# ROTARY NOTARY



### **Birthdays:**

Tim Link	10/28
Ely Luna	10/28
Jaden Randle	10/29
Fred Heismeyer	10/31

### **At Rotary Today:**

Greeter: Deb Brinegar

Invocation, Flag Salute, and Four-way test: Fred Heismeyer

**Rotary Anniversaries:** Denise Hearson—4 years

*Wedding Anniversary:* Scott and Amanda Holder— 13 years

### **Quote of the Week:**

Happiness does not come from football awards. It's terrible to correlate happiness with football. Happiness comes from a good job, being able to feed your wife and kids. I don't dream football, I dream the American dream – two cars in a garage, be a happy father.

-Barry Sanders

## WE ARE THIS CLOSE TO ERADICATING POLIO EVERYWHERE!



EWR member and polio survivor Don Schierer is flanked by EWR members following today's meeting. Today is World Polio Day, a celebration of Rotary International's leadership role in eradicating polio across the world.

otary International first tackled polio with a vaccination project in the Phillippines in 1979. Since 1985, Rotary has contributed nearly \$1.2 billion and countless volunteer hours to the protection of more than two billion children in 122 countries. The disease remains endemic in three countries-Nigeria, Afghanistan, and Pakistanalthough other countries remain at risk for imported cases.

A short video at the beginning of today's meeting showed the polio vaccine being transported all over the world, just so children in even remote areas could be protected from this often fatal disease.

Our own Don Schierer had polio as a child. He was 3 1/2 years old when he contracted it, leading to paralysis from the neck down. After two weeks in the hospital he gradually started to get some feeling back but lost mobility in his legs, necessitating the use of a wheelchair.

In 1951 Schierer's mother won a television contest to be "Queen for a Day," and the two of them traveled (by bus) to Los Angeles for the show's filming. By this time Schierer was walking with the assistance of leg braces. He could handle any obstacle, he decided, and even attempted to walk across ice. After falling five times, he decided that ice was one obstacle he couldn't overcome.

Because Schierer's mother was very involved with the local March of Dimes chapter, he met many celebrities who came to town for fundraising events. Later, Schierer took up swimming and was part of the Paralympics at the University of Illinois. Many years later his children dared him to become involved in skiing, which he took up.

Schierer lives a rich and full life in spite of having had polio as a toddler and would like to see the disease fully eradicated. He's concerned that parents are foregoing vaccinations for their children due to fears that the vaccine can cause polio. According to the Centers for Disease Control, Vaccine-associated paralytic poliomyelitis (VAPP) is sporadic and rare. There is very little evidence that the vaccine virus circulates from VAPP cases, and there are no outbreaks associated with VAPP. He urges Rotarians to make sure their children and grandchildren understand the importance of vaccinating all children across the globe.

Because we're *this close* to eliminating polio for good.

### **Upcoming Events:**

**October 26**—Art for Access, a celebration of Project Access, will take place at the New York Life Building, 125 N. Market, on Friday, October 26 from 5:30—7:30 p.m. To RSVP call Angela at 316-688-0600 by this Friday.

**October 26-28**—See our own Sarah Wine perform in the new musical comedy the Addams Family at the Scottish Rite Center, 332 E 1st. Performances are at 8 pm on Friday and Saturday, and at 7 pm Sunday.

October 29—OPEN HOUSE at Red Cross, 707 N. Main, from 4—6 p.m. Meet new Executive Director Shannon Wedge, and tour the new Bloodmobile and Blood Center. EWR member Deb Brinegar will be on hand to say hello as well.

### EWR VOLUNTEERS SET RECORD

On Saturday, October 20, EWR volunteers, along with friends and spouses, helped prepare and distribute sacks of toiletries and other items for 544 families at the Head-to-Toe Hygiene Pantry. This is the highest number of families served in one day through this project, which is a ministry of University Congregational Church. Volunteers distributed shampoo, toothpaste, diapers, and other much-needed items to families who often have to make the choice: do I pay for my medication this month or toilet paper? Below are some of the EWR members who came out on a Saturday morning to help.



Justin Baxter and his wife Meghan helped stock, sort, and supply bags of toiletries for families, many of whom arrived at 7:00 in the morning for a choice spot in line before the pantry opened at 8:30. The pantry is open for distribution on the third Saturday of each month.

### Let's Talk Turkey!

It's hard to believe but Thanksgiving is in 4 weeks! We'll collect donations



through November 11 for turkey dinners that EWR members will deliver to families in need on November 20. Every dollar brings us closer to our goal of delivering 102 dinners!

### **Next Week:**

Photojournalist Larry Hatteberg will be our speaker.







Senior Minister of University Congregational Church and EWR member Robin McGonigle, (L), thanked all EWR volunteers like Michael Moeder (R) for their help, saying, "Thank you for giving up your Saturday morning for this project. You made a smile on my face that lasted all weekend."