



Service Above Self

Rotary Club of Bullhead City eBulletin

Monday, December 10, 2007

Club Web Site

Editor: Art Harrington
If you have any comments or questions, email the editor.

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Art Harrington

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Gates and Rotary team up

Bill Gates' Challenge Grant:

\$100 Million to Rotary Foundation



Rotary International announced last week a partnership with the Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation that will inject a much needed US\$200 million into the global effort to eradicate polio.

The Rotary Foundation received a \$100 million Gates Foundation challenge grant. Rotary has committed to raise funds to match, dollar for dollar, over three years.

Rotary will spend the initial \$100 million within one year in direct support of immunization activities carried out by the Global Polio Eradication Initiative, spearheaded by the World Health Organization (WHO), Rotary International, the U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), and UNICEF.

"The extraordinary dedication of Rotary members has played a critical role in bringing polio to the brink of eradication," says Bill Gates, cochair of the Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation.

"Eradicating polio will be one of the most significant public health accomplishments in history, and we are committed to helping reach that goal."

The polio eradication grant is one of the largest challenge grants ever given by the Gates Foundation and the largest grant received by Rotary in its 102-year history. Since 1985, Rotary has made polio eradication its top priority and has contributed \$633 million to the effort.

The Gates Foundation grant comes at a critical juncture for the initiative, which urgently needs an infusion of funds to reach the eradication goal. Although the initiative has slashed the number of polio cases by 99 percent over the past two decades, the wild poliovirus still persists in four countries: Afghanistan, India, Nigeria, and Pakistan. Polio cases represented by that final 1 percent are the most costly to prevent, due to geographical isolation, poor public infrastructure, armed conflict, cultural barriers, and other factors.

"This partnership is a historic milestone - and timely opportunity - for Rotary through the Global Polio Eradication Initiative to help eradicate a disease that once devastated a thousand lives a day," says RI President Wilfrid Wilkinson. ***"I know that we as Rotarians will accept the challenge and do our part to finish the job."***

Photo: Bill Gates, co-founder of the Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation, gives a baby the oral polio vaccine at the Shadnagar community health clinic in Andhra Pradesh, India, in 2002.

What they are saying



Key leaders comment

Dr. Margaret Chan, Director-General of the World Health Organization says:

"This investment is precisely the catalyst we need as we intensify the push to finish polio.

"We have the technical tools to do it, and we can achieve a polio-free world if the rest of our financial partners step up to meet the challenge."

Dr. Julie Gerberding, Director of the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention says

The collaboration between Rotary and the Gates Foundation underscores the importance of private-sector involvement in major public health efforts. "As a government agency, we think it's wonderful that our private-sector colleagues have taken a leadership role in something as important as polio eradication. Their participation is absolutely critical."

Ann Veneman, Executive Director of UNICEF, says:

"The funds made possible through the Gates Foundation grant will help the Global Polio Eradication Initiative scale up its efforts to provide oral polio vaccine to children in those isolated locations where it's most needed. This important contribution will improve the capacity to protect vulnerable children from this debilitating disease."

Most of the initial \$100 million will be spent in support of mass immunization campaigns in polio-affected countries, poliovirus surveillance activities, and community education and outreach. The grant will also support an expanded research agenda on ways to expedite interruption of the transmission of the wild poliovirus. Rotary will distribute the funds through grants to WHO and UNICEF.

Don't miss it for anything!

by Art Harrington

Christmas Party is Dec. 13th

Our Bullhead City Rotary Christmas Party is being held this year at the Bullhead Area Chamber of



Commerce bulding on **Thursday, December 13th.**

The fellowship hour begins at 6:00, with dinner set for 7:00.

You are urged to bring a donation for West Care. A member of our club will match the gifts up to a total of \$500.

Reminder: Our regular club meeting will still be held at noon that day, with a report on our reciprocal Matching Grant projects with the Rotary club in Cuernavaca, Mexico.

An announcement & invitation



Deer Valley Rotary Clubs Merge

Effective immediately (and pending RI approval), the Rotary Club of Phoenix Deer Valley Midday and the Rotary Club of Phoenix Deer Valley have merged.

The existing board of directors of the Midday club will maintain leadership responsibilities, but the new club is now the **Rotary Club of Phoenix Deer Valley**. Our meeting times are still the first three Thursdays of each month at noon. We have now changed locations to the Bill Johnson's Big Apple at the intersection of 19th Avenue and Bell Road in north Phoenix (just 5 blocks east of I-17).

Please update your records with this information, and also please pass this along to all members of your club for make up and visitation purposes. Our web address remains the same www.deervalleyrotary.org

We look forward to seeing all who wish to come join us for a meeting, or our monthly happy hours that will begin again in January.

-- **John Selman**, President 2007-2008, Rotary Club of Phoenix Deer Valley, 623.703.0303

All in the spirit of the season

A bit of holiday humor



A man went to his dentist because he feels something wrong in his mouth.

The dentist examines him and says, "That upper plate I put in for you six months ago is eroding. What have you been eating?" The man replies, "All I can think of is that about four months ago my wife made some asparagus and put some stuff on it that was delicious...Hollandaise sauce. I loved it so much I now put it on everything - meat, toast, fish, vegetables, everything."

"Well," says the dentist, "that's probably the problem. Hollandaise sauce is made with lots of lemon juice, which is highly corrosive. It's eaten away your upper plate. I'll make you a new plate, and this time I'll use chrome."

"Why chrome?" asks the patient.

To which the dentist replies, "It's simple. Everyone know that there's no plates like chrome for the Hollandaise!"

-- contributed by Cathy Cornell

It's time to give
by Art Harrington



Donations that make dollars and sense!

Around this time of year I always try to remind you that there are a couple of donations you need to make. In most cases, neither donation will wind up costing you a cent, and both will wind up saving you taxes.

First, your \$400 contribution as a couple (or \$200 as a single) to the Rotary Vocational Fund of Arizona qualifies for a \$400 state tax credit on AZ Form 321 - Credit for Contribution to Charities that Provide Assistance to the Working Poor. (You must be itemizing deductions, and some limitations may apply. Consult your tax professional.)

Second, your \$400 contribution as a couple (or \$200 as a single) to Mohave High School for our Interact Club qualifies for a different \$400 credit, claimed on AZ Form 322 - Credit for Contributions Made or Fees Paid to a Public School.

Folks, these contributions are a real *no-brainer* - especially for Rotarians.

You make these two \$400 donations before Dec. 31st, and you get the entire \$800 back as a state tax credit when you file your tax return in January (or whenever).

Plus - if you are in a 25% tax bracket, you also save yourself \$200 in federal taxes by taking that \$800 as charitable deductions on your Schedule A. The higher your tax bracket, the more you save (until you hit the phaseouts for the wealthy).

Sharon and I will be happy to provide you with the forms to mail in your checks. (We can even e-mail the forms to you.) But remember! You **have** to make these contributions before the end of this month for them to count.

Help our Rotary Vocational Fund and our MHS Interact Club!