

Weekly Rotary Foundation Thoughts

Weeks 11-15



Educating Rotarians about the work of The Rotary Foundation is one of the most effective tools in gaining and broadening support of our Annual Programs Fund and the ***Every Rotarian, Every Year*** effort. The **Weekly Rotary Foundation Thought** is designed to inform our members of the many ways in which we impact the world — there's always something new and exciting going on in Rotary.

The club president can begin the tradition by opening each meeting with a brief moment on The Rotary Foundation, but consider rotating ownership of the weekly reading among club members. In fact, didn't Paul Harris have a similar idea about rotating?

Week 11:

This week's **Rotary Foundation Thought** is about District Simplified Grants.

The Rotary Foundation District Simplified Grants program allows Rotary clubs to identify, plan and fund worthy projects in their own communities or internationally. All Rotary clubs are eligible to apply for District Designated Funds to help support worthy projects in our own communities. Projects such as Toys for Tots, purchasing kitchen equipment for a food shelter, providing financial assistance for after school programs for at-risk children, or making improvements to a playground, are examples of worthwhile District Simplified Grants.

The more funds raised for Annual Programs Fund-SHARE, the more funds available for us to do good work here in our own towns and cities as well as internationally. Please, make your annual gift today!

Week 12:

This week's **Rotary Foundation Thought** is about Ambassadorial Scholarships.

The Rotary Foundation began in 1917, but didn't become a major component of Rotary until founder Paul Harris's death in 1947. Upon Paul's death, more than \$1 million was contributed in memorial gifts. Shortly thereafter the first program of the Foundation was established: *Fellowship for Advanced Study* -- the forerunner to the now-popular Ambassadorial Scholarships program.

The Rotary Foundation's Ambassadorial Scholarships program is one of the world's largest privately funded international scholarship programs for university studies. Since 1947, approximately 37,000 students from some 110 countries have studied abroad. Did you know that film critic Roger Ebert; journalist Bill Moyers; and Sadako Ogata, the former UN High Commissioner on Refugees were Rotary Ambassadorial Scholars? [Optional] Here on our own district, we have_____.



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Week 13:

This week's **Rotary Foundation Thought** is about literacy projects.

The Rotary Foundation has provided a great number of grants to support literacy projects around the world. A Matching Grant was awarded to provide 1,400 textbooks for a secondary school in Amawbia, Nigeria. Students who were unable to afford the high cost of textbooks are now able to borrow these books for the entire school year. As a result, the academic performance of the students has improved significantly.

In Nepal, Rotary clubs received a Matching Grant to help provide scholarships for students at the Manasarovar Academy in Kathmandu, Nepal. This grant helped facilitate the education of approximately 150 students, mostly Tibetan refugees. In a country where young men and women have limited access to education, this project represented an invaluable opportunity for students wishing to further their education.

Week 14:

This week's **Rotary Foundation Thought** is about becoming a Benefactor.

A Rotary Foundation Benefactor is a person who has notified The Rotary Foundation that he/she has made provisions in their final state plans, or made an outright gift of US\$1000 or more to The Rotary Foundation's Permanent Fund. Benefactors receive a commemorative certificate, a letter of appreciation and a blue and gold recognition insignia to attach to their Rotary or Paul Harris Fellow pin. A US\$1000 gift to The Foundation creates a legacy of helping people lead better lives around the world.

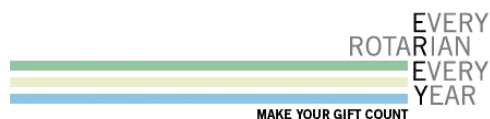
There are over 68,000 Benefactors in the Rotary world today. Are you one?

Week 15:

This week's **Rotary Foundation Thought** is about what US\$100 can help provide:

- Textbooks for one elementary school in Zambia
- Hearing aids for children in Pakistan
- De-worming tablets for over 100 children in the Philippines
- Three cataract surgeries in India.
- A gift of US\$100 or more changes and saves lives every minute of every day.

As we strive to achieve a US\$100 per capita goal, it is vitally important that ***Every Rotarian***, make a gift to the Annual Programs Fund, ***Every Year***. When every Rotarian participates, our Foundation will be able to sustain and grow the great work we do around the world and be prepared for future challenges in the years to come.



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