter, read it to your members, and then replied to RC Keokuk. Let me give you a brief history of this project.....

The 1931 Rotary International Convention was held in Vienna, Austria. Rotarians attending this Convention were well aware of the many unresolved issues left after World War I. This concern is reflected in numerous presentations given at plenary sessions. These influential men were discussing what they can do, as Rotarians, to help resolve growing nationalism, expanding militaries, and economic hardships consuming the world.

Rtn. Fulton and his wife traveled to Vienna to attend the convention, then stayed over and toured Europe the months following. He visited many Rotary clubs during that stay where he made friends, but also witnessed the economic, social, and political tensions growing in Europe. When he returned to Keokuk, Fulton decided to send letters to all non-English speaking clubs world-wide, as well as the oldest club in English speaking countries, promoting the (then) sixth object of Rotary.

Rtn. Fulton's letter (attached below) attempted to open the lines of communications amongst Rotary clubs in the hope of averting future conflict. Unfortunately, his work met a much larger force and did not succeed. In the 500 letters sent out, Fulton asked for replies from each club. Most clubs were polite thank-you's and warm wishes for a happy new year. Others, mainly from the European continent, reflect the growing tension and desperation which was coming to a head. Three years ago, I uncovered the long-forgotten letters. Also attached is RC Sevilla's reply.

After many presentations and talks on this impressive project, I met up with a German-American history professor from Northfield, Minnesota, Dr. Yogi Reppmann (www.moin-moin.us). Yogi is a Rotarian, native to Flensburg, Germany, located about 90 miles from Hamburg. With Yogi's leadership and

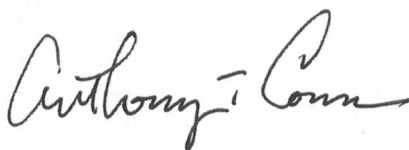
knowledge, we have assembled and impressive publication, the entire collection of letters (1931-32) from 198 world-wide Rotary clubs. Our book has an introduction by Dr. Henry Kissinger. and comments from Carol Kahn Strauss. It will be released June 2 during the convention. You will be impressed at the quality of this book!

During this coming RI Convention, on June 2, 2019, we are holding a reception in Flensburg for those clubs who replied to Rtn. Fulton's letter, promoting goodwill and peace, plus any other Rotarians interested in this project. An invite to this event is attached. We planned this event to be minimally intrusive on scheduled convention events. It does conflict with the second seating of the opening ceremony. I am willing to bet, however, that Flensburg will be far more memorable.

If you have a member of RC Sevilla attending the Hamburg Convention, I ask that you please accept our invite, and be a guest of honor, as one of the Peace Pipe Letters clubs. At our reception, we will introduce our new book, The Peace Pipe Letters, and discuss what we can do at a grassroots level to promote international understanding and world peace. This discussion and fellowship will continue for years to come!

Please RSVP to the email address below, include total number and names of guests in your party. We look forward to meeting you in Hamburg.

Yours in Rotary,



Anthony T. Conn
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Attachments:

Fulton Letter to RC Paris (1931)
RC Sevilla reply
Paul Harris letter
Invite to Flensburg



KEOKUK ROTARY CLUB

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W. J. FULTON
G. L. WEISENBURGER

KEOKUK, IOWA, U. S. A.

December 10, 1931.

Chas. Blum, President,
Paris Rotary Club,
Paris, France.

Dear Rotarian Blum:

We send you greetings from the Rotary Club of
Keokuk, Iowa, U. S. A.

As the city of Keokuk was named for the friendly
chief of the Sac and Fox tribes of American Indians, who many
years ago had their camp here, and as it is located in Iowa,
a state with an Indian name, we feel that it is particularly
fitting that we recall to your memory the Indian ceremonial--
the smoking of the Pipe of Peace.

The Peace Pipe, which is pictured with Chief Keokuk
above, was smoked on all ceremonial occasions by the Indians,
especially on the making of treaties of peace. It was always
offered as the supreme proof of hospitality of an Indian Tribe
to distinguished strangers who visited their camp.

Today one of our members presented the flag of France
to our Club, and told us of the growth and extent of Rotary in
your country. Your flag was placed in a standard together with
flags of other Rotary nations, as a symbol of our regard and
affection for our Rotary neighbors beyond our borders and across
the seas. Following the old Indian custom, we invite the Rotary
Club of Paris to smoke the Pipe of Peace with us in spirit, as
our expression of international good will and fellowship.

We would be most happy to receive a reply from you,
as it is our sincere desire to establish and perpetuate Rotary
contacts and friendships outside of our country.

Sincerely and Rotarily yours,
KEOKUK ROTARY CLUB

W. J. Fulton
Chairman

International Service Committee.

WJF/W

Back to cards

ROTARY CLUB DE SEVILLA

PRESIDENTE:

Paulino J. Herrero.

SECRETARIO:

Eduardo Muñoz Chápuli.

MIEMBRO DEL



Club número 2625

Fundado en Junio 1927

REUNIONES SEMANALES:

Miércoles: 13, 30.
Hotel Inglaterra.

SEVILLA 20 de Diciembre 1931.
(ESPAÑA)

Dirijan toda la correspondencia al apartado de correos n.º 238.

Mr. W.J. Fulton...-Vocal del Comité de Servicio Internacional.
Rotary Club.-Keokuk, Iowa. U.S.A.

Mi estimado compañero rotario:

Correspondemos a la amable carta que en nombre de su Club, nos dirige con fecha 3 del corriente.

