Remembering Jim Mealey

In this issue of the TRF NewsToday we will be remembering PDG Jim Mealey (1931 - 2017) through the memories and tributes of those who knew and respected him and his decades of service in Rotary... and especially his dedication to the work of The Rotary Foundation.

From TRF Chair, Russ Hobbs...

Past District Governor Jim Mealey recently passed away, and as I was sitting in the "Celebration of Life" service held at Los Gatos Lodge I thought back to my early days in Rotary when he used to come to our Club. I had only been a member of the Sunnyvale Rotary Club for a few years in the early 1990's when Jim Mealey would make his Rotary Foundation Annual Giving visit to our Club. I'm sure that over the years our District may have had other great salespeople for The Rotary Foundation, but for me it was Jim. I used to get very confused about the difference between our Club Foundation and The Rotary Foundation and then Jim would come in with his "Rube Goldberg" looking prop and explain how it all worked. I remember being fascinated as he demonstrated how bags of money from all the 33,000 Rotary Clubs around the World poured into the funnel at the top of his prop, and the wheels would turn sending the money To Rotary's World Headquarters in Evanston Illinois. Little men would back up the train cars to collect the bags of money as they fell from the funnel and take it to the Bank to be invested. The funds stayed at the bank for three years gaining interest (which paid for the overhead of The Rotary Foundation), and then after three years it was moved to the Unrestricted (e.g., grants, scholarships, etc.) or Restricted (e.g., Polio Plus) Giving Departments. Once the spinning gears moved the money to the two departments, one half of the Unrestricted funds were ready for the Shipping Department to send them back to the Districts for distribution to the Clubs. Jim explained to us that these Unrestricted funds were available to be matched by the other half of funds kept at Rotary International Headquarters for humanitarian projects around the world. He would always make the point that the big difference between the Club Foundation and The Rotary Foundation was that the TRF funds got matched. After a Jim Mealey presentation--I got it. He had the gift of making a complex subject understandable for me. We all know the "rest of the story"... Jim went on to become our District Governor in 1997-1998, but his love of The Rotary Foundation continued until his death. We no longer have Jim and his "Rube Goldberg" prop to help us understand The Rotary Foundation, but his Legacy lives on, as he remembered The Rotary Foundation in his Estate Planning. If you too have an interest in including TRF in your estate planning give me a call as we have the resources to answer your questions.
Please Note: Many Clubs have not yet entered their Foundation Goals for 2017-2018, making progress-to-goal numbers for the District as a whole inaccurate. Please enter your goals in Rotary Club Central as soon as possible!
One Person Can Make a Difference

Rotary year 1997-98 took on a new meaning for Rotary D-5170 and the Polio Plus Campaign. All the Interact clubs got busy and raised $11,000 for the campaign. Our district, led by District Governor Jim Mealey, decided that we needed to support the Interactors. The idea was born to raise funds which would add to the $11,000 and have the contributions also go to Polio Plus. Not wanting to interfere with Annual Giving Governor Jim and The Rotary Foundation Chairman Jim Walker proposed that the campaign take place in the Spring of 1998. The district got behind the campaign and raised $175,000 which would be matched by TRF. Along with the Interact money the district now had $361,000 to go into the Polio Plus program.

Through Governor Jim’s leadership a new idea was born: Instead of putting the funds just into the program, why not adopt a whole country to immunize? Through the staff at Rotary International and several meetings at the International Convention in Indianapolis between the staff, Rotarians in our district and Rotarians from Ghana, it was decided that we could adopt the whole country of Ghana.

Jim Mealey and Jim Walker felt that since we adopted the country why not take a trip to Ghana and start the immunization process? This led to an initial group of 68 Rotarians making the trip in November of 1998. Since the initial trip several additional trips have been made and over five million children have been inoculated and saved from the devastation of polio. Unfortunately, due to Jim Mealey's wife being ill he was unable to make the initial trip, however, two years later he was able to go and meet all his new Ghanaian friends.

Jim was that one person who stood up and said we can make a difference.

PDG Dwight Perry
2017-18 Polio Plus Chair

Your District TRF Team...Always Ready!

District TRF Chair:  PDG Russ Hobbs (r4hobbs@aol.com )
District Grants Chair:  Cecelia Babkirk (rotariancecelia@gmail.com )
Polio Plus Chair:  PDG Dwight Perry (dwp5334@aol.com )
Annual Giving Chair:  Deb Knowles (Deb.knowles@comcast.net )
Paul Harris Society Chair:  Phil Dean (pndean@comcast.net )
Legacy/Major Donor Chair:  Liz Gallegos (ergallegos@aol.com )
TRF NewsToday Editor:  DGE Tim Lundell (tlundell@earthlink.net )

Always available to answer your Foundation questions!
August Report from the Annual Fund Chair

We're off to a great start this year with the Annual Fund drive. All but a few clubs have appointed their TRF Chair and our District is well on its way to getting goals updated and in the system. To date we have goals for about 32% of the District totaling $369,000. Last year our District raised $764,000 for Rotary International and we're anticipating that we'll exceed $800,000 this year.

