



Gates Foundation donates US\$255 to help eradicate polio

*Rotary International News
29 January 2009*

In a letter posted on the Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation's Web site last week, Bill Gates praises Rotary International's work for over two decades in fighting to eradicate polio and discusses the progress being made on ending the disease.

Gates cites the vital work of the World Health Organization, UNICEF, and Rotary International in the global effort to make polio the second disease to be eradicated, after smallpox. In referring to Rotary, the letter states that "we wouldn't be anywhere on this without their efforts."

The letter, the first in what is planned to be an annual exercise, outlines the goals of the Gates Foundation and the

progress being made on those goals. Even though the foundation's assets fell by 20 percent last year, Gates says it will increase its giving to US\$3.8 billion in 2009, about 7 percent of its assets.

Rotary will raise \$100 million in matching funds

Last week during the 2009 International Assembly, Gates announced a new US\$255 million challenge grant to Rotary in the global effort to eradicate polio. In response to the new grant, Rotary will raise \$100 million in matching funds. In November 2007, RI received a \$100 million Gates Foundation grant, which Rotary

committed to match by raising \$100 million.

The two Gates Foundation grants total \$355 million. Rotary International's matching effort in response is called Rotary's US\$200 Million Challenge, which must be completed by 30 June 2012.

"Rotary International and other donors are doing a great job so far coming up with the extra resources that are needed (for polio eradication)," Gates states in the letter. "Just this month I went to a Rotary meeting and helped announce more than \$600 million in new money from various sources that will go toward eradicating polio."

NEW WEBSITE IS LIVE

Please take a few minutes to check out the new Windsor St. Clair website. It provides us with the opportunity to revolutionize the way we manage our day to day club activities, as well as communicate more effectively.

The member section provides a database-backed membership communication tool. Accessible by all club members, it provides for online registrations for events and volunteer activities, automatic email services, and an integrated e-Bulletin, among other features, and it will make it easier to promote our club activities.

The website features easy to use content management tools, where you don't need to know HTML or FTP to update it.

The site can be accessed at www.rotarywindsorstclair.com.

Comments and suggestions on the website are welcome!

Kilimanjaro conquered by local Rotarians!



REACH FOR THE TOP: (Left to Right) Michael and Shelly Duben, Jennifer Jones and Nick Krayachich on their climb of Mount Kilimanjaro. Well done, Rotarians!

COMING EVENTS

February 23 RI 104th Birthday &
International Peace Day
February 24 Board Meeting

A Message from the President

I was struck again by the power of Rotary as I held a small boy in my arms in an orphanage in Tanzania. To know that we could save the life of this boy and many others with the donation of a \$3 mosquito net is very powerful. Malaria is still a major problem in many African countries. In Tanzania alone, the number of people that die has been compared to a jumbo jet full of women and children crashing into a mountainside every day.

“...the number of people that die has been compared to a jumbo jet full of women and children...”

Being Rotarians through and through, as we began to plan our trip to climb Mount Kilimanjaro, we decided that we should also do a project in Tanzania to benefit a community near the base of the mountain. After learning about the number of people that still die or become very ill from malaria, we knew that a mosquito net project was what we wanted to do. We were able to raise over \$8,000 to support the purchase of nets in Tanzania and the shipping of 500 nets that had been donated by a former Ambassadorial Scholar from Plymouth. The funds came from a variety of sources including the Past President's party, our International Service Committee, a District Simplified Grant, a World Community Service grant (awarded to Windsor-Roseland) and the sale of gift cards at Christmas. We were also very fortunate to get in touch with Rotarian Faye Cran (or Mama Kuku) from Tanzania. Faye is the Malaria Chair for her District in Eastern Africa, and she was instrumental in assisting with our shipment of nets, purchasing nets in Tanzania, and making arrangements for us to deliver the nets.

