



November 15, 2025
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**Foundation Grant
Training Seminar**

FOUNDATION CELEBRATION 2025



John Weismantall

Rotary Club of Ellicotville
Foundation Annual Fund Chair

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**Successful
Dr Ron Mergl Participate for
Polio**



see page 11



The Gift That Outlives Us All

**Named Endowment Funds
Endow your
values—and watch the
earnings fuel Rotary
programs in perpetuity**
page 5



**See recent
Paul Harris Fellows**

page 12

**64
MEMBERS
AND
GROWING**

Page 6

**JOIN THE
PAUL HARRIS
SOCIETY
TODAY**



**Successful
Run, Walk, Ride for Polio**
see page 11





July 1-Goals set for Foundation not too late!!
On going-qualifying for district and global grants online
October 20-Ontario Cluster Grant Project Selection

VIRTUAL OFFICE HOURS

September 25 5:30-6:30 -Club Foundation Chair, Presidents and PE essentials for the year (all welcome) hosts-Sandi Chard -ARRFC and Lisa Bishop EPNC zone 28

October 28-5:30-6:30-You joined Rotary now “what is The Rotary Foundation you hear Rotarians talking about? Find out the secret to Rotary engaging in projects in your community and around the world with The Rotary Foundation

Perfect for new Rotarians and seasoned Rotarians can learn as well

October 25 Light Up Niagara Falls for Polio Plus

November 15



**FOUNDATION
CELEBRATION
2025**

\$35 includes:
 Rotary District 7090
 Grant Qualification
 Lunch

Message from Acting DRFC-Dave Alexander

A Rotary Challenge: Find One Unmet Need

Sometimes we all need a nudge. If you’re reading this, ask yourself: What is one unmet need in our Rotary community? Start a conversation with your club teammates. Then explore: How will we measure this need? Who are the community partners already working on it? Can our club convene these partners and tackle it with a District Grant through the District 7090 Foundation?

Leaders: Widen the Lens

If you’re a club leader, think bigger. Do nearby clubs see the same need? What priorities is your Area Governor observing? Could we team up across clubs for a stronger, grant-funded project? Has a Rotary club elsewhere done something similar we can learn from?

Partner Smart

If your club has its own foundation, consider partnering with the District 7090 Foundation Committee to amplify impact. Solving a visible need attracts people to your cause—and to Rotary.

Next Steps

Add this discussion to your next club or board agenda. Identify a small working group, connect with the District Foundation contacts, and sketch out a plan and timeline. One clear need. One coordinated effort. Real impact.



HATS OFF TO GENEROUS D7090 ROTARIANS!!!

We ask that all Rotarians contribute at least \$100 a year to the Rotary Foundation.

Monthly Feature: John Weismantel Chair Annual Fund

Why I Give to Rotary: My Rotary Experience

One member's story of how giving to Rotary creates lasting impact.



My Rotary journey started long before I officially became a member. Back in 2005, the President of the Rotary Club of Ellicottville asked if I could donate a round of golf for four at my local country club to support their big fundraiser. I was glad to help.

A few months later, as I was leaving a restaurant, that same President caught me to share what my donation had accomplished: it raised enough money to provide Thanksgiving and Christmas dinners — plus Christmas gifts — for a single mother of two battling breast cancer.

I remember thinking, “Wow. One small gesture made such a meaningful difference.” At that moment I promised myself: “As soon as I retire, I’m going to join this caring group of people who are making lives better.”

At the time, I was a district manager for Novartis Pharmaceuticals. With all the travel, I knew I couldn’t fully commit until retirement. Ten years later, in March 2015, I retired — and by summer, I proudly joined Rotary. Since then, I’ve had the honor of serving as Club President for six of the last eight years, and as Assistant Governor for Area 16 for three years. These roles gave me a front-row seat to the incredible good Rotary brings — locally and globally.