On July 26th we held the first of a series of Annual Fund Workshops for Areas 1-4. It was well attended by TRF Chairs and Club President's. We shared and received lots of good ideas to make our Annual Fund campaign a success. Stay tuned; we are planning the next Workshop in early September after vacation season wraps up.

This year we will have a drawing for an expense paid trip to our RI Conference next June in Toronto. That’s right, you could win airfare, hotel and conference fee for you and your spouse/SO to the RI Conference. For every $25 you contribute to the Annual Fund you will receive a chance to win. The deadline for making your contribution is 12/1. Remember all EREY, Sustainer/Double Sustainer, Paul Harris, Paul Harris Society and Rotary Direct contributions will count toward drawing eligibility. Don’t delay...we make an incredible difference in this world through our gifts to Rotary International. And, of course, half of this money comes back in 3 years in the form of DDF.

One way that we can give “systematically” to RI is through Rotary Direct. This is probably the best-kept secret in Rotary. You can authorize monthly, quarterly or annual payments through your bank account or credit card. Of the 3,703 Rotarians in our District, only 67 are signed up to give to Rotary this way. I don’t know about you, but I always intend to give and writing that check just slips my mind until the very end of the year. I just signed up myself...making it 68 in our District. Won’t you consider joining me? It’s easy...just complete the form and fax it in, mail it in or call the Service Center and they’ll take your information.

Deb Knowles
Annual Fund Chair 2017-18
Where Are You on the Path to “TRF Major Donor” Status?

Paul Harris Society Chair Phil Dean Gives Guidance...

I find that many Rotarians are asking for the amount they need to donate to reach Major Donor status. They need to realize that this information is confidential and not available to Club Foundation Chairs or even District staff, but is immediately available to the individual Rotarians. All that is needed is a My Rotary Account and all Rotarians should have one. If any Rotarian doesn't have one, this is a situation that is easily changed. The Rotarian should go to the Rotary International website (rotary.org) and click on the box in red labeled “SIGN IN TO MY ROTARY.” Any Rotarian that has such an account can log in here. Those without a My Rotary account should click on the box labeled “REGISTER FOR AN ACCOUNT.” They will be led through the process and given an account ID and Password. They can then log into their My Rotary account. When this is done, a page opens with a wide blue banner. Click on “The Rotary Foundation” near the middle of the banner. A menu will drop down and then click on “Foundation Reports.” Another page will open headed by “Reports.” Under that will be "Individual Reports” followed by "Contributions & Recognition” and “Donor History Report.” Clicking on the latter will provide a listing of all cash donations made by the Rotarian, as well as Recognition Points received from others.

If the Rotarian has difficulty following the procedure described above, he/she call call the Rotary Support Center at 1-866-976-8279. The Rotary Staff member will help the Rotarian obtain the ID and Password. Also, the Rotarian could ask the Staff member to give them the information they want. The Staff member will usually do that once they verify the membership of the Rotarian.

Fondly Remembering Jim Mealey...

I joined Rotary in 1997. Three years later I was made the Club Foundation Chair. In those days there was no RI website and everything was done by email and paper mail. It took a long time to understand the Foundation and how it worked. One day I learned that the District offered training for Club Foundation Chairs. I signed up for one, and the instructor was Jim Mealey. He taught me the system and the ins and outs of the Foundation. I invited him to give a lecture to my club and he came with his famous chart of the flow of money through the Foundation. Club members told me that they really appreciated his clear descriptions. Since that time Jim and I met at every District function (training sessions, District Assembly, Avenues of Service, District Conference, etc.) and had a great time. The last time I saw Jim was at this year's Roast and Toast. As usual, he spent his time moving around and talking to people. I already miss Jim Mealey!

Phil Dean
ATTENTION:
- ALL CLUBS INVOLVED IN DISTRICT GRANTS -

IMPORTANT DUE DATES:

Final reports for the 2016/2017 Year are due October 31, 2017
New District Grant applications for 2017/2018 are due October 31, 2017

DON’T BE LATE FOR THIS VERY IMPORTANT DATE!

And while we’re on the topic of District Grants....

District Grant Training and Forms Are Available!
www.rotarydistrict5170.org

We are open for business for the 2017-2018 year!

Here are some housekeeping items for clubs wishing to do District Grants in 2017-2018 and/or need to close District Grants that they did in 2016/2017:

- **Final reports for 2016-2017 District Grants are due by October 31st.** Please do our wonderful grants team a favor and complete/submit your final reports as soon as possible, so they don’t have a crunch in the last week of October.