Jennifer, Nick, Mike and I met with Faye and another Rotarian on January 4 to deliver over 1000 mosquito nets. Our first stop was Upendo Orphanage, where over 60 young children are cared for by a group of Catholic nuns. Although the children seemed to be well cared for, they did not have

The power of Rotary in effect in Tanzania



TANZANIA: Michael and Shelly Duben, Jennifer Jones and Nick Krayacich at a village in Tanzania donating mosquito nets to the local community.

mosquito nets to help prevent them from getting malaria. Next, we went to Old Moshi Secondary School, a boarding school with over 800 students. The headmaster of the school explained to us that almost three quarters of the students could not afford to buy mosquito nets, and that many students' education is disrupted because they are hospitalized with malaria. He believes that the 500 nets we donated to the school will have a significant impact on the health and education of the students.

“...a simple net, worth \$3 to \$8 could save a person's life and prevent so much suffering...”

Our final stop was a very poor community outside of Moshi. When we arrived, we were greeted by over 100 women dressed in their Sunday best, singing and cheering. Almost 500 nets were distributed to the women so that their children and family members could be protected from mosquitoes and not have to suffer or die from malaria.

It was overwhelming to me to realize

that a simple net, worth \$3 to \$8 could save a person's life and prevent so much suffering. It is such a small cost and the nets are so readily available that it seems almost criminal that people still die everyday from such a preventable disease. I feel very blessed to have the opportunity to hand deliver mosquito nets and meet the people whose lives we were helping to improve. I also feel very proud once again to be a Windsor-St. Clair Rotarian, as our Club continues to demonstrate a strong commitment to helping those in need, both locally and internationally.

**Service
Above
Self**



The Rotary Club of Windsor-St. Clair was founded November 20, 1975. Regular meetings are every Thursday at 7:15 a.m., at the Windsor Yacht Club, 9000 Riverside Drive, Windsor, Ontario.

For more information, please visit
www.rotarywindsorstclair.com.

FOUR WAY TEST: Is it fair to all concerned?

WFCU Centre fund raising keeps Windsor St. Clair Rotarians busy

Windsor St. Clair has staffed the concession stand 6 times over the last several weeks. Our efforts raised approximately \$1,600 for the club, during December. The club will receive the January payment later this month for the three events worked.

February, we have the All Star Game on Wednesday February 4, and we will be splitting one concession with the Essex Rotary Club on February 19.

The weekday games appear to be more profitable to the club, at this point in time. A sign-up sheet for March will be distributed later this month.

The Spitfires have made the playoffs, which will start in late March. The playoffs could last up to 10 weeks, if they advance as far as the Memorial Cup. The Spitfires are on a 14 game winning streak. Go Spits!!



WFCU Concession Target: Make \$10,000 than look at the hours worked, relative to the money raised.

Everyone's assistance and support is most appreciated.

AVAILABLE MARCH DATES

Sunday, March 1
12:30 - 5:00 pm

Thursday, March 5
5:30 - 10:00 pm

Sunday, March 8
12:30 - 5:00 pm

Thursday, March 12
5:30 - 10:00 pm

**We will not be taking all 4 dates. **

PAY IT FORWARD

December 11 – Diane McKinley

Diane teaches skating and learned there was a need for skating coaches to help underprivileged children at Charles Clark Square. When she went to see the program she also learned they needed helmets. Diane raised \$50 through her family members and her sister is collecting to buy more helmets. Diane also got together some coaches and volunteers to help.

December 18- Danielle Stuebing

Knowing how difficult the holiday season would be for many, Danielle contacted Family Respite Services and asked them to suggest a family that was struggling this year. She and Jason purchased a \$100 gift card to WalMart and added it to the \$25 cash. This was presented to a needy family in a Christmas card wishing them a happy holiday season.

January 8 – Arnie Charlton

Arnie and some of his employees collected \$75 at the office and purchased a WalMart gift card. Arnie carried it around for a while until he found a needy recipient. This didn't take too long. While Arnie was delivering food to the food bank, he met a woman with three young children who could clearly benefit from some extra help. Arnie gave the gift card to the woman, who was very grateful for his generosity.

January 22 – Bill Proulx

Bill read about a Pay It Forward "project" where someone purchased a coffee for the person behind him in the Tim Hortons drive through and the act of kindness kept being passed from car to car. Bill started doing this each day, purchasing a cup of coffee for the person in the car behind him. Bill also decided to buy a \$25 Tim Hortons gift card for his nephew who is a struggling student at St. Clair College.