The Local Impact

- Computers for our schools *Lunches for students during the COVID pandemic *A new playground and skate park
- *Scholarships for graduating seniors *Warm coats for families in need *Support for food pantries *Suicide prevention education

The Global Impact

- *Eradicating polio * Providing clean water * Supporting mothers and children *Fighting human trafficking
- *Countless other projects changing lives around the world

Through this, I came to truly understand how the Rotary Foundation works — and how every gift, no matter the size, comes back to fuel both global and local projects. Half of the funds donated return to our district three years later as matching grants for our clubs to use in their own communities. That cycle of giving and receiving is powerful.

After witnessing all of this, I became convinced: The Rotary Foundation is the best charity in the world. I began giving annually and became a Paul Harris Sustaining Member. A few years ago, while preparing for a medical procedure, I updated my will and realized I wanted my Rotary giving to continue even when I no longer could. That’s when I joined the Bequest Society, designating part of my estate to the Endowment Fund. This means my contributions will continue to support Rotary projects for generations to come.

Why I Give

I know not everyone can give in the same way. Some can give annually, others may give through estate planning, and some may only be able to give a little here and there. But that’s the beauty of Rotary: every contribution matters.

Whether it’s a round of golf, a few dollars each year, or a planned gift for the future, every act of giving fuels life-changing projects. And best of all — Rotary ensures those dollars are used wisely, consistently earning top ratings for accountability and impact.

For me, giving to Rotary isn’t just about money — it’s about hope, service, and leaving a legacy of good in the world. And honestly?

It feels amazing to be part of that.

A FOUNDATION MOMENT

The Rotary Foundation is the engine that transforms and supports projects that changes lives in our local communities and around the world.

HOW DID THE ROTARY FOUNDATION GET STARTED?

The Foundation began after Rotary's sixth president, Arch Klumph, suggested in 1917 that Rotary should have an endowment fund "for the purpose of doing good in the world." Starting from an initial contribution of US\$26.50 from the Rotary Club of Kansas City, Missouri, USA, the Foundation has received more than \$6.1 billion in total contributions. The Foundation made a grant of \$500 to an organization supporting children with special needs in 1930 and continues to do good around the world in Rotary's name.

Thank you for supporting the Foundation and its work.

INVESTING IN ACTION

The Rotary Foundation plans for the future, not just for today, and helps members put ideas into action. **In the words of Arch Klumph, RI President, 1916/17:**

"Rotary has assumed a great obligation to the world Its opportunities are limitless, but its income today and of tomorrow will never permit it to do the many things which it could and should do. Let me remind you of these three facts: (1) money alone does little good, (2) individual service is helpless without money, (3) the two together can be a godsend to civilization."



Thank you for the time, energy, and financial support you give to Rotary's mission.

< Visit my.rotary.org/donate



WHAT DID ARCH KLUMPH SAY ABOUT THE FOUNDATION'S IMPACT?

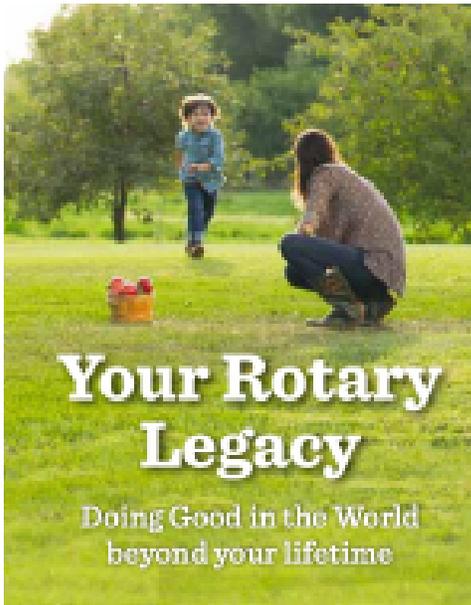
"The Rotary Foundation is not to build monuments of brick and stone. If we work upon marble,
it will perish; if we work on brass, time will efface it; if we rear temples, they will crumble
into
dust; but if we work upon immortal minds, if we imbue them with the full meaning of the
spirit
of Rotary ... we are engraving on those tablets something that will brighten all eternity."
— Arch Klumph, 1916-17 Rotary president

How do these words resonate now as we think about increasing our impact?

From an Endowment Point of View

Named Endowment Funds, from an Endowment point of view.

