

vaccinate children in remote locations, and their determination never wavers.”

The livestream event was part of a two-day Rotary zone institute. RI Director Patrick Eakes, who convened the institute, said Pittsburgh was a perfect location because it’s where Dr. Jonas Salk developed the vaccine. “We realized we were in a unique position,” said Eakes, a member of the Rotary Club of Crescent (Greensboro), North Carolina, USA.

Dr. Peter L. Salk, president of the Jonas Salk Legacy Foundation in La Jolla, California, and a part-time professor at the University of Pittsburgh School of Public Health, talked about what drove his father to develop the first inactive polio vaccine.

“He just never let go,” Salk recalled. “It was his personality to have a dream and get things done.”

Salk said his father wanted to make a difference in the world from a young age and became interested in science. After working in the U.S. state of Michigan on an influenza vaccine, he came to Pittsburgh in 1947 to work at the virus research lab and received a grant for polio research from the National Foundation for Infantile Paralysis. That led to his work developing the inactive polio vaccine.

Other presenters at the livestream event included 2016-17 RI President John Germ. Several members of Rotary’s eradication effort also sent video messages.

In a video shown at the event that was originally recorded for the 2023 Rotary International Convention, Gates Foundation co-founder Bill Gates lauded the commitment toward eradication. “When polio is eradicated, it will be one of the biggest advances in public health in human history,” said Gates. The Gates Foundation, a partner in the GPEI, matches up to US\$50 million that Rotary raises each year at a 2-to-1 ratio, which means up to US\$150 million for the effort each year.

Salk, too, said he was honored to be in a room full of Rotary members who have a passion for solving tough problems.

“Every time I get together with Rotarians,” he said, “I am just uplifted by the quality of humanity that you all radiate and the dedication you put in all the different realms helping the world become a better place.”

# THE EARLY RISER

EVERY ROTARIAN  
US \$100  
EVERY YEAR



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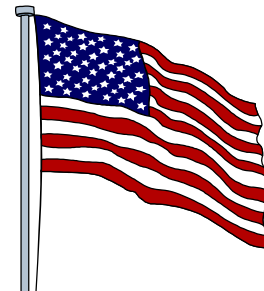
## THE ROTARY 4 WAY TEST

First: Is it the TRUTH?

Second: Is it FAIR to all concerned?

Third: Will it build  
GOODWILL and BETTER  
FRIENDSHIPS?

Fourth: Will it be  
BENEFICIAL to all  
concerned?



## ROTARY PRAYER

Oh Lord, and giver of all good, we  
thank Thee for our daily food.

May Rotary friends and Rotary  
ways, help to serve Thee all of our  
days.

# THE ROTARY CLUB OF WICHITA FALLS NORTH



2024-25 R.I. President and D5790 Governor:

President of Rotary International: Stephanie Urchick  
5790 District Governor: Andy Eads

**THE ROTARY CLUB OF WICHITA FALLS (NORTH), TEXAS**

President: Matthew Milhollon

Website: [www.wichitafallsnorthrotaryclub.org](http://www.wichitafallsnorthrotaryclub.org)

## FUTURE PROGRAM ASSIGNMENTS

November 1 - U-tube Video, South African Cafeteria Project ~ Troy Secord  
November 8 ----- Oku Okeke  
November 15 ----- **Board Meeting**  
November 22 -- Jeani Secord ~ Dr. Donnie Lee, Superintendent WFISD  
November 25 ---Rotary North Fall Social at The Loft in Downtown WF  
November 29 ----- **NO MEETING ~ THANKSGIVING**  
December 6 ----- Rob Noble  
December 13 ---- Cindy Noe, Ex. Director, Rolling Meadows ~ Linda Sheriff  
December 20 ----- **Board Meeting**  
December 27 ----- **CANCELLED FOR THE HOLIDAYS**  
January 3 -----George Getschow and Kathy Floyd  
from the Larry McMurtry Literary Center ~ Tom Sheriff  
January 10 ----- Phil Waggoner  
January 17 ----- **Board Meeting**  
January 24 ----- Clint Wood  
January 31 ----- Joe Clement

### NEWS FROM OUR LAST CLUB MEETING HELD AT THE HAMPTON:

Matt presented the Rotary Prayer and the club in the pledges.

Rob was back after a successful hip replacement. It was announced that it was his 75<sup>th</sup> birthday. Welcome back and congratulations!

Bill presented the program. *After a brief Utube video about the 3 Stooges singing the Alphabet Song*, Bill's program was about being healthy and eating your vegetables. If you eat your veggies, everything will be just fine!



I believe the raffle raised \$23.00. Tom was the lucky winner and he drew the 6 of diamonds for a \$5.00 prize. If this week's lucky raffle winner draws the ace of spades they will win 141.00 + ½ or what is raised today.

## NEWS FROM ROTARY INTERNATIONAL:

‘WHEN,’ NOT ‘IF’: PROGRESS CONTINUES TOWARD ENDING POLIO

Eradicating polio around the world is still an attainable goal, Rotary International President Stephanie A. Urchick and public health experts said as they commemorated World Polio Day in the city where the vaccine was developed.

“I know it is a question of *when* polio will be eradicated, not *if*,” Urchick told the audience at [a livestream event on 24 October](#) that was hosted by the University of Pittsburgh in Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania, USA.

“Our Action Plan talks about improving our impact. That’s really where our polio eradication program shines,” Urchick added. “Millions of children won’t get this crippling disease. Billions of U.S. dollars won’t be spent on ancillary health care costs as a result of this disease. We have made so much progress.”

World Polio Day raises awareness and funds for the Global Polio Eradication Initiative’s work to eliminate the disease. Since Rotary and its partners formed the GPEI in 1988, the number of wild polio cases has decreased by 99.9%. The event highlighted Rotary’s continuing efforts toward complete eradication.

Polio remains endemic in two countries, Afghanistan and Pakistan. In 2024, increased case counts of wild poliovirus and the first case of paralytic polio in Gaza in 25 years served as a reminder that until the disease is fully eliminated everywhere, it remains a threat to children everywhere.

Despite the challenges, Michael K. McGovern, chair of the International PolioPlus Committee, said he remains confident as ever that global eradication is within reach. “We’re in a bumpy period, but we’re going to get this done by continuing to focus on Afghanistan and Pakistan and doing the things that were done so successfully by Rotarians,” he said. The event included videos featuring polio vaccination workers in the field. Urchick said she was inspired by them during a visit to Karachi, Pakistan, earlier this year.

“Men work diligently to immunize thousands of children every day at traffic checkpoints, while women go house to house to reach families directly,” Urchick said. “Some workers literally climb mountains to