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## DG GREETINGS

Dear Fellow Rotarian,

November is RI Foundation Month and a time for us to reflect on all the wonderful service that we as Rotarians have given to others. The goal of the Foundation is to improve health, support education, alleviate poverty and attain peace. Foundation programs have saved millions of lives with polio immunization, medical supplies and services, clean water and improved sanitation. We do this work all around the world with matching grants and partnerships with many organizations doing charitable work. Our Ambassadorial programs and Group Study Exchange improve world understanding. The Peace and Conflict Resolution program provides the future leaders of the world knowledge and motivation to help achieve peace in the world. The Rotary Foundation affects us in our own communities and the world now and will continue to affect our grandchildren in the future.

The fuel for the continuation of these wonderful programs depends on the generosity of Rotarians and our desire to support the goals of our Foundation. Please learn more about the Rotary Foundation services and

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# District 7230 Shareletter

Volume 1 Number 4

Robert G. Cucinell  
District Governor

November 2007

## NOVEMBER IS ROTARY FOUNDATION MONTH

The mission of the Rotary Foundation is to enable Rotarians to advance world understanding, goodwill, and peace through the improvement of health, the support of education, and the alleviation of poverty. The Foundation is a not-for-profit corporation supported solely by voluntary contributions from Rotarians who share its vision of a better world.

RI President Wilf Wilkinson says, "Without the Foundation, many of Rotary's signature programs wouldn't exist. There would be no PolioPlus, no Humanitarian Grants, no Ambassadorial Scholarships, no Rotary World Peace Fellowships. Without the Foundation, Rotary would be a very different and less powerful force for good in the world."

It is very important for us as Rotarians to support our Foundation. The Foundation lifts Rotary up, lets every club do the most it possibly can, brings help to the people who need it the most, and grants us the privilege of helping others. The Rotary Foundation allows us to do much more together than we could ever do alone.

It's time to decide how you will observe Rotary Foundation Month. The Foundation is here for all of us, and it's our responsibility to be there for it. And that's why each of us must answer the call of Every Rotarian, Every Year. I ask every one of you to choose this month to make your annual gift of \$100 to the Foundation. Every amount contributed to The Rotary Foundation



PDG Don Lee

is spent in support of humanitarian, educational, and cultural programs and their operations.

The District Rotary Foundation Committee includes experienced and dedicated Subcommittee Chairs, who are here to help you participate in Foundation activities. Last month, the committee spearheaded a tremendously successful Foundation Seminar, and they continue their efforts in strengthening the Foundation. If you have any questions, please do not hesitate in contacting any of us.

Scholarship Subcommittee Chair: Susanne Wetzzel,  
[swetzel@stevens.edu](mailto:swetzel@stevens.edu)

Rotary World Peace Fellowships Subcommittee Chair: Walt Metzger,  
[wam88@comcast.net](mailto:wam88@comcast.net)

Group Study Exchange Subcommittee Chair: Greg Arcaro,  
[garcaro@aol.com](mailto:garcaro@aol.com)

Grants Subcommittee Chair: Peter Grunthal,  
[grunthals@optonline.net](mailto:grunthals@optonline.net)

PolioPlus Subcommittee Chair: George Camp,  
[georgercamp@yahoo.com](mailto:georgercamp@yahoo.com)

Alumni Subcommittee Chair: Paul Caruso,  
[caruso7230@aol.com](mailto:caruso7230@aol.com)

Annual Giving Subcommittee Chair: Karl Milde,  
[karbmilde@aol.com](mailto:karbmilde@aol.com)

Permanent Fund Subcommittee Chair: Manton Martin,  
[roegifts@optonline.net](mailto:roegifts@optonline.net)

Together, we can make this Rotary Foundation Month a truly memorable one.

PDG Don Lee  
Chairman,  
District Rotary Foundation Committee  
[rotary7230@msn.com](mailto:rotary7230@msn.com)

## IT'S ROTARY FOUNDATION MONTH!

MAKE A GIFT TO THE ROTARY  
FOUNDATION TODAY



Whether you give to a particular program, the Annual Programs Fund (APF), the Permanent Fund (PF), the Paul Harris Society (PHS), The Peace Centers, Endowing a Peace Scholarship, The Rotary Centers Major Gifts Initiative, Polio-Plus Partners, Scholarship Programs, GSE or any other TRF designation, 100 percent of your gift with be directed as you indicate.

