



# THE GREEN WAVE



ROTARY INTERNATIONAL, ONE ROTARY CENTER, 1560 SHERMAN AVENUE, EVANSTON, ILLINOIS 60201 USA

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## Water and Fauna Seminar Enlightens Audience in Amsterdam

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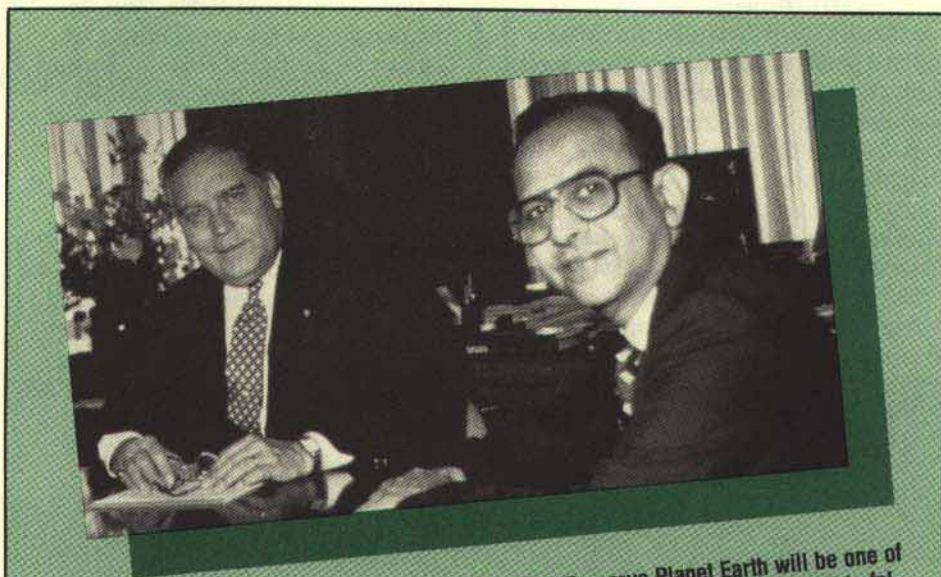
ll of us live here on ‘borrowed time.’ This Earth and its resources are not ours to squander.”

So said RI President Paulo V.C. Costa in his opening address at the final Preserve Planet Earth seminar, “Water: Tomorrow’s Crucial Resource.” The seminar took place from 9-12 May in Amsterdam, the Netherlands, and it included a special session, “Fauna’s Link to Development.” Past RI Director Luciano Vianelli chaired the Water Resource portion of the seminar and Committee member Jayantilal K. Chande chaired the Fauna session.

Friday’s keynote speaker, Malin Fallenmark, professor of international hydrology at the Swedish Natural Science Research Council, noted that there is a finite amount of water on the planet that circulates through a global cycle. Pollution is caused by mankind’s manipulation of the environment which tampers with this cycle. Thus, man’s activities in the landscape must be altered to accommodate ecology.

What can Rotarians do? “Rotary can act as an eye-opener in a water-blind world,” Fallenmark said.

A panel discussion with five experts followed. Among them, Dr. Pinhas Glueckstern, director of desalination at Mekorot Water Company in Israel, suggested using seawater desalination plants, possibly run on solar energy, to help solve severe water shortages. Because of their huge costs, he



**PRESIDENT-ELECT RAJENDRA K. SABOO:** “Preserve Planet Earth will be one of the programs of emphasis during 1991-92. It will be particularly important to follow through in the second year of this three-year pilot program, recognizing its intrinsic merit and special relevance to the future of our world. May I congratulate President Paulo V.C. Costa for this great thrust he has given.”

**RI PRESIDENT PAULO V.C. COSTA:** “I am more than pleased with the enthusiastic acceptance by the Rotary world of our environmental initiative, Preserve Planet Earth, and I am both happy and grateful that the program will be vigorously stressed when I step down from office by a leader as outstanding as our future president, Rajendra K. Saboo.”

urged international financing of regional projects and transfer of technology.