La alusión a la vieja costumbre india de fumar la Pipa de Paz fué calurosamente elogiada por todos los presentes a la reunión en que se leyó, y seguidamente, en la imposibilidad de proceder de otra manera, fumamos todos un cigarrillo con el pensamiento puesto en nuestros hermanos de Keokuk.

A falta de otra costumbre tradicional de esta localidad, levantamos en alto las "cañas" (vasos) llenas de dorada manzanilla (vino clásico andaluz), brindando por la prosperidad y buena amistad de todos los habitantes de Keokuk y muy especialmente de los pertenecientes a su Rotary Club.

Por correo separado, nos permitimos enviarles unos folletos relativos a los monumentos artísticos de Sevilla, para que se hagan una idea de las bellezas que encierra, y en el orden comercial nos ponemos a su disposición para facilitarles informes sobre el desarrollo de sus variadas y numerosas industrias.

En nombre del Club, le envía y ruega transmita a todo el suyo, un sincero y afectuoso saludo

Paulino J. Herrero.
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"HE PROFITS MOST
WHO SERVES BEST"

OFFICE OF PRESIDENT EMERITUS

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TREASURER
RUFUS F. CHAPIN
CHICAGO, ILLINOIS, U. S. A.

Chicago, 16 December, 1931

Mr. W. J. Fulton
Chairman, International Service Committee
Rotary Club of Keokuk
Keokuk, Iowa

My dear Jewett:

I have at hand your letter of December 10th, enclosing copy of the letter to Dir. Gino Nessi.

I think that it was Theodore Roosevelt who said that in the final analysis, the heart rules the affairs of men. Certainly the most valuable things of life are the so-called sentiments of life. The sentiment you have expressed is very beautiful indeed, and also quite in point. I wonder if your ingenuity could not devise some way of extending your practice, first, from your club to more clubs abroad, and perhaps, eventually, from other clubs on this side to those clubs overseas? It is certainly a very nice gesture, and I thank you for the privilege of reading your correspondence.

Very sincerely yours,

Paul Harris
adm

Paul



ROTARIANS!!!



An invitation to all Rotarians to join the Peace Pipe Letter Initiative



PEACE PIPE PROPOSAL ROTARY HISTORY COMING ALIVE

Help advance the cause of world peace and understanding by learning more about the Peace Pipe Letters of 1931-32 and 2019. Back in the early 1930s, with nationalism and ideologies that violated human dignity on the rise, RC Keokuk, Iowa, extended their collective hands to their Rotarian friends around the world in a series of 496 "Peace Pipe Letters." Eighty-eight years later, RC Keokuk members are repeating this long forgotten and beautiful gesture with a current crop of peace pipe letters epitomizing international friendship and understanding. Learn how you, too, can be part of this worldwide Rotarian Peace Pipe Letter Initiative.

WHEN: 1 p.m., Sunday June 2, 2019.

WHERE: Main entrance of the Hamburg Convention Center (Bischoffs-Reisen bus).

VIA: An eighty-five-mile bus ride to Flensburg on the *Autobahn*, crossing the famous Kiel Canal.

YOUR HOSTS: RC Flensburg.



EVENTS: See the back of this page!

Contact info

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Dr. Joachim (Yogi) Reppmann • yogireppmann@gmail.com • +1507.581.6734 • www.moin-moin.us

2019 Peace Pipe Letter Initiative Itinerary

- 1 p.m.: We'll board a Bischoff-Reisen tour bus (1) at the main entrance to the Hamburg Convention Center (2). The bus will take us north on the *Autobahn* to Flensburg on the German-Danish border.
- 2 p.m.: Champagne reception with the delectable *Krabbenbrötchen* (baby shrimp) hosted by Flensburg *Stadtpräsident* Hannu Fuhrig (3) at the *Museumswerft Flensburg* (4).
- A short walking tour of Flensburg, including the picturesque Oluf-Samson-Gang, the former Red Light District or "sinning mile" patronized by sailors (5); the *Duborg-Skolen* (6), a school operated by members of the Danish minority; the wonderful and bustling *Große Straße* (7); *Sankt-Marien-Kirche* (8), a beautiful four-century-old church in the heart of old Flensburg, where you might hear the lovely strains of the *Flensburger Bach-Chor* wafting out into the *Nordermarkt*, which is anchored by the renovated Rococo fountain, the *Neptunbrunnen* (9); the enduringly popular *Gaststätte Porticus* (10), a classic restaurant-pub that Flensburg locals assure hasn't changed at all for decades; and finally, ending our walking tour at the tip of the *Flensburger Förde* (11).
- We'll then enter a tour bus that will take us north along the fjord to the summer castle of the Danish queen (Grästen Palace) (12). Along the way, we'll learn a great deal from Danish historian Jan Jessen, who will shed light on Flensburg's Danish minority, and from historian Yogi Reppmann, who will explain how and why his hometown of Flensburg became the capital of Nazi Germany after Hitler's suicide. The wonderful sights and interesting historical presentations will undoubtedly make us hungry, so we'll stop at the world-famous Annies kiosk (13), located in the tiny Danish village of Sønderhav for some of their famous flavored frankfurters with all the trimmings.
- 6-9 p.m.: The day's festivities will conclude with a sure-to-be memorable party at *Moltkestraße 6* (14) the home of Yogi and Gini Reppmann. During the party, the book *Die Peace-Pipe-Briefe, 1931/2 & 2019 — Letters from Friends* (15) will be formally introduced. If you've never experienced the Reppmanns' hospitality, you're in for a big treat, with many new transatlantic friendships sure to be formed.
- 9-11 p.m.: Return to Hamburg.