**Every Gift is meaningful and inspirational! Moreover, you can choose your options.**

TRF accepts gifts made by check or credit card, as well as gifts in the form of securities and property transfers. You can also pay your gift in installments throughout the fiscal year using a major credit card. All gifts to Our Rotary Foundation are tax deductible to the extent allowed by law.

## POLIOPLUS - JUST FOUR COUNTRIES TO GO!



Photo by Jean-Marc Giboux

*A Rotarian immunizes a child against polio. Addis Ababa, Ethiopia.*

PP Ann Lee Hussey, Chairperson of Polio Survivors & Associates Rotarian Action Group, electrified the crowd at the Multi-District Rotary Foundation Conference on October 13, 2007, when she told us how close we are to eliminating polio in the world. Since 1979, when Rotary

began the Global Polio Eradication Initiative to prevent polio, wild virus polio has been wiped out in all the countries of the world except in small areas of Afghanistan, India, Nigeria and Pakistan.

Since 1988, Polio Plus has prevented 1.5 million childhood deaths. When the polio vaccine is administered, children are immunized against measles, hepatitis and diphtheria as well. They often get mosquito bed nets to protect against malaria and Vitamin A to prevent blindness and boost the immune system, too. We have made a lot of progress lately. There were only 2,000 reported cases of polio last year. In the first half of 2007, there have been only 572, less than half the number at this time last year. But the war on polio will not be won until the last case of polio is gone. In a global world, polio anywhere in the world



is only a plane ride away.

Massive efforts are being made in the 4 remaining countries, with National Immunization Days to administer vaccine to many millions of children in one day. The target is to immunize all children under 5 in each of these countries. These drives are super-organized initiatives requiring months of planning, the collection of tons of materials, recruitment and training of millions of volunteers, and a vehicle for each volunteer team to reach its assigned area, no matter how remote. The vehicle may be a truck, a boat, a canoe, a camel or a donkey - whatever will work, she told us.

Ann Lee Hussey is a polio survivor herself, which may be why she is so passionate in her efforts to eradicate this deadly disease. She and PDG Dave Groner of Dowagiac, MI are leading a team of Rotary volunteers to participate in a Sub-National Immunization Day in Bihar, India in December.

And for the rest of us who cannot go, we can participate by opening our checkbooks to make a contribution to the Ro-

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## MULTI-DISTRICT FOUNDATION SEMINAR DRAWS A CROWD

There was hardly a seat left at Rudy's Beau Rivage in Dobbs Ferry when Rotarians from 6 Rotary Districts came together to learn about the R.I.'s Rotary Foundation on Saturday, October 13, 2007. The event was sponsored by Districts 7210, 7230, 7250, 7260, 7470, 7490 and R.I.

The Keynote Speaker was RI President-Elect D. K. Lee from South Korea. Other high-profile Rotary leaders speaking at the seminar included: Michael K. McGovern, RI Vice President for 2007-08; Michael Colasurdo, RI Director-Elect; Hogie Hansen, Rotary Regional Foundation Coordinator; Dan Spencer, Strategic Advisor of Annual Giving; and Rick Kean, RI Permanent Fund Officer.

Also on the program were renowned National Immunization Team Leaders PDG Dave Groner and Ann Lee Hussey. Seminar participants came from a wide geographical area to hear these leaders enlighten us about what the Rotary Foundation has done and inspire us to participate in what still needs doing.

President Elect D. K. Lee spoke about how the RI Foundation reaches out to children, to schools, to parents at home and in shops in countries in need. Under the 3H Grants to address Health, Hunger and Humanity begun in 1965, the RF supported 280 projects in 75 countries and gave \$74 million in U.S. dollars, he said. Since 1967, he stated, RF has supported 2400 Matching Grant projects in 167 countries. He told us that what Rotary does to promote peace through Ambassadorial Scholars and to eradicate Polio through Polio Plus is remarkable. When we give to the Rotary Foundation, to Polio Plus or Rotary Projects, we share with others, we share with the future and we share with the world.

