

# Weekly Rotary Foundation Thoughts

Weeks 43-47



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 43:**

This week's **Rotary Foundation Thought** is a reminder about why we support our Foundation. Each day, Rotary clubs on every continent are working to improve the living conditions and health of their fellow local and global citizens. We share in the pride of the success of our own projects, but we also take pride in the work that is done around the world under the Rotary banner. Whether it's a massive project like polio, or something smaller, like providing clean water to an elementary school in The Philippines, we take pride in knowing that our fellow Rotarians are doing everything possible to extend peace throughout the world.

Our contributions to the Annual Programs Fund deliver hope throughout the world.

## **Week 44:**

This week's **Rotary Foundation Thought** is about the tremendous success our Rotary Foundation has experienced over the past few years. At the end of the fiscal year 2003, our Foundation ranked 96<sup>th</sup> out of the top 400 most successful U. S. charities by the *Chronicle of Philanthropy*, a prestigious publication. This was the first time our Foundation has been included in the top 100. That year, we raised over US\$133 million, largely due to the Polio Eradication effort. The past two years, The Rotary Foundation has set new giving records for the Annual Programs Fund, increasing from US\$55 million in 2002-2003, to nearly US\$85 million in 2004-2005. This year's annual giving goal of \$105 million is within reach.

Although the numbers are impressive, when you make your gift to The Rotary Foundation – just think about all the people you are helping. That's the most satisfying aspect to our success.



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The Rotary Foundation of Rotary International  
[erey@rotary.org](mailto:erey@rotary.org)  
EN  
[www.rotary.org](http://www.rotary.org)

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## **Week 45:**

This week's **Rotary Foundation Thought** is about year-end contributions. The Rotary year ends June 30<sup>th</sup> and all contributions must be postmarked on or before that date to be credited for this Rotary year. We are encouraged to collect and submit year-end contributions in late May and early June to count towards our club's annual giving goal. This will ensure proper credit and recognition for this Rotary year.

On behalf of the program beneficiaries, The Rotary Foundation thanks us for our ongoing support, enabling us to fund so many worthy projects.

## **Week 46:**

This week's **Rotary Foundation Thought** is about PolioPlus Partners. PolioPlus Partners is a special program created in 1995 to allow Rotarians in polio-free countries to partner with Rotarians in polio-endemic countries by providing support for National Immunization Days and other critical activities. Over \$33 million has been contributed to over 400 projects since then. There is still a need today. The Partners program allows Rotarians to support a specific project or to apply donations to the highest priority. A list of Open Projects in need of funding is available on the Rotary website.

These projects support our fellow Rotarians in the last battles against polio. Please consider giving them your support.

## **Week 47:**

This week's **Rotary Foundation Thought** is about a Matching Grant project that took place in Israel. Sponsored by the Rotary clubs of Holon, Israel (District 2490) and Mill Hill, England (District 1130), this grant provided armchair-beds for Palestinian mothers to be close to their children recovering from heart operations at the Wolfson Medical Center in Tel Aviv. Without these armchair-beds, mothers would not have been able to be at their children's side as they recovered. These armchair-beds, which are in constant use, have provided a saving grace for both mothers and children going through a very difficult time in their lives.

If you found yourself in a similar situation, wouldn't you be grateful for the provision of such amenities? Why not consider bringing help and hope to a family in need today by applying for a Matching Grant?



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