Rodney Proto, president of the waste management firm, Browning-Ferris Industries Europe, Inc., noted that free enterprise and environmental

concerns are traditionally considered incompatible. But if consumers demand environmentally friendly products, such as dolphin-free tuna, businesses will produce these goods, he said.

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# Bombay Club's Environmental Program Proves Major Success

**A** parade, a symposium featuring well known environmentalists, a musical revue, a scientific model exhibition, and a poster competition were among the elements of a festival on the environment organized by the Rotary club of Bombay Airport, Bombay, India.

The purpose: to create awareness of the environment and of the need to protect it, especially among young people; to encourage development of environmental projects, and—not least—to create awareness of Rotary's Preserve Planet Earth program.

Participants included Rotarians and their wives from 38 clubs in District 314; Rotaractors and Interactors; city, state, and national government officials; air force cadets; children from about 50 schools; environmental groups; and businesses.

The program was launched with a procession on 9 December that included the mayor of Bombay who set the pace at the head of the procession, along with District Governor Dr. Venkat

Gadwal and his wife, Dr. Sharda Gadwal; plus District Governor Nominee N.S. Rao; and other officials.

The goal was the Nehru Centre, where an environmental symposium was held which was introduced by deputy chairman of the upper house of Parliament, Dr. Najma Heptulla. Speakers included the past secretary of the Ministry of Nonconventional Energy. The symposium was held before an audience of 1,000, each of whom was given a booklet, "Preserve Planet Earth—Why and How."

The afternoon closed with a special ballet backed by audiovisual effects of lights, color, and slides, depicting the ravaging of the environment by various forms of pollution. Music and lyrics were written by Ann Prabha Mathur, chairperson of the district Rotary Songs Committee.

The program continued over the weekend two weeks later with an exhibition put on by government departments; private industry; the results of a competition among schoolchildren to build scientific models on the theme,

Preserve Planet Earth, and a poster competition.

Prizes were awarded to children from 12 schools for the best scientific models on such subjects as the greenhouse effect and water pollution. More than 300 posters were received from 28 schools in Bombay.

Said the president of the Rotary Club of Bombay Airport, Dhananjay Sathaye: "The program generated tremendous success, enthusiasm, public awareness and goodwill for Rotary."

## Energetic U.S.A. Club Hosts Farm and Environment Fair

The Rotary Club of Norman, Oklahoma, U.S.A., held its third annual farm fair at the Cleveland County Building last March. The fair has become a popular event in that rural community, and this year a new direction—concern for the environment—was added. In fact, the name of the fair was changed from Agriculture Awareness to Agriculture and Environment Fair.

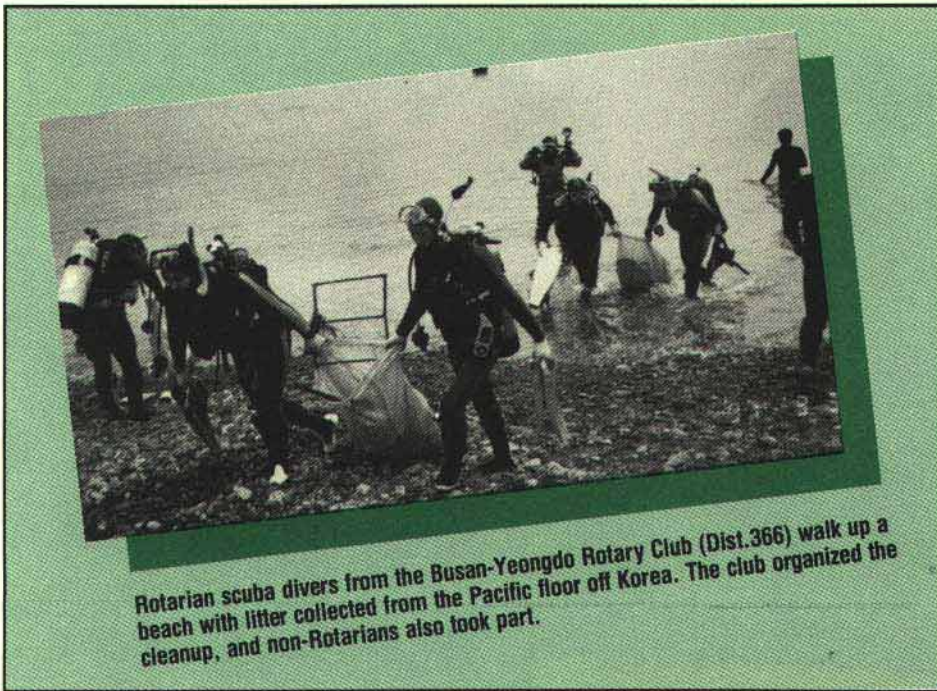
The principal speaker, Oklahoma Congressman Glenn English, pointed out that farmers and environmentalists had long been opponents in matters concerning farm and environmental legislation. Now, both sides are seeing the benefits of working together, he said, and he charged the farmers with becoming active in environmental organizations.