RI Vice President Mike McGovern gave us several examples of what Rotary has accomplished around the world: The gift of hearing to 5,000 people through hearing aids, schooling and school lunches to "children of the dump" in Guatemala, changing lives in Afghanistan and Pakistan. "We can smile and take pride in what Rotary has done", he said.

PDG Dan Spencer emphasized that we have done a lot, but we are capable of doing more and giving more. Being a Rotarian means giving back, sharing our time, our talents and our treasure, he said. From those who have been given much, much can be given to others, he concluded. He urged every Rotarian to give to the Rotary Foundation, which meets needs around the world, and holds promise for the future.

Many thanks to DG Bob Cucinell, District Rotary Foundation Chair PDG Don Lee and the leadership team which planned and coordinated this inspiring seminar with the 5 other Districts.



*RI President-Elect D.K. Lee, RI Vice President Mike McGovern, RI Director Elect Mike Colasurdo, DRFC Chair PDG Don Lee and other honored speakers and sponsoring DGs from 6 Districts.*

## SPECIAL GIFTS NEEDED FOR RF PERMANENT FUND

To meet the challenges of the Second Century of Rotary Service, the Rotary Foundation has identified two basic needs: support today and to secure tomorrow. The Annual Programs Fund is designed to meet the first of these needs. The Permanent Fund is the endowment that is designed to secure the needs of tomorrow for the Foundation.

Our Rotary District wants to expand the giving to the Permanent Fund to insure the long-range needs of the Rotary Foundation and is seeking service minded men and women who are interested in helping with this endeavor. This is an opportunity for Rotarians to respond to DG Bob Cucinell's theme: "Be Involved" and our R.I. President's theme: "Rotary Shares." It is also an opportunity to honor or memorialize someone. Interested Rotarians are asked to contact Manton Martin, chair of the Permanent Fund Subcommittee for our district for discussion of developing more support for this important program.

We know that we have a great District, but it's time for us to enlarge our leadership role. But most important, all of Rotary and those we help will benefit, and those who give to the Permanent Fund will have the personal satisfaction (in addition to a tax deduction) of knowing that they have helped make it happen. The world needs changing. Let us help Rotary make some of those changes happen on our watch!

To contact Manton Martin: call or leave a message any evening at 914-238-3124. Or write to him at 5 Pondview Close, Chappaqua, NY 10514-3703. His e-mail: [roegift@optonline.net](mailto:roegift@optonline.net).



## DG GREETINGS

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accomplishments to truly appreciate your membership and help our Foundation do more good in the world. The Rotary Foundation's good works are only limited by our imagination, actions and contributions.

Bob Cucinell  
District Governor

## NEW MEMBERS CORNER



We want to publish the names and photos of all new members who join any club in our district during the 2007-08 Rotary year. Please send information about any new members who have joined since July 1 2007, with their name, their business or profession, the name of their sponsor, and their photo to Nancy Wallace, email [BNWallace@aol.com](mailto:BNWallace@aol.com), Tel: 914/949-6217. Thank you.

## PolioPlus

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tary Foundation. All of us, as Rotarians, can become PolioPlus Partners in helping to wipe out this deadly disease, at last, that kills and cripples little children.

## DISTRICT DATES TO REMEMBER

**3/1/08 – Rotary Leadership Institute** at Concordia College

**3/28/08 - Paul Harris Luncheon** at Crowne Plaza in White Plains

**5/2-4/08 - District Conference** at Saratoga Springs, NY

## NEWS FLASH! ROTARACT CLUB SEEKS PARTNER FOR PROJECT IN HONDURAS

An interesting partnership between Rotaract at the United Nations (NYC) with Engineers Without Borders has been working on a water project in Honduras. We are hoping they can bring in a Rotary Club in Honduras as a partner on a new project in Tegucigalpa so our District can support this as a Rotary Project to provide a complete and functioning water system for the town.