**A named endowment turns one gift into continuous impact—
today and for generations**



Rotary's named Endowment Funds are vital for providing sustainable, long-term funding for Rotary's global humanitarian projects by preserving and investing the principal of your gift and using only a portion of the earnings. The importance lies in creating a lasting legacy, supporting Rotary's mission into perpetuity, allowing for continuous support of Rotary's programs and offering donors the ability to honor individuals and create a personal, trackable impact for future generations.

When you donate to the Annual Fund it helps people around the World live better lives today and when you give to the Endowment Fund you support life changing programs today and forever. These gifts ensures a steady, ongoing stream of funding to support Rotary's work forever.

By including a gift to Rotary's Endowment in your estate plans you may personalize your legacy with a separately identified fund that bears your name, your family's name, or that of a loved one, and with larger gifts it may be possible to more-narrowly direct the use of the funds to specific programs or regions. The minimum amount to establish a named fund is USD \$25,000. There are many ways for your gift to have positive impact in the future creating a personal legacy that is recognized and tracked for years.



Planned gifts, such as bequests in a will, can direct future resources to specific causes and themes within the Endowment, ensuring that a donor's values continue to have an impact long after their lifetime.

Endowment funds provide crucial resources for the Rotary Foundation's wide range of activities, including Rotary Peace Centers, global grant projects, and district grants, helping to fund life-changing projects around the world.

As the Endowment Fund grows through continued investment and new contributions, the annual earnings increase, providing more resources for Rotary members to address community and global needs.



Wolfgang Lindemann
RC of Norfolk Sunrise
District Endowment/ Major Gift
Subcommittee Chair
wolflindemann1@gmail.com



What is a Paul Harris Society Member?

The Paul Harris Society recognizes Rotary members and friends of The Rotary Foundation who elect to contribute \$1,000 US or more each year to the Annual Fund, PolioPlus Fund, or approved global grants.

The purpose of the Paul Harris Society is to honor and thank individuals for their generous, ongoing support of The Rotary Foundation.

Paul Harris Society contributions also count toward Sustaining Member (Annual Fund contributions only), Every Rotarian Every Year (Annual Fund contributions only), Paul Harris Fellow, and Major Donor recognition.

Recognition consists of a chevron style pin and a certificate provided by your District Paul Harris Society Coordinator.

Are you interested in taking the next step in supporting our Foundation?

Commit to a yearly donation and join our growing community dedicated to making a difference. Your support helps us empower others and create lasting change. Get involved today and make an impact!

For more information contact PHS coordinator Paul Lehman



PAUL HARRIS SOCIETY

Rotary Foundation | **A yearly commitment to doing good in the world!**

64 MEMBERS AND GROWING

Rotary District 7090



When you join The Rotary Foundation's Paul Harris Society, you will join a special group of Rotarians that make a \$1,000 or more yearly commitment to help change

lives around the world. The Paul Harris Society member's ongoing donations are vital for The Rotary Foundation to continue to *do good* in the world!

Go to the Paul Harris Society page www.rotary.org/paulharrissociety

What's the Difference Between a Paul Harris Fellow and the Paul Harris Society?

The PHS is a special category of PHF where a Rotarian (or even a non-Rotarian) agrees to contribute a minimum of \$1,000 (USD) every year when financially able.

The easiest way is monthly thru Rotary Direct

Grants Chair - Sue Foster
Sub-committee - Club Grants Chair
suefoz@gmail.com



QUALIFYING YOUR CLUBS In Preparation to Receive Matching Grants

First steps to preparing to submit a district grant request is to make sure your club has been qualified so you can receive matching funds.

1. Last month we talked about entering Rotary Foundation and Polio goals and an active Foundation Chair assigned to “My Rotary”. If you need help in setting goals, please contact Dave Alexander, John Weismantel or Annie Holtby. If you haven’t already completed this step talk to the person responsible in your club for setting goals and see if they can get this task completed.
2. The second step to get your club qualified is to have 2 ACTIVE members complete online training or attend a District Foundation Training session.