The fair is a cooperative effort of the Norman club's rural/urban and environmental committees. The Oklahoma State University Extension Center also played an important role. Some 3,500 attended the fair, and many were school children—just as Norman Rotarians had planned. They were bussed in from surrounding cities and towns to broaden their understanding of farm and environmental matters.

More than 50 display booths illustrated such subjects as bird sanctuaries, home and community composting, water quality, and biodegradable packaging. Seminars dealt with agriculture, the environment, wildlife, animal welfare, and safety in the home.



To symbolize the link between ecology and peace, Rotarians in Casablanca, Morocco, released 500 white doves during President Costa's visit there and planted 500 trees.



Rotarian scuba divers from the Busan-Yeongdo Rotary Club (Dist. 366) walk up a beach with litter collected from the Pacific floor off Korea. The club organized the cleanup, and non-Rotarians also took part.

## RI and U.S. Presidents Take Part in Planting "Trees Around the World"

**O**n 26 April—Arbor Day in the U.S.A.—Rotarians in many countries took part in "Trees Around the World"—tree-planting ceremonies in which U.S. President

George Bush and RI President Paulo Costa also participated.

The scope of this effort gave a great boost to President Bush's national tree-planting program, "America the Beautiful." As a result, Rotary International received the first "America the Beautiful" award at the Mexico City Convention from the U.S. Forest Service.

President Bush welcomed the Rotary initiative and planted a tree on the south lawn of the White House. The ceremony was attended by RI Director T.D. Griley, the president-elect of the Rotary Club of Washington, D.C., Mac Asbill, and school children who also took part.

The same day, RI President Costa conducted a tree-planting ceremony at the annual conference of Rotary in Great Britain and Ireland, in Bournemouth, England. And in Chicago, Illinois Governor Jim Edgar, Mayor Richard M. Daley, and RI General Secretary Spencer Robinson, Jr., took part in a tree-planting on the grounds of an elementary school. Afterwards, the children who were present carried home one of the 20,000 seedlings the Rotary Club of Wilmette, Illinois, is distributing through Chicago public schools.

At RI world headquarters in Evanston, a historic goldenrain tree provided by the American Forestry Association was planted on the plaza outside the building by members of the RI Staff Society.

Other plantings on this special day took place in Sydney, Australia; Toronto and Quebec, Canada; Seoul, Korea, and Mexico City. They all grew from the plans of the Rotary Club of Wilmette, which designed an environmental curriculum for elementary schools (see issue 4 of *THE GREEN WAVE*).

## Making New Zealand's Cities and Towns Green Again

**W**hen people from across the seas think of New Zealand, most undoubtedly conjure up images of a green land of lovely mountains and hills. True enough, but far too many of that country's cities and towns have been denuded of trees.

