Shirley R. Griffin is a Polio Survivor who has spent her life of Rotary service to supporting the efforts of The Rotary Foundation to eradicate polio since joining the organization in 1995. As the wife of a physician, she understands the pluses and minuses of fighting disease and disabilities.

She has served on the foundation committee of the Longview Rotary Club since joining the club and has led them to a position of district leadership in both gifts to the Annual Fund of The Rotary Foundation and continuous leadership in the districts Polio Plus fund raising. Her involvement in the foundation efforts of the club led to her service as one of their first female Club Presidents in 2006-2007.

Following her year of service as Club President, she elevated her district involvement by agreeing to serve as District Polio Subcommittee Chair in 2008-2009. Her leadership brought about the largest increase in annual district giving and set the tone for our efforts in meeting the Polio Challenge by obtaining an increasing number of active giving clubs each year until we reached a point where all clubs were contributing to the Polio Plus effort.

Shirley has now completed 20 years of service to the district Polio Subcommittee and has resumed the position as chair since finishing her year as District Governor in 2011-2012. During her year as DGE, she led the Polio Challenge campaign that generated over $113,000 in contributions to the cause. This was our best year in support of Polio Plus. She followed this with a year of Polio giving while DG totaling $71,678, our second best year.

Following her year as DG, Shirley made a trip to India to participate in an N.I.D. which she considers the high point of her Rotary Service.

Shirley and her husband John are Major Donors to The Rotary Foundation and actively participate in District and Zone activities and fund raisers for local activities as well as Global Grants, District Grant, and in active support of our Global and Peace Scholars.

It is my belief that no one in our District has done more to promote the concepts of service though giving to The Rotary Foundation than PDG Shirley Griffin. Her leadership within the Polio Plus fundraising during the eight years that she has served as Chair now totals over $487,000 with another strong year under way. She is deserving of this recognition for her service to the eradication of Polio.

DG Tom DeWitt