## SPOTLIGHT ON

## SOMERS ROTARY

### PROJECTS NEAR & FAR

The Somers Rotary prides itself on being young and still growing, but also extremely dedicated and having a very active membership that has achieved considerable success in our first six years.



Our Holiday season Coat and Sweater Drive has become a Town of Somers institution starting in early November. Signs announcing it pop up throughout the area and many merchants donate valuable space for our collection boxes. It is one of our most visible efforts in promoting the Somers Rotary.

The Somers Literacy Project has won praise from parents, teachers, and students. Bringing students together from six suburban schools and six inner-city schools for a joint publication, it had caught the attention of the New York Times in a front page Metro Section article. The New York Times wrote that: "A modest idea turned into a handsome book



and quite a remarkable effort to bridge the void between poor and rich, urban and suburban, in a way that almost never occurs." We are now in our third year of this project. The highlight is when we bring all the students together for a Book Launch party. Mahopac National Bank has been a partner with us on this project.

Quite topical is our participation in Ken Burn's series "The War" produced for PBS television. One of our members, a WWII veteran who was on the Colorado in Tokyo Harbor at the time of surrender got together with another member, a young media professional, and prepared a DVD of his experiences complete with innumerable photographs and maps of the Pacific Theater. An excerpt is now being shown on the WNET website and the entire DVD will be showcased at an upcoming meeting.

One of our recent initiatives is to hold a monthly joint meeting with the Northeast (Katonah) Rotary Club which meets at the same time we do. They join us one month and the other we go there. This has enabled us to form very close friendships with our fellow Rotarians, and we are now discussing undertaking a joint International Water Project together.

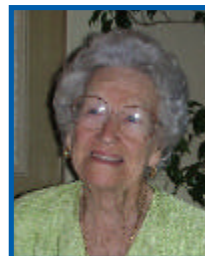
This will be our second international undertaking. We are in a joint education endeavor with the Waterfront Rotary Club of Cape Town, South Africa.

More local, we are working at building a vibrant Interact Club. And that's some of what the Somers Rotary is up to.

## REMEMBERING GRACE ROMA & EDGAR CORNELL

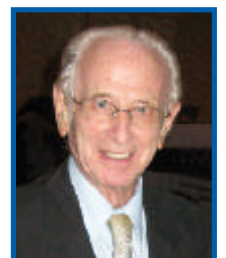
We note with sadness the passing of two of our Rotary family, Grace Roma and Edgar Cornell.

Grace Roma died in the hospital on September 30, 2007, after suffering a stroke the week before. DG Bob Cucinell wrote, "Grace shared Rotary and friendship with everyone she met and exemplified the ideal of Rotary. She attended Rotary international conventions, District events and many club functions during her many years as a Rotarian as she believed in and loved Rotary. The Family of Rotary has lost a wonderful Rotarian and friend.



Photos by Jim Romeo  
*Grace Roma*

Edgar Cornell passed away on October 9, 2007 after a battle of many months with cancer. Edgar joined the Rotary Club of the Bronx in 1978, sponsored by Elias Karmon. He was President in 1985-86 and served on the Bronx Club Board of Directors for 25 years. He also served Rotary District 7230 as Assistant District Secretary in 2005 and 2006, and as District Secretary for the 2007-08 term.



*Edgar Cornell*

DG Bob Cucinell remembered him with these words, "Edgar was a true Rotarian and a major asset to this district as District Secretary, to the Bronx Rotary Club and to me personally. He will be missed by many fellow Rotarians. A big loss in our Family of Rotary."

## DISTRICT 7230 IN FOREFRONT OF LITERACY PROJECTS

The Briarcliff Club helps the local library by creating a collection of both children's and adult foreign language materials in French, Spanish, and Mandarin Chinese. The effort is aimed at helping foreign born users find the library an appealing place to visit.

Croton-on-Hudson Rotary supports the early literacy program of the school district for ESL students. The club provides books, tapes, and magnetic letters that help parents work with their children, and that can be borrowed throughout the year.

The Mt. Pleasant Club benefits the Open Book initiative based at the Westchester Medial Center and which is expanding. Volunteers work with children and parents to improve reading skills. Books are distributed in numerous languages with English accompaniment. The Club provides both funding and volunteers.

