

CLUB NEWS

DATE: July 4, 2017

NO MEETING

DATE: July 11, 2017

INVOCATION: Peggy Woods

PROGRAM CHAIR: Robert McKay

PROGRAM SPEAKER: Kate Sims, Rotary member and speaker for District training will discuss Club Runner and Club Central.

DATE: July 18, 2017

INVOCATION: Tom Accomando

PROGRAM CHAIR: Helen Arnold

PROGRAM SPEAKER: Spiros Hatiras, President of Holyoke Medical Center will discuss what's new at Holyoke Medical Center.

DATE: July 25, 2017

INVOCATION: TBD

PROGRAM CHAIR: Barbara Baran

PROGRAM SPEAKER: Lesley Birk, District Executive for the Boy Scouts of America will speak on Boy Scouts and their progress on developing troops in the area.

POSITIVELY HOLYOKE SUMMER CONCERT SERIES!

Time: 6 pm - 8 pm

Venue: Holyoke Heritage State Park

Refreshments: 5:30 pm - 8 pm

Free Admission & Parking

JULY 19	Darik & the Funbags
JULY 26	Out of the Blue
AUGUST 2	Union Jack British Invasion Band
AUGUST 9	Trailer Trash

Member Birthdays

Goss, Bob	Jul 07
Baran, Barbara	Jul 12
Buckley, Deborah	Jul 17
Arnold, Helen	Jul 20
Desnoyers, Robert	Jul 23
Corrigan, Steve	Jul 28

Anniversaries

Carl & Shirley Eger	Jul 10: 51 years
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Rotary Anniversaries

Kulig, Wes	4 years
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UPCOMING PROGRAM ASSIGNMENTS

1-Aug-17	Christine Burns
8-Aug-17	Stephen Corrigan
15-Aug-17	Deborah Buckley
22-Aug-17	Katie Buckley
29-Aug-17	CLUB ASSEMBLY

Rotary and the Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation announce \$450 million commitment to end polio

June 12, 2017

By Audrey Carl

Today in Atlanta Rotary President John Germ and Bill Gates, co-chair of the Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation, announced a commitment of up to \$450 million to support the eradication of polio.

To an audience of nearly 40,000 Rotary members attending the humanitarian organization's annual convention, Rotary and the Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation renewed their longstanding support for ending polio – a paralyzing, life-altering scourge on the verge of becoming the second human disease ever to be eliminated. Rotary committed to raise \$50 million per year over the next three years, with every dollar to be matched with two additional dollars from the Gates Foundation. This expanded agreement will translate into \$450 million for polio eradication activities, including immunization and surveillance over the next three years. This critical funding helps ensure countries around the world remain polio-free and that polio is ended in the remaining three endemic countries: Afghanistan, Nigeria, and Pakistan.

"In 2016, fewer children were paralyzed by polio than ever before, thanks to the dedication of Rotary members and our partners," said Germ. "The paralysis of even one child by a preventable disease is unacceptable, and I'm proud to see our members redoubling their commitment to ensure we reach every single child with the polio vaccine."

In a partnership spanning a decade, Rotary and the Gates Foundation, along with the other Global Polio Eradication Initiative (GPEI) partners, have led the effort to end polio worldwide. This funding extension reaffirms a commitment established at the 2013 Rotary Convention in Lisbon, Portugal, when the Gates Foundation pledged to match Rotary contributions two-to-one, up to \$35 million per year through 2018. Rotary, including matching funds from the Gates Foundation, has donated more than \$1.6 billion to polio eradication.

"The vision of eradicating polio began with Rotary, and its support

of that effort has been unwavering for more than 35 years," said Gates. "Rotary's commitment to raise \$150 million over the next three years to end polio forever is a testament to the compassion, generosity, and kindness of more than a million Rotarians around the world."

Today's announcement comes on the heels of the news that world governments and other donors have pledged to contribute US\$1.2 billion total to the GPEI for polio eradication efforts. The government funding—also announced today at the Rotary Convention—will substantially help to close the US\$1.5 billion funding gap, allowing partners to immunize 450 million children every year and support rigorous disease surveillance in both endemic and at-risk polio-free countries. While the government funding announced today makes considerable headway in the fight to end polio, continued support from donors remains vital to achieve a polio-free world.

The global eradication of polio has been Rotary's top priority since 1985. Through the Global Polio Eradication Initiative – a public-private partnership that includes Rotary, the Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation, the U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, the World Health Organization, and UNICEF – the incidence of polio has plummeted by more than 99.9 percent, from about 350,000 cases a year at the start of the initiative to just 37 cases in 2016.



Ashleigh Banfield of CNN interviews Bill Gates of the Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation RI President John Germ.