

Thanks go out to everyone that participated in our 12th Annual Halloween Bowling fundraiser. Between our sponsor, bowlers, and silent auction buyers, we made **\$3,771**. This is the most we have ever made. We are already making plans for next year's 13th Annual event



He spoke to us about Climate Change and Mitigation Policies. After returning to Germany he studied political science and international affairs and started working on European Union policy with an NGO in Brussels. He grew up in the Ahr Valley in Germany, a mostly rural area situated in the Eifel mountain range. After the area was hit by severe flooding in July of



to:

The Rotary Ice Rink is back! calendars for November 18 - J:

http://rotaryicerink.com/hours-and-pricing/

Rotary 🔀

and continue daily through mid-January 2023.

200,000 people have enjoyed the rink and the beautiful winter festivities. For more information about hours and pricing, please go

2021, he returned to work in the reconstruction effort. Currently he is in charge of climate change and adaptation strategy at the Ahrweiler county administration. Will lives in Bonn, Germany. After his very interesting presentation, club president Debbie Degollado presented Will a Speaker's Certificate of Appreciation. Danke Will.



November is Rotary Foundation Month. Since it was founded more than 100 years ago, the Foundation has spent more than \$4 billion on life-changing, sustainable projects. With your help, we can make lives better in your community and around the world.

Rotary members, Ukraine Friends deliver ambulances to Ukrainian officials by Ryan Hyland

A convoy of nearly 40 ambulances wound its way from Slovakia, around mountains and through roadblocks, military checkpoints, and torrential rain to arrive in Kyiv, bringing the critically needed vehicles to Ukrainian government officials. A convoy of 40 ambulances wound its way from Slovakia, around mountains and through roadblocks, military checkpoints, and torrential rain to arrive in Kyiv, bringing the critically needed vehicles to Ukrainian government officials.



Photo courtesy of Kin Man Hui, S.A. Express-News

the Friday before Thanksgiving

Since 2019, nearly

The US\$600,000 initiative was the first joint project between Rotary and Ukraine Friends, which agreed in July to collaborate to provide resources, organize logistics, and distribute funds for high-impact projects that help Ukrainians affected by the war with Russia. Each organization donated US\$300,000 to get the ambulances, and Rotary districts in Ukraine and Slovakia coordinated the delivery. After a journey of about 870 kilometers (540 miles) that took more than twice as long as it would have in normal circumstances, the logistics of moving that many vehicles to another country would always be difficult, and doing it across a border into a war zone was especially complex. Yet the ambulances were delivered without any major incidents. "I don't think the trip could've gone any better," says Bierman, who was at Mariinsky Park for the arrival. "The way people worked together to get this done was spectacular."

Ukraine Friends secured the ambulance drivers, while Rotary District 2232 in Ukraine and Belarus bought the fuel. The ambulances are equipped with oxygen tanks, defibrillators, electrocardiogram machines, mechanical ventilators, and other medical equipment. Eighteen of the ambulances were procured by Rotary clubs in the Czech Republic and Slovakia and went to the Department of Health for civilian use. Ihor Kuzin, Ukraine's deputy minister of health, was there to see the transfer of ambulances. "Updating the fleet of fast vehicles (ambulances) is one of the most urgent tasks on the agenda for Ukraine," Kuzin says. "We are very grateful to our international donors and partners for joining such an extremely important cause." The 22 ambulances supplied by Ukraine Friends were given to military personnel, Ukraine's Territorial Defense Forces.

Rotary members and Ukraine Friends are also working together to rehabilitate two schools in the Bucha region that were damaged by shelling. Ukraine Friends is organizing the logistics involved to rebuild the school's infrastructure, while Rotary clubs are buying and providing books, school supplies, and computers.

Mykola Stebljanko, a member of the Rotary E-club of Ukraine and past governor of District 2232, said the ambulance project is part of comprehensive program under which clubs in the region provide specialized equipment for emergency vehicles, including firefighting trucks. "When good deeds are done in partnership," he says, you can have a greater effect and find more opportunities to plan effectively in crisis situations. "By combining the connections of both Ukraine Friends and Rotary, tremendous strides can be made to alleviate and mitigate the suffering endured by the people of Ukraine," Bierman says.

Since Russia invaded Ukraine on February 24, more than 13 million Ukrainians have been forced to flee their homes, the United Nations refugee agency says, which created a humanitarian crisis. Rotary has awarded more than 353 disaster response grants totaling more than US\$11.7 million since the war began. These grants, for club projects in 29 countries, support people in and around Ukraine who have been affected by the war. Rotary and Rotaract clubs have donated millions more directly to Ukrainian clubs that are providing people with food, shelter, medicine, and clothing.