



Ron D. Burton
President, 2013-14

T +1.847.866.3025
F +1.847.866.3390
ron.burton@rotary.org

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Dear Rotary Club President,

Back in 2005, a group of Chicago area Rotarians boldly purchased the former home of Rotary's founder, Paul Harris. Paul and Jean Harris had named their home, Comely Bank, which was the street that Jean Harris had lived on in Edinburgh, Scotland as a child. The vision of the Rotarians who purchased the home was to restore it to the way it had been in 1947 when Paul Harris passed away.

Despite their noble intentions to preserve this historic home on the south side of Chicago, it has not been an easy journey. The house is in need of significant repair. The Paul and Jean Harris Home Foundation which was established by the group that purchased the home has borne the annual expenses of the property -- taxes, snow removal, lawn care, insurance, etc.

To fully restore the home, landscape the property and establish an endowment to provide an income stream to defray the annual expenses is a US\$5 million project. We are passionate about Rotary's history and this project and would like to see Rotarians in United States and around the world give consideration to how they can help. Jetta and I established a Donor Advised Fund, through the Rotary Foundation to encourage others to give. Donations do not qualify for Paul Harris credits.

I am writing to ask US Rotary clubs and Rotarians to join us in helping to preserve this unique part of our history. We invite you to join us in this important work to preserve Paul Harris' home and ask your Rotary club to make a donation of \$1000.00 to preserve the Paul Harris home.

Please follow the links below to the project brochure and a link to a video that outlines the scope of the project, and how you can donate.

Thank you as you Engage Rotary and Change Lives.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Ron D. Burton". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a large initial "R" and "B".

Ron D. Burton
President of Rotary International – 2013-2014

Video of Harris Home – <http://www.paulharrishome.org>

Paul and Jean Harris Home brochure -
http://www.paulharrishome.org/uploads/2/3/7/3/23734072/phhome_brochenglish.pdf

Paul Harris Home Campaign Pledge Form -
www.paulharrishome.org/uploads/2/3/7/3/23734072/paul_harris_home_campaign_pledge_form.pdf