- **District Grant Applications for both local and international projects are due by October 31st.** Your club must be in compliance in order to receive funding for your 2017-2018 projects. This means:
• 2016-2017 District Grant final reports are submitted and accepted

• All club financial obligations are current
• Reports for any Global Grants are current

• Your club has registered its Rotary Foundation Committee Chair, its Foundation giving and Membership Goals

• You or a club representative have completed the online District Grants Training (see notes below)*

• Your club submitted a club MOU signed by both your 2017-2018 Club President and your 2018-2019 President-Elect

All grant forms and resources (both for District and Global Grants are available at www.rotarydistrict5170.org.
[Hover over the “Rotary Foundation” tab and choose “Grants” at the bottom of the dropdown menu.]

Training for purposes of qualifying to do District Grants consists of a series of short power point presentations, followed by a brief questionnaire for each section. It is “open book”. Review each Power Point presentation and respond to the questionnaire. Submit your responses to your Grants Resource Leader. You must complete all parts for your club to be qualified.

Training for Global Grants is expected to be online by Monday, August 21, 2017. The Primary Contact for any Global Grant initiated in a District 5170 club is required to complete the training. The link to this training will be posted on the Global Grants page when the training is available.

Questions about Grants? Contact our great grants team:

Grants Chair: Cecelia Babkirk
rotariancecelia@gmail.com

Andrew Taw, Areas 1-3 Resource Leader ataw@gmail.com
Jon Winston, Areas 4-6 Resource Leader jon@winstonhome.com
Gerri Hussey, Areas 7-9 Resource Leader Gerri.hussey@mail.com
Linked through Sister Cities, Rotarians Save Newborns in Brazil

By Vanessa Glavinskas Photographs by Robert Gill

A mother is in labor, and she’s frightened. Her baby isn’t due for three months. The closest hospital is 30 miles away, and although she makes it there in time, the baby is born weighing barely 2 pounds.

And there’s another problem. The hospital’s neonatal intensive care unit has only seven incubators, and all are in use, so the baby must be transferred to another hospital to receive the critical care he needs. If he survives the transfer, his parents will need to find a way to make trips to that hospital for months.

Many new mothers were facing similar situations at Dr. Leopoldo Bevilacqua Regional Hospital, a state-run facility in Brazil’s Ribeira Valley. Lack of equipment meant some of the hospital’s most vulnerable newborns had to be transferred, which was a factor in São Paulo state’s high infant mortality rate. By adding five incubators to the NICU, the hospital nearly doubled the number of babies its nurses and doctors can care for. Rotarians funded incubators, ventilators, heated cribs, vital-sign monitors, and other equipment for a state-run hospital outside São Paulo. “There are two realities here: people who can pay for a private hospital and those who can’t,” says Lina Shimizu, who spearheaded the project for the Rotary Club of Registro-Ouro, Brazil. Those who can’t, she says, often have to travel long distances to get to a state-run hospital such as Leopoldo Bevilacqua, which serves 24 towns.

By adding five incubators to the NICU, the hospital nearly doubled the number of babies its nurses and doctors can care for. By partnering on a Rotary Foundation global grant with two clubs in Nakatsugawa, Japan, Brazilian Rotarians raised $172,500. They funded equipment including five incubators for the hospital’s neonatal intensive care unit (NICU), which nearly doubled the hospital’s capacity to care for fragile newborns. In 2013, 129 babies were admitted to the NICU; since the completion of the project, the hospital has been able to care for about 220 babies per year.

Other equipment provided through the grant included five ventilators, a bilirubin meter, three heated cribs, five vital-sign monitors, and a super LED microprocessed phototherapy unit to treat babies with jaundice. The grant also funded the cost of publicity to inform residents about prenatal care workshops conducted by area health workers. The publicity campaign aimed to reach mothers in remote areas who may not know what services are available to them or about the importance of prenatal care and breast-feeding. The Rotary clubs also used the grant to launch a publicity campaign on importance of prenatal care and breast-feeding. This global grant marked a turning point for Rotarians in Nakatsugawa, who had stopped contributing to international projects after experiencing difficulties on a past grant. The difference this time was in the relationship between the cities of Registro and Nakatsugawa, which established a “sister city” affiliation in 1980. “This was initially a project of another Brazilian club, but they spent five years trying to find a partner and funding,” Shimizu says. “We were able to implement it in three years because of our sister city relationship.”

Rotarians from both cities meet regularly to foster their friendships, alternating between Brazil and Japan, and because of their close relationship, the Japanese Rotarians felt confident that their financial contributions to the project would be managed well. In addition, Shimizu, who is of Japanese descent and speaks fluent Japanese, helped build trust and effective communication.

A group of Japanese Rotarians visited the NICU after the project was completed. “After 37 years,” says Mitsuo Hara, a member of the Rotary Club of Nakatsugawa, “there’s a friendship and bond between Rotary members of both countries.”