A member of the Rotary Club of Rotorua, Rotarian Harold Thomas saw the problem and wanted to do something about it. And he hoped the idea would take hold and spread across the country. (Note: Harold Thomas is no kin to the past RI President (1959-60) of the same name, soon to be 100 years old.)

Last September, he saw his dream come true when local school children planted 250 trees in the 24-hectare (59 acres) Centennial Park. Further, on that day the local tree-planting program became the pilot project for a national movement aimed at planting a million trees across New Zealand by the year 2000.

The story began in 1988, when Rotarian Thomas convinced the Rotorua District Council and Tasman Forestry Ltd., a Rotorua-based company, to join forces and create the Tasman

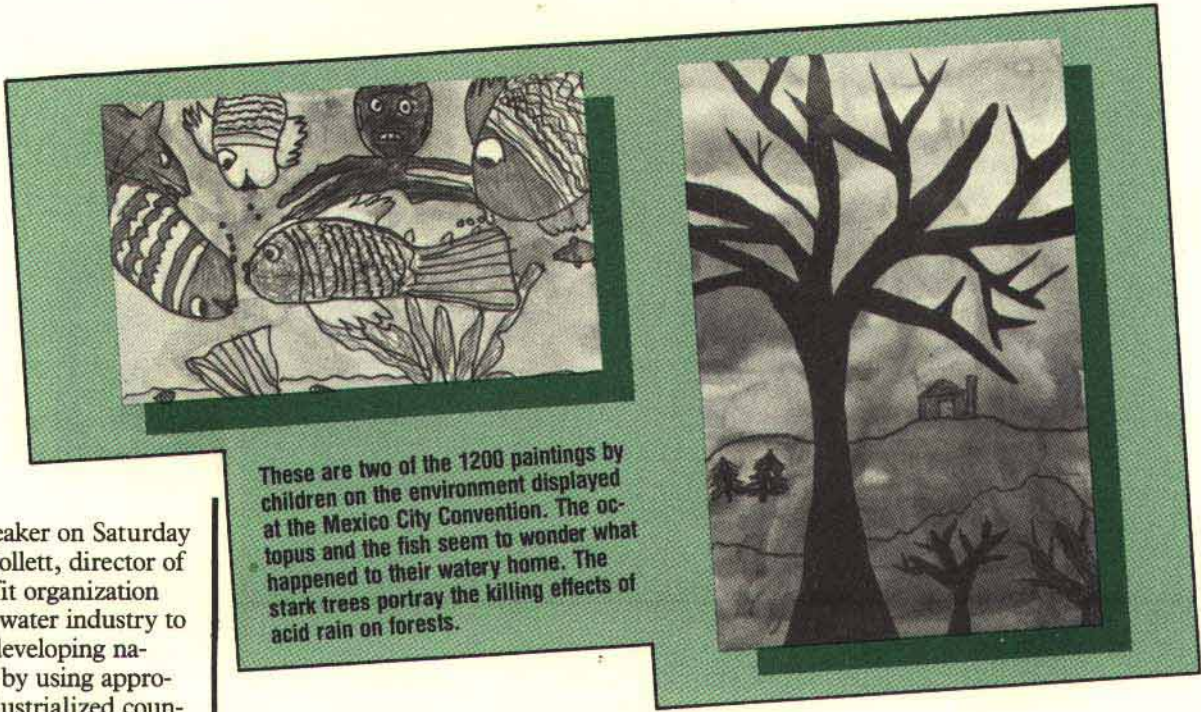
Forestry Rotorua Tree Trust. The trust's immediate aim was to create a park in Rotorua. With corporate and community support behind him, Thomas began to acquire land.

"The ultimate aim," he says, "is to end up with a rural park on the edge of the city that protects the environment and water runoff, provides an area of quiet beauty for people to walk through, and gives opportunities for sporting people and pony clubs to enjoy the area as well."

The Tree Trust was recognized as an official project to mark New Zealand's 1990 sesquicentenary.

