



The Rotary D7600 Alumni Association is hosting a series of Alumni Road Trips during the 2016-2017 year. One of those road trips included a **Day of Rotary** for Alumni Saturday, September 24, 2016, at the 7600 District Conference in Newport News, VA.

Our Day of Rotary consisted of two 'Igniting Conversations with Alumni' breakouts, the Alumni Association Speakers Bureau, lunch and our third annual Induction Ceremony and Reception. The first Conversation was stream lived on the District's Facebook page and featured Ken Hodges (International project, Bridges to Prosperity), Elisa Bennett (GSE team member to Brazil) and Kristi Hunter (Ambassadorial Scholar in Edinburg, Ireland). Alumni Association President Clenise Platt (GSE member to England) moderated the conversation. The second breakout session included a unique and fascinating conversation with mother and son, Colleen Bonadonna (GSE Team Leader to Korea) and Chad Bonadonna (Exchange student to Spain and Rotaract member at George Mason University). Rotarians, alumni and guests attended the sessions and were able to listen to candid experiences the alumni encountered as participants in the Rotary International programs.



During the final breakout session, Clenise introduced the Alumni Association's newest venture: the District 7600 Alumni Association Speakers Bureau. The Speakers Bureau has been established to connect Rotarians with Alumni who wish to share how their participation in one or more of the RI programs impacted their lives. Rotarians will be able to invite Alumni to serve as speakers during their meetings, conferences and other club, district and zone events.

The Alumni Association also hosted a table in the House of Friendship to raise awareness about the Speakers Bureau and to collect names of perspective Alumni Association members. Alumni attended lunch to hear comments by Captain Jason Haag, a Marine veteran of two tours in Iraq and one in Afghanistan, and meet Axel, his service dog, named the 2015 Service Dog of the Year.

The Day of Rotary concluded with the Alumni Association Induction Ceremony and Reception. Seven alumni were granted the honor of being inducted into the D7600 Alumni Association by Rotary International President Nominee, Sam Owori. Current alumni association members presented the new inductees with an alumni pin and certificate. The ceremony included comments from the D7600 Alumni Association Rotarian Advisor PDG Jim Probsdorfer and RIPN Sam Owori.



Following the induction ceremony, the Alumni Association held a brief business meeting during which Alumni Association Treasurer, Tyel Banks was introduced and members discussed future road trips and projects. Each guest received a parting gift of Girls Scout peanuts donated by Alumni Association Leadership Team member, Mary Elmore. Alumni had an opportunity to reunite and speak with other alums, District Governor Diane Hagemann and Rotarians during the Alumni Association Reception.