

## ***November is Foundation Month!***



It is a time to celebrate Rotary and our many accomplishments, but we must keep in mind that these accomplishments don't just happen. Through giving to The Rotary Foundation (TRF) we fuel the determination and commitment of Rotarians to do local and international projects. There are three arms to TRF giving:

1. ***Polio Plus*** began in 1985 working with organization like WHO, UNICEF, the CDC and the Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation. Since 1988 polio has been eradicated in 120 countries, with over \$1.6 billion raised by Rotarians and 2.5 children immunized. Gary Nolte serves as our Zone 28 director for Polio Plus and PDG Cindy Nolte serves as our District Chair for polio.
2. Contributions made to ***The Annual Fund*** (Jim McDonald, Chair) are held by TRF for 3 years (proceeds are used to pay for staff administration). Funds contributed in 2013/2014 of \$225,456 were evenly divided between our District SHARE Account and the World Fund. The SHARE also collects interest on the Endowment Fund annually and returns that annually to the SHARE. Our D5580 leadership elected to send 50% of the SHARE to District Grants (Blake Crosby, Grants Chair) and 50% to Global Grants (Roly Turner & Dave Gottenborg Stewardship Co-Chairs), Vocational Training Teams (Rick Bricker, Chair), Ambassadorial Scholars and Peace Scholars (PDG Tom Riley & Jill Zachary Co-Chairs). The World Fund is used to match District Designated Funds (in the SHARE Account) and club contributions for Global Grants, Vocational Training Teams, Ambassadorial Scholars and Peace Scholars.
3. The ***Endowment Fund*** is chaired by PDG Earl Rogers. Your contributions are invested in perpetuity. A percentage of the total value of the Endowment Fund is spent annually to benefit current and future Foundation grants and programs. The Foundation has set a goal of \$2.025 billion in Endowment Fund assets and gift commitments by 2025. Only the interest on endowments is returned annually to the SHARE Account.

A webinar was held on Friday November 4<sup>th</sup> in which TRF informed Zone leadership of something BIG:

Beginning 1 January 2017 for a three-year pilot program, it will be possible to fund low cost shelters and simple schools as a part of Global Grants. What the terms "low cost" and "simple" mean has not yet been defined. (For school structures, the word "simple" is what is being used so far. It will be interesting to see if it gets changed to something else, for example, "basic.") TRF staff is working on the full terms and conditions for such projects and those should be published soon. From what I have garnered thus far, such construction will have to be a part of a larger project regarding an Area of Focus. (The only one I have heard mentioned is Economic and Community Development, but I suspect that others, such as Basic Education and Literacy, will make the cut.) Building a structure will not be enough; it will have to be coupled other related project initiatives. Sustainability, of course, will be a requirement.

When more information is available, I will certainly make it available to all D5580 Rotarians.

Keith Brokke  
District 5580 Foundation Chair