November 15 the District at the District Foundation Celebration is offering a Foundation Training session as part of the agenda of the celebration. Have TWO ACTIVE members attend the celebration and your club has fulfilled the second requirement to qualify to receive matching grants funds.

[Link for more information and to register for the Foundation Celebration](#)

If you are unable to have two ACTIVE Members attend and want to do online training
<https://my.rotary.org/en>

Sign into My Rotary and access the Learning Centre, for foundation online training courses

Global Grants



Breaking News

Just approved at the District Foundation meeting: more district designated matching funds now available for global grant projects!

For global grant projects hosted in D7090 and the International partner is in D7090 matching district designated funds will increase to **\$20,000. This will result in a world fund match of 80% for an additional **\$16,000!****

We hope to see your next global grant project in our D7090 neighborhood where we unite to do good in our world!

And there is more good news for D7090 Cluster Grant projects - for project budgets of \$75,000 and above matching will now be **\$20,000, and for project budgets under \$75,000 matching will be increased to **\$15,000**.**

I challenge all the D7090 clubs to participate in the 2025-2026 cluster grant and maximize the \$20,000 matching funds! It only takes \$1,000USD to pledge to the project. This way each of us has the opportunity to do good in our world!

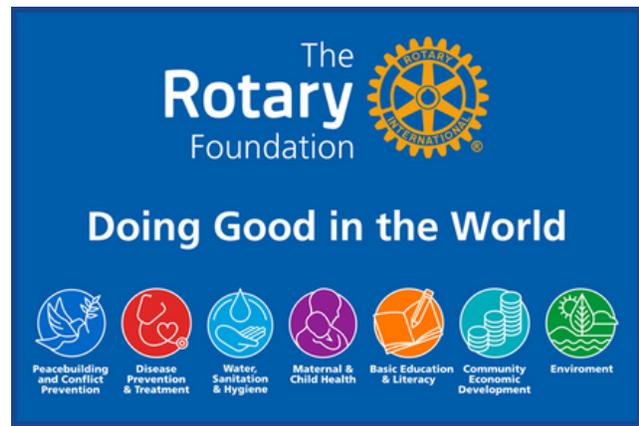
New for 2025–2026 Global Grant Applications – District 7090

To support clubs across D7090 in planning successful Global Grant projects, we're now asking that a "Notice of Intent" form be completed before submitting your project in the Grant Center.

This helps our District Grants Committee better guide and support your club throughout the process.

<https://portal.clubrunner.ca/50043/Documents/en-ca/9a1f8516-69e1-4e5b-8191-dcd63bde3e4d/1/>





Cluster Grant Committee is pleased to announce that we have received additional support for the District 7090 Ontario Cluster Fund.

There are now 17 Ontario Clubs supporting the 2025 Global Project that will be selected on October 20, 2025. Clubs that have pledged \$1,000USD to the selected project are:

Brantford Sunrise, Lincoln, Simcoe, Dundas Valley, Niagara Falls, St. Catharines, Dunnville, Niagara Falls Sunrise, St. Catharines Lakeshore, Fonthill, Norfolk Sunrise, St. Catharines South, Grimsby, NOTL, Welland, Flamborough AM, Grimsby.

Funding support for the selected project = \$47,600 USD:

17 Clubs = \$17,000

D7090 matching = \$17,000

World Fund Match of 80% of D7090 Funds = \$13,600

80% of Ontario clubs have pledged funds!

We welcome the remaining 4 clubs to get their pledge in today!

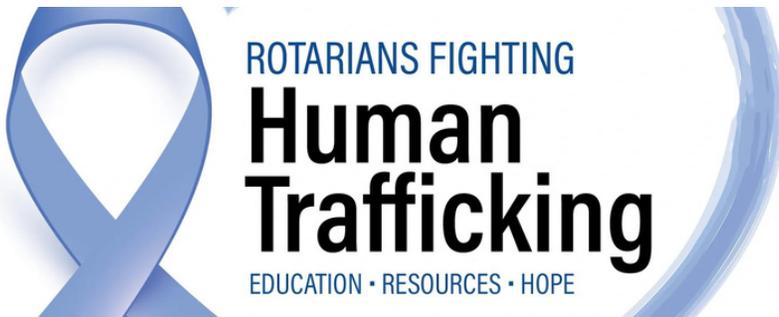
Now we need a project to support

If your club is working on a Global Grant, the Cluster fund is a means for you to fundraise and guarantee that you have the minimum amount of \$30,000.