January 29 – Paul Charbonneau

Paul's two sisters were sexually abused at a young age by pedophile Priest, Father Charles Sylvestre. In an effort to help heal them of the terrible wounds they have suffered as a result of this tragedy, Paul has purchased three small plaques inscribed with one inspiring word "Hope", and has presented them to his sisters and parents.

See Page 4 for the February **PAY IT FORWARD** Schedule

Pluck-a-Duck US style

Pictured below is a volunteer swimmer helping round up the rubber ducks after the Great Kitsap Duck Race, the annual fundraiser for the Rotary Club of Silverdale, Washington, USA. Last year, the Rotarians raised \$93,000 to support local charities.



AP Photo/Carolyn J. Yaschur

CELEBRATIONS

Happy Birthday...

February 7	John Ferguson
February 19	Hardy Wheeler
February 22	John Stevenett
February 26	Frank Batal

Happy Anniversary...

February 7	Jane and Hardy Wheeler
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FOUR WAY TEST: Will it build goodwill and better friendships?

BOARD NEWS

- ◆ Attendance for December was 81.2%. Our attendance for July - November was 80.3%. Our membership remains at 50.
- ◆ New Member Proposals: None.
- ◆ The board accepted Leaves of Absence for the following:
Dick Marentette from January 1 to April 18, 2009 while in Florida;
Ed Link from January 14 - 31, 2009 while on vacation;
Frank Batal from January 26 to June 30, 2009 for personal reasons;
Bill Proulx from February 1 to March 31, 2009 while on vacation in California.

...COMMITTEE REPORTS...

MEMBERSHIP

- ▶ May 23- Planting at Shanfield Shores and cleanup of Gnatchio Trail, more information to come.
- ▶ July 19 - Peche Isle Event - Celebrate the Rotary Peace Park on the Island, families and kids invited to enjoy the island. Lunch will be pot luck- everyone to bring one dish to

feed 6 people. Karen and Mike Cichon will provide transport to the island. Further details to follow.

- ▶ June 3 - Nijola Golf Tournament – more details to come.

INTERNATIONAL

- ▶ Mosquito Nets – The 500 donated were successfully sent to Moshi. The cost for shipping will be confirmed soon. With the funds from the Past President's Party, the District Simplified Grant and some of the funds raised through the gift cards, another 1000 mosquito nets were purchased.
- ▶ Defibrillators to Namibia –The shipment of defibrillators and other life saving equipment is packed and ready to go however, there is an issue with lithium batteries in the package. Once addressed, the shipment will go.
- ▶ RELAY– The Ethiopia project is planned for August. Planning will begin soon. We have also been approached by Ron Arkell regarding another RELAY project in Ghana. He has been in close contact with Father Stephen and intends to renovate a school in Father Stephen's village near Kumasi. Ron will do much of the fundraising and we agreed to call it a RELAY project and Mike and Shelly will lead the team in December 2009. One goal of the project is to set up a Rotary Club in the area.

Program Schedule for FEBRUARY

	SPEAKER & TOPIC	INTRODUCER	THANKER	GREETERS
5	Michael & Shelly Duben/ Nick Krayacich & Jennifer Jones-Climbing Mount Kilimanjaro	Caro Lepain	Ken Lepain	Phil McCullough Terri-Ann Hurst
12	Geoff Stotts/ Special Olympics	Ilias Kiritsis	Michelle Moro	Diane McKinley Bob Morand
19	TBA	Lea-Ann Suzor	Hardy Wheeler	Panos Sechopoulos Danielle Stuebing
26	Club Celebration			Chris Woodrow Carlo Abati

Begley Program		Soup Kitchen		Pay It Forward	
3	Paul & Phyllis Charbonneau	7	Chris & Teri Woodrow Danielle & Jason Stuebing	5	Ed Link
10	Carl & Ann Fama	14	John & Pat Stevenett + 2 guests	12	Hardy Wheeler
17	TBA	21	Hardy & Jane Wheeler + 2 guests	19	Debra Harshaw
24	TBA	28	Caro & Ken Lepain 2 more people required	26	Terri-Ann Hurst

Rotarians assigned duties of introducer, thanker and greeter are responsible for finding a replacement if unable to fulfill the duties.

FOUR WAY TEST: Will it be beneficial to all concerned?