Pleasantville Rotary promotes literacy among the youngest of the immigrant community by the use of bilingual books for children. These are distributed through established social agencies in Mt. Kisco.

Ossining Rotary distributes dictionaries and thesauruses to all third graders throughout the school district. Last year they distributed over 700 books. Club members personally go into the schools to make the presentation. The books are purchased from RI, which provided over 1.5 million dictionaries in the past year.

The Somers Rotary Club publishes a book containing the writings of students from both suburban and inner-city schools. Many of these students have never received any previous recognition during their lifetime. At completion, the students are brought together to meet each other.

Peekskill Rotary supports a student/parent book club at the middle school in which both students and parents or guardians participate. Two copies of each book are provided for joint reading. The club has no fixed membership and people can join at any time. The books contain issues that touch on the lives of young teenagers.

The Yorktown Club supports a local food pantry and has stocked a dedicated bookcase with books and dictionaries that children, from families with limited resources, may select as their own.



Many of the District's Clubs have been carrying on wonderful and meaningful literacy projects in recent years. These undertakings have had a significant impact on the lives of the people affected. For the past two years Mahopac National Bank has been underwriting some of the funding for these projects. The clubs have raised additional funding on their own from local businesses. But more important is that the benefit of these projects is outsized compared to the modest funding required. The RI website is full of ideas. (Just type "Literacy" into the search box.) Following are a few of the ongoing endeavors that the bank has supported.

## ABOUT SPOTLIGHT ON CLUBS

One of the functions of the Share-letter is to share information about what the clubs are doing with each other. It helps us get acquainted and can give us ideas we can use in our own clubs. In order to cover all 47 clubs in the district, we are asking a few clubs each month to give us a short piece about some of the projects the club is doing (less than half a page, single space). Each club will be featured once in the Spotlight on Clubs. Information should be sent to Nancy Wallace [BNWallace@aol.com](mailto:BNWallace@aol.com). Tel: 914/949-6217. Thanks.

## RI RECEIVES UNITED NATIONS ASSOCIATION HUMANITARIAN AWARD

The United Nations Association of New York honored Rotary International and The Rotary Foundation with its 2007 Humanitarian Award on October 25 at the United Nations in New York. Rotary was honored in recognition of its significant efforts regarding the global water crisis and their on-going commitment to sustainable development worldwide. The UNA awards are presented annually in observance of United Nations Day (24 October) with this year's award ceremony focused on the global water crisis.

President Wilfrid Wilkinson noted that in the years since Rotary International has started focusing on water as one of its annual service projects, we have learned just how much can be accomplished with relatively little, how a single small water project, perhaps a pump or a filter, can change the life of a community. Clean water has a great impact on nutrition, education, health, family interaction. We also learned that beneficiaries of water projects must be active participants in the project. A successful water project enables children to be healthier so they can go to school, and it can bring a community together.

## WATER PROJECTS IN HONDURAS

Rotary District 7230 saved the lives all of these children in Danli, Honduras for \$70 in one of our water matching grants. 24 District Clubs participated in this matching grant which provided 700 bio-sand filters to help over 5000 people. Another Rotary Foundation success story. Two new water projects are planned this year in Honduras.



The first in Copán, Honduras enables Rotarians to go down and get a hands-on experience thereby understanding more fully the concerns of those without water. It is also a very comprehensive project that ranges from installing filters into individual homes to educating residents on clean water issues. This project follows the typical Rotarian involvement with hard core filter installation projects and is easily verifiable...the filter is installed. A trip to Honduras is planned for February 2008. If you are interested in joining us please contact Alix Schnee.

The second project is in Danli. It is being administered by two Peace Corps Volunteers and addresses the issues of educating for sanitation.

This is a huge concern and is not a hard corps, but rather a soft core project. It relies on sociological tactics - educating on sanitation. This is a new

area of activity for Rotary. It is also a critical issue without which the poor cannot overcome the severe health problems associated with water deprivation. The UN has also declared that next year, 2008, will be the year of Sanitation.