Rotarian Thomas says that thousands more trees will be planted in Rotorua. "For US\$45, about the same price as a wreath or bouquet of flowers, we can offer local citizens something to last a lifetime and by which to remember a birth, anniversary, death, marriage or any special occasion."

Rotarian Thomas' contribution to the eventual re-greening of New Zealand's cities and towns is an achievement of which he and Rotarians everywhere can be proud—especially as this first year of the Preserve Planet Earth program comes to a successful close.



These are two of the 1200 paintings by children on the environment displayed at the Mexico City Convention. The octopus and the fish seem to wonder what happened to their watery home. The stark trees portray the killing effects of acid rain on forests.

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The keynote speaker on Saturday morning was David Collett, director of Water Aid, a non-profit organization funded by the British water industry to help communities in developing nations attain safe water by using appropriate technology. Industrialized countries should provide the funds and the technology, with rural communities applying what they have learned to solve their own problems. "This is a much more dignified way of doing development—working with people, not for them," Collett said.

The Fauna discussion began with an address by Richard Leakey, director of Kenya's Wildlife Service. Kenya's famed wild life reserves are "threatened less by development, than by poverty," said Leakey. Tourism, due chiefly to worldwide interest in the reserves, is the nation's No. 1 source of revenue. He suggested that in a few years Kenya's wildlife reserves will actually bring money enough to support development in rural areas near them.

In the afternoon's panel discussion, Dr. Mopoi Nuwanyakpa of the Cameroon's Heifer International echoed Dr. Leakey, noting that "conservation and development are two sides of the same a coin." And José de Pedro, forestry officer of the UN's joint ECA/FAO Agriculture Division, stated that measures to improve wildlife management will not take hold unless the "political will exists to make fauna (preservation) viable and is linked to rural development."

The tenth and final session closed with a panel discussion, "Ecology and Peace," that featured the members of the Preserve Planet Earth Committee. The session was moderated by William T. Sergeant, committee chairman.

## Unusual 3-H Project Offers New Hope to Brazilian Indians

**A** Health, Hunger and Humanity (3-H) project of The Rotary Foundation may point the way to a better future for Indians of Brazil's rain forest, whose prospects for earning a livelihood have been dimmed by the deforestation of vast tracts of land. The US\$100,000 project also aims to provide a food source for the Indians, and it will help protect portions of the forest.

The project involves supplying the Pakaas Novos Indians, who live in the remote northwest province of Rondonia, bordering Bolivia, with brazil nut seedlings. Three Brazilian districts (444, 447, and 472) will monitor the project, and District 558 (U.S.A. and Canada) will be involved as well.

Harvesting brazil nuts is a traditional practice of the Pakaas Novos. The nuts are important for the economy of the nation, as well as for the Pakaas Novos. In fact, it is the second most important cash crop—annual exports exceed US\$20 million—after rubber. Also, their nutritional value is high. Two hundred grams per day can supply the nutritional needs of an average adult.

The nuts can be crushed for oil, which is used as a lubricant in fine soaps

and cosmetics. The remaining cake can be mixed with flour to prepare highly nutritious bread. The flour also is to be used for animal feed. If the project proves a success, it may be extended to other forested states of Brazil.

Two members of the Rotary Club of São Paulo-Oeste, Sergio Vergueiro and Octavio Mariot, are donating 30,000 seedlings for replanting, and the club is administering the project. It is supported by FUNAI, a federal agency that aids Brazil's Indians, and by the ministries of the interior and of agriculture.

The brazil nut project got underway in March, with the 3-H program releasing the first half of the grant. The money will be used to purchase fertilizer, boxes for packaging the seedlings, transport, and packing and loading charges.

While the trees will not bear fruit for seven years, they live to an average age of 600 years; some live another thousand years! So when they start producing, the Pakaas Novos will be harvesting brazil nuts for a long time.

Said RI President Paulo Costa: "This is an excellent example of a Rotary Foundation project benefiting both mankind and ecology."