Project applications must be submitted to David Berry at dberry@cogeco.ca by Oct 13th

This will be our 8th year organizing the Cluster Fund for District 7090 and close to \$500,000 budgeted for these projects.

We all are adhering to the Rotary theme of: "Unite for Good".



USA -Canada Grant Update
GG2570470 Peace & Conflict Prevention
This grant is waiting for approval from The Rotary Foundation. Thanks to all the clubs in District 7090 who are supporting this project in order to combat human trafficking in D7090.
Host Club: RC Lockport
International Partner: RC St. Catharines

**FOUNDATION
CELEBRATION
2025
& Rotary
District Awards**

November 15

**Lincoln Community Centre
4361 Central Avenue
Beamsville, Ontario**

\$35 includes:

**Rotary District 7090
Grant Qualification**

**Lunch
(Chef Brad Rempel)**

**Round table
discussion with
foundation &
fundraising expertise**

**Town of Lincoln
Tourism
"Taste of Lincoln"**



ENDOWMENT FUND-SHARE





Norfolk Sunrise Stroll for Polio-September 13, 2025

**Watch for information in
District October Newsletter
tell us what you are doing for
October 24th polio Day**

WORLD POLIO DAY 24 OCTOBER



Dr. Ron Mergl Participate for Polio September 13 2025-Over \$6800 raised and counting



Run, Walk, Ride for Polio-September 13, 2025

PAUL HARRIS FELLOW



Rotary Club of Kenmore
Rotarian Brandon Blatz



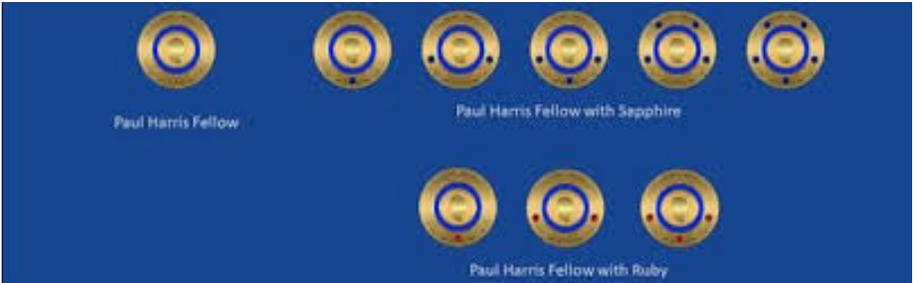
Rotary Club of Kenmore
Ed Hacherl



President Bryan Pett level 2
Rotary Club St. Catharines Lakeshore
presented by Rotary Foundation of Canada
Director Bob Wallace



Gary and Sandi Chard level 5
Rotary Club St. Catharines Lakeshore
presented by Rotary Foundation of Canada
Director Bob Wallace



Please send us your clubs Paul Harris Fellows to be featured

Abbreviations & Their Meaning

- TRF-The Rotary Foundation The Rotary Foundation
Rotary International TRFC-The Rotary Foundation Canada
DDF-District Designated Funds
EREY-Every Rotarian Every Year
MOU-Memorandum of Understanding
GG-global Grants
DG-District Grants (club grants)
DRFC-District Rotary Foundation Chair
ARRFC-Assistant Regional Rotary Foundation Coordinator
PHS-Paul Harris Society
PHF-Paul Harris Fellow
DGSC-District Grants Sub-Committee Chair (usually called Grants Chair)
WF-World Fund
IS – International Service
DRG-District Response Grant
DISC-District International Service Chair

Club Foundation Chair

5 Priorities for Your Club

- **Set measurable goals.** Align committee targets to deliver the club's **Foundation** objectives for the year.
- **Educate & equip.** Provide ongoing training, so members understand **The Rotary Foundation (TRF)** and its impact.
- **Activate participation.** Promote and facilitate member involvement in TRF programs and initiatives.
- **Grow giving.** Ensure the club and its members contribute to **The Rotary Foundation** (Annual Fund, PolioPlus, etc.).
- **Stay grant-ready.** Keep the club qualified for **District and Global Grants** (MOU, training, reporting).

