

The
Rotary
Foundation



February 23, 1905

Four young men gather for dinner, Paul, Hiram, Gus and Sylvester, and what comes from that dinner is the founding of the first “Rotary Club” in Chicago.



July 1917



Arch C. Klumph, President of Rotary, addresses the annual convention in Atlanta, Georgia and suggests the establishment of an endowment to receive funds... “To Do Good in the World.”

The
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The Foundation Becomes a Reality

At the 1927 annual convention of Rotary International, in Minneapolis, the foundation is established and the first trustees are elected.



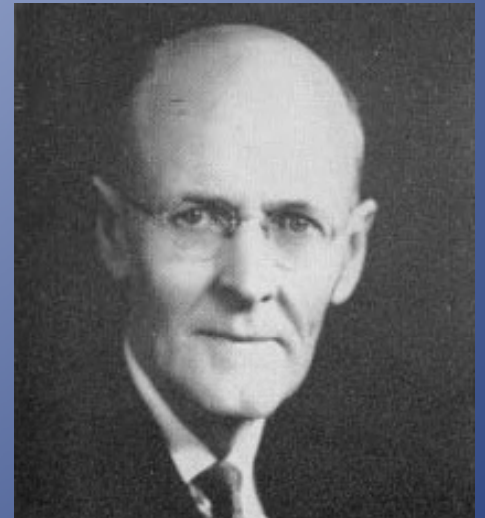
20 YEARS GO BY...

The
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1947

Paul Harris, the founder of Rotary dies. Paul made it clear that if anyone wished to recognize his passing, the best way would be to make a memorial contribution to the Rotary Foundation. Memorial contributions exceed \$1.3 million.



10 YEARS GO BY...

The
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1957

The Trustees of the Rotary Foundation create a marketing tool intended to raise additional funds for the Rotary Foundation.



The Paul Harris Fellow is established and awarded to anyone who contributes \$1000 to the Rotary International Foundation. Two years later it is decided that the \$1000 can be a cumulative gift, over a period of years.



1969

Man walks on the moon and 720 children contract polio each day, nearly 300,000 annually.



1980

Dr. Albert Sabin addresses the annual convention of Rotary International in Chicago and suggests that polio can be eradicated with a systematic, coordinated global initiative.



1984

Carlos Consecro, President of Rotary International, launches the polio eradication program in collaboration with UNICEF, WHO and the CDC. A three year campaign to raise \$125 million begins.



1987

The Rotary International Convention convenes in Philadelphia. President Chuck Keller presides over a roll call of contributing countries. The United States is the last country to make the contribution and it is announced that the goal has been exceeded and total contributions amount to \$247 million dollars.



POLIO FREE!

- 1994 The Western Hemisphere
- 2000 China
- 2002 Europe and the Soviet Block
- 2013 India!
- 2018 The target date for the end of polio



ENDPOLIONOW

2005

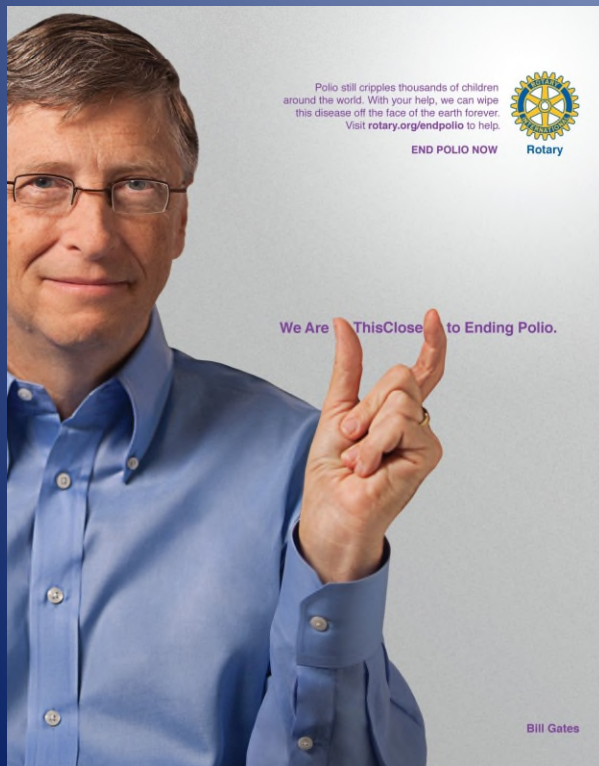
On the occasion of the 100th anniversary of Rotary International Dr. Sabin declares that because of the polio eradication effort launched by Rotary, 8 million children have been spared the disease and 800,000 who would have died, live!



“One cannot be passionate about immunizing the world’s children without coming to revere Rotary.”

Bill Gates, Sr.

The Rotarian July 2009



Peace Centers

Peace Scholars study peace and conflict resolution. Since 1988 over 1000 Peace Scholars have graduated and are found at work at the United Nations, at the highest levels of various governments and in the field.



Ambassadorial Scholars

Ambassadorial Scholars engage in graduate studies in selected fields. Among the more than 40,000 alumni are Paul Voelker, Bill Moyers and Richard Ebert. The Rotary Foundation is the largest scholarship providing organization in the world.



THE FUTURE VISION PLAN

On July 1, 2014, a multi year study of how the foundation functions finally came to fruition. Much of the administration of the grants process transferred to the districts and a significant increase in the utilization of our contributions falls to the districts.



SIX AREAS OF FOCUS

- Water and Sanitation
- Peace and Conflict Resolution
- Maternal and Child Health Care
- Basic Education and Literacy
- Economic Development
- Disease Prevention and Treatment

What can an organization do to bring peace to the world... *“We bring food to the hungry, water to the thirsty, medicine for the sick and education for the children...these are Rotary’s instruments of peace.”*

Cliff Docterman
Rotary International President
1992-93



“The Rotary Foundation is the masterpiece of Rotary International. It transforms our most daring dreams in the most splendid realities...it brings help and cooperation to solve the problems that affect mankind... The Rotary Foundation achieves the best that mankind can possibly hope for.”

Paulo V.C. Costa
Trustee Chair 1996



The mission of the Rotary Foundation is to enable Rotarians to advance international understanding, goodwill and peace through the improvement of health support of education and the alleviation of poverty.

