

## 100 Peace-Pipe Community Mediators for Africa (Invite for Zoom talk)

Moin, dear friends:

Today, Tony Conn and I would like to call your attention to this highly topical subject – *100 Peace-Pipe Community Mediators for Africa*.
Perhaps you would like to be a part of **our Zoom talk, RC Johannesburg, on Tuesday, June 23rd, 19:00 MEZ/CAT; 12 pm CST Midwest** (details below).

According to research at the University of South Africa and by other organizations, there is a need for modifications in the mediation of differences and conflicts in Africa. Currently, not all segments of society are represented during mediation sessions. In particular, young people, women, and other marginalized groups should become key participants, using mediation as an option in the resolution of disputes. The need for African mediators fits the Rotary focus area of **peace and conflict resolution**. Since Rotary is a politically neutral body, it is trusted by communities. The plan is to establish mediation teams known as "African Mediators in Africa for Africa" in all Rotary districts of Southern Africa. -- The countries that will benefit are: South Africa, Namibia, Angola, Lesotho, Botswana, eSwatini, and Southern Mozambique.

(Project Leadership by Annemarie Mostert & Grace van Zyl, Rotary South Africa.) *What is our involvement?* (RC-Johannesburg, founded 1921, wrote a Peace-Pipe Letter, 1932.)

Eighty-nine years ago the Rotary Club of Keokuk, Iowa sent 504 letters to almost all RCs outside of the United States. In 1931, the Club President at the time, Jewett Fulton, urged each of these Clubs to smoke the peace pipe with his club following the example of Chief Keokuk. 1931, while visiting the World Convention in Vienna, Fulton must have sensed that something dangerous was brewing among the nations. After his return to the United States he thought about how one might deal with the emerging conflicts and composed 504 letters on the typewriter. The numerous responses he received were found recently in a bank safe on the Mississippi River and are a wonderful example of international agreement.

Today the world is once again troubled by unrest. The global order of the past decades shows signs of disintegration, tensions *between* the nations are increasing, but also *within* our national communities. For this reason, the notion of the *100 Peace-Pipe Community Mediators for Africa (& elsewhere in the world)* is more relevant than ever.-- We should ask ourselves what each of us can contribute to maintaining strong lines of communication within societies and states, and to furthering friendship and good will, so that understanding among peoples beyond all borders can be renewed and *lived* again and again.

Feel free to book us for a Zoom presentation for your organization or Rotary Club, in which case you can email me at <u>yogireppmann@gmail.com</u>, or by telephone at +1.507.518.6734.

A professional 4:49 video: <u>www.peace-pipe-proposal.com</u>

(Sound is at the lower left of the video screen.)

GOOD WISHES from Minnesota & Schleswig-Holstein. (<u>www.moin-moin.us</u>) Tony Conn & Yogi Reppmann

PS: Our Zoom presentation in German, July 9, (RC-Wiesbaden-Kochbrunnen, Thilo von Debschitz, <u>www.Fritz-Kahn.com</u>) - please contact us for details.

## DR YOGI REPPMANN Historian





Rotary Opens Opportunities Rotary

Club of Johannesburg

## TUESDAY 23 JUNE 2020



The peace pipe letters of 1931-32 and 2020 symbolize international friendship and understanding.

## TIME: 19:00 CAT ZOOM

https://us02web.zoom.us/j/86805495764

OR Email:

secretary@rcjohanneburg.org.za



9th March, 1932.

W. J. Fulton, Esq., Chairman, International Service Committee, Rotary Club, Keokuk, **IOWA.** U.S.A.

Dear Rotarian Fulton,

I have before me your letter of the 17th December addressed to our President, and conveying greetings to our Club.

Our President has been overseas in England on a health trip, and I am replying on his behalf. We thank you very much indeed for your good wishes, and for the interesting account you give concerning your own city.

I note with very much interest that the Flag of the Union of South Africa was presented to your Club by one of your members. There must now be several Clubs in The U. S. A. carrying the "Bowl of Flags" representing all countries interested in Rotary.

Your remarks concerning the Indian ceremony of amoking the "Pipe of Peace" are very interesting, and we follow with pleasure this old Indian custom, and join with you in amoking the Peace Pipe as an expression of International Goodwill and Fellowship. 

 Please accept the heartiest greetings to your Club from the

 Johnne aburg Rotary Club, and may you and Rotary ever prosper.

 Vur working,

 Johnne Aburg,

 Johnne

 Johnne A

-24

STAY CONNECTED