	Flamborough AM, ON, Canada	
Akron-Newstead, NY, United States	Fonthill, ON, Canada	Niagara Falls, ON, Canada
Albion, NY, United States	Grand Island, NY, United States	Niagara Falls Sunrise, ON, Canada
Amherst, NY, United States	Greater Jamestown AM, NY, United States	Niagara-on-the-Lake, ON, Canada
Ancaster A.M., Canada	Grimsby Noon, ON, Canada	Norfolk Sunrise, ON, Canada
Batavia, NY, United States	Grimsby, ON, Canada	Olean, NY, United States
Brantford, ON, Canada	Hamburg, NY, United States	Simcoe, ON, Canada
Brantford-Sunrise, ON, Canada	Hamburg Sunrise, NY, United States	St. Catharines-Lakeshore, ON, Canada
Buffalo Niagara Medical Campus, NY, United States	Hamilton After Five, ON, Canada	St. Catharines, ON, Canada
Buffalo Sunrise, NY, United States	Hamilton "A.M.", ON, Canada	St. Catharines South, ON, Canada
Clarence, NY, United States	Hamilton Stoney Creek, ON, Canada	Waterdown, ON, Canada
Dundas, ON, Canada	Jamestown, NY, United States	Welland, ON, Canada
Dundas Valley Sunrise, ON, Canada	Kenmore, NY, United States	Williamsville, NY, United States
Dunkirk-Fredonia, NY, United States	Lancaster-Depew, NY, United States	<p style="text-align: center;">requirement for Club and Global Grants Thank you to all the Club Foundation Chairs Have a Great Year</p>
Dunnville, ON, Canada	Le Roy, NY, United States	
Eastern Hills Sunrise (Clarence), NY, United States	Lewiston NY USA- Niagara-on-The-Lake, ON Canada, NY, United States	
E-Club of Social Innovators D7090, Canada	Lincoln, ON, Canada	
Ellicottville, NY, United States	Lockport, NY, United States	
Falconer, NY, United States	Medina, NY, United States	

Thank you to clubs that have a recorded a Club Foundation Chair
If you need help please contact John W or Annie



2025-26 District 7090 Rotary Foundation Committee

Note: Many Committee members make great speakers at your club

District Foundation Chair (2025-28) TBA

ACTING DRFC-IPDG Dave Alexander

Past Rotary Foundation Chair - PDG Lisa Bishop

Fundraising Chair -IPDG David Alexander

Annual Fund - John Weismantel

Committee: Annie Holtby

Paul Harris Society - Paul Lehman

Endowment Fund - Wolfgang Lindemann

Polio Plus Chair - Elaine Richard/Frank Adamson

coordinator polio plus-Elaine Richard

Stewardship Chair - Paul Saskowski

committee: Lezlie Murch

Sandi Chard

Grants Chair - Sue Foster

Subcommittee:

Club Grants Chair-Sue Foster

Global Grants Chair- Lezlie Murch District 7090

International Service Committee: Brad Wood

Global Vocational Training Team - Dan Smith

District Scholarships - Carol DeNysschen

Ontario Cluster Fund - Dave Berry

New York Cluster Fund-TBA

District Governor: Aaron Carlson

District Governor Elect: Joanne Serkeyn

Governor-Nominee: Paul Gibel

District Grants Review Committee:

John Boronkay, RC Orchard Park

Margaret Andrewes, RC Lincoln

Don Lawrence, RC Amherst

Jim Ellison, RC LeRoy

Cameron Johnston, RC Brantford Sunrise

Lezlie Murch, RC St. Catharines

Ken Schander, RC Niagara on the Lake

John Teibert, RC St. Catharines South

Glen Christenson -RC Brantford Sunrise

District Scholar Peace Subcommittee Chair Bob Munroe

Bold is Voting Members of Foundation Committee

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