In the December 2010 Our Foundation newsletter, Jonathan Roy wrote and illustrated Polio Zero, in which he stated, “…. stay focused and keep going. The eradication, the end of Polio is in sight”.

Rotary’s good friend Bill Gates in his third annual Foundation letter highlighted, “… ending Polio”.

Gates describes Rotary International and the governments of India, the United States, the United Kingdom, and Japan as the major contributors to the polio campaign and stated that “… if eradication fails because of a lack of generosity on the part of donor countries it would be tragic.” Gates continued, “… we are so close, but we have to finish the last leg of the journey. We need to bring the (Polio) cases down to zero, maintain careful surveillance to ensure the virus is truly
gone, and keep defenses up with polio vaccines until we’ve confirmed success.”

How can we talk about Rotary Polio Warriors/ Heroes without highlighting Dr. Robert Scott? Bob is from the Rotary Club of Cobourg, Ontario, Canada and was the Rotary Foundation Board of Trustees Chair, 07-08.

Nothing steeles the resolve of Bob Scott more than polio, a disease long banished from industrialized nations of the world but still paralyzing children in Nigeria, India, Pakistan and Afghanistan. Dr. Bob is a longtime/fulltime/lifetime/supporter of Rotary’s battle against polio. On July 1, 2006, he became chair of the International PolioPlus Committee (IPPC) and is leading Rotarians (and the rest of the world) to the eradication of Polio. Will Rotarians stay focused and be with Bob to the finish line?

Rotarian William T. “Bill” Sergeant, who served as RI vice president in 1981-82 and as chair of the International PolioPlus Committee (IPPC) for 12 years, died 13 February 2011 in Knoxville, Tennessee, USA. He was 91.

Bill Sergeant chaired the IPPC from 1994 to 2006. During his tenure, he provided direction to regional and national PolioPlus committees, and worked with the spearheading partners of the Global Polio Eradication Initiative (GPEI) to help establish strategies and policies for ending/eradicating the disease.

Do you remember 1987-88 RIPP Charles “Chuck” Keller announcing the beginning of Rotary’s PolioPlus campaign at the International Convention in Philadelphia in 1988 and telling the cheering Ro-
tarians in the audience that the kickoff is beginning with the sum of US $257,000,000.00 raised by Rotarians? Chuck is a lifelong Polio fighter/warrior.

Trustee Lou Piconi was at the forefront of the Polio Eradication Fundraising Campaign (PEFC) and Warrior Lou helped to meet and then exceed Rotary’s goal. RIPP Glen Kinross at the International Convention in Osaka, Japan announced that the goal was met and there was wild/unrestrained cheering by the Rotarians.

True Polio warriors RIPE Kalyan Banerjee and Trustee Ashock Mahajan over the most recent months have traveled to the front lines in India battling Polio and leading the Indian Rotarians to amazing accomplishments. They are leading us to the “finish line”.

It’s true! We are just a finger’s length away, we are that close to Polio Zero. Will you stay focused and stay with our Rotarian Warriors and keep fighting/keep working with us until we reach that finish line?
As I sit down to work on my third annual letter, governments in every corner of the world are facing tough decisions about how to reduce spending.

Although foreign aid accounts for less than 1 percent of governments’ total budgets, it is one place being considered for cuts. As a result, health and agricultural assistance that saves lives and puts poor countries on a track for self-sufficiency is at risk.

The world’s poorest will not be visiting government leaders to make their case, unlike other constituencies, so I want to help make their case by describing the progress and the potential I see in key areas of health and development. Perhaps it is ironic for someone who has been so lucky to talk about the needs of those who have not.

I believe it is in the rich world’s enlightened self-interest to continue investing in foreign aid. If societies can’t provide for people’s basic health, if they can’t feed and educate people, then their populations and problems will grow and the world will be a less stable place.

Whether you believe it a moral imperative or in the rich world’s enlightened self-interest, securing the conditions that will lead to a healthy, prosperous future for everyone is a goal I believe we all share.
ENDING POLIO

Aid for the poorest has already achieved a lot. For example, because of donors’ generosity, we are on the threshold of ending polio once and for all.

Polio is a terrible disease that kills many and paralyzes others. Fifty years ago it was widespread around the world. When you talk to people who remember polio in the United States, they’ll tell you about the fear and panic during an outbreak and describe grim hospital wards full of children in iron lungs that maintained their breathing.

At its peak in the United States in 1952, polio paralyzed or killed more than 24,000 people.

As a result of mass mobilizations to administer the polio vaccine, polio was eliminated in the United States and most developed nations decades ago. Most people who live in rich countries assume the disease is long gone and that it doesn’t kill or paralyze children anymore. But it is still a frightening presence in a number of places around the world.
In 1988 the global community adopted the goal of ending polio altogether. At that time more than 350,000 children a year worldwide were killed or paralyzed by the disease. Since then, vaccination coverage has increased significantly and the number of cases has gone down by 99 percent, to fewer than 1,500 last year (2010).

There are now just four countries where polio transmission has never been stopped: India, Nigeria, Pakistan, and Afghanistan.

That’s incredible progress, but the last 1 percent remains a true danger. Eradication is not guaranteed. It requires campaigns to give polio vaccine to all children under 5 in poor countries, at a cost of almost $1 billion per year.

We have to be aggressive about continuing these campaigns until we succeed in eradicating that last 1 percent.

Therefore, funding is critical to success. Organizations such as Rotary International http://www.rotary.org and the governments of India, the United States, the United Kingdom, and Japan are all major contributors to the polio campaign.

The Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation gives about $200 million each year. But the campaign still faces a 2011-12 funding gap of $720 million. If eradication fails because of a lack of generosity on the part of donor countries it would be tragic. We are so close, but we have to finish the last leg of the journey. We need to bring the cases down to zero, maintain careful surveillance to ensure the virus is truly gone, and keep defenses up with polio vaccines until we’ve confirmed success.
BENEFITS OF ERADICATION

Why is it so important to end polio? Eradication will have three huge benefits.

1/ The first is that getting rid of polio will mean that no child will die or be paralyzed by the disease in the future. One thing most people don’t realize is that if we don’t finish the job on eradication, we will lose a lot of the ground we’ve gained over the past two decades. The disease will not stay at its current low level. If we don’t get rid of it, it will spread back into countries where it’s been eliminated, and it will kill and paralyze children who used to be safe. Only eradication will guarantee that all children are safe.

2/ The second benefit is that the money that will be saved by eradicating polio far exceeds what we are spending on eradication efforts now. The long-term benefits of the last couple of billion dollars spent on eradication will be truly phenomenal. A recent estimate added up the cost of treatment that won’t be necessary and the enhanced economic contribution of adults who won’t get polio. Eradication could save the world up to $50 billion over the next 25 years.

3/ The third benefit is that success will energize the field of global health by showing that investments in health lead to amazing victories. The eradication effort illustrates so well how a major advance in the human condition requires resolve and courageous leadership. To win these big important fights, partnerships, money, science, poli-
tics, and delivery in developing countries have to come together on a global scale.

THE HISTORY OF POLIO AND POLIO ERADICATION

The history of polio and polio eradication is fascinating. (One of the best books I’ve read on the subject is David Oshinsky’s Polio: An American Story.)

Polio was the first disease that raised significant money from the broad public. The March of Dimes was created to combat the disease. Although President Roosevelt and lots of Hollywood stars helped the campaign, its huge success came from neighborhood-based fundraising. I remember March of Dimes volunteers ringing our doorbell when I was growing up and asking for a donation. By any measure, the public’s generosity in supporting that charity made it one of the most successful health-related fundraising campaigns ever.

The March of Dimes funded research into the first polio vaccine, which was invented by Dr. Jonas Salk and introduced in 1955. It was such an important priority to get the polio vaccine out widely that the U.S. government sponsored the campaign, which it had never done before. The campaigns of the late-1950s were wildly successful, and by 1961 the number of cases in the United States was down to just 161.

A second polio vaccine—this one in the form of liquid drops that children swallow instead of an injection in the arm—was invented by Dr. Albert Sabin and licensed in 1963. By 1979 there was no more poliovirus in circulation in the United States. Dr. Salk’s and Dr. Sabin’s vaccines are still the key tools used for eradication today.

To this day, the smallpox campaign is the only successful human disease eradication campaign in history. At its peak, smallpox killed over 2 million people every year and also blinded and disabled large numbers. The eradication campaign started in 1967, the last naturally acquired case of smallpox was in 1977, and the world was certified as being free of smallpox in 1979. (Two excellent books on the smallpox eradication are...
Dr. D.A. Henderson’s Smallpox: The Death of a Disease and the forthcoming House on Fire by another key smallpox warrior, Dr. Bill Foege.

Smallpox had a number of characteristics that made it easier to eradicate than polio. Almost everyone who got smallpox developed a distinct rash. In contrast most polio infections are not noticed because less than one in 100 people infected are paralyzed, even though all those infected can transmit the virus. This means by the time a paralytic case is found, the poliovirus has probably spread.

Also, the vaccines against polio are not as effective as the smallpox vaccine, which was so powerful that a single vaccination protected almost everyone. Read Jonathan Roy’s “Smallpox Zero”.

In the case of the most common polio vaccine, at least three doses are required to get 85 percent of children fully protected. In many countries of the developing world, even more doses are needed to reach the immunity levels needed to stop transmission of the virus.

But the polio campaign also has some huge advantages that the smallpox campaign did not have. The advanced science we have today lets us sequence the DNA of the polio virus and develop an understanding of the history of transmission, which guides our work. We also have far better communications and modeling tools than were available in the 1970s, and
those are being used in smart ways to respond rapidly to every outbreak.

WE ARE THIS CLOSE

In 2003 I would have said we were just a couple of years away from ending polio, and I would have been wrong. That year there were false rumors in Nigeria that the polio vaccine caused women to become sterile.

This allowed the disease to have a resurgence and to spread to many other countries. The experience of 2003 serves as a reminder to be humble as we move forward. But humility does not mean fatalism.

Fortunately those false rumors have been almost completely eliminated through the leadership of key political and religious figures. In 2009 when I visited Northern Nigeria to meet with the most important traditional leader, the Sultan of Sokoto, he committed to the campaign. It was fantastic to see him publicly giving his support. (He also gave me a horse to thank me but I told him I couldn’t take it.)

Last year both India and Nigeria had substantially fewer cases than ever before. In India the number of cases went down from 741 in 2009 to just 41 in 2010. In Nigeria, thanks in large part to the renewed leadership in the northern part of the country, the number went down from 388 to just 18. But alongside the phenomenal progress was another reminder that gains can be lost without sustained action.

The majority of cases in 2010 were in countries that had been polio-free until the virus travelled back across borders and caused outbreaks in areas where people had gotten lax about vaccination. There was a large outbreak in Tajikistan in the first half of 2010 and another in Congo in the second half. In both regions there were a number of immunization campaigns organized as a response. Today the outbreaks appear to be under control.

What those outbreaks in formerly polio-free countries prove is that eradication is a global project requiring every country to do its part. Very few projects demand global participation. In most areas each country can pursue its own approach, and countries can compare outcomes to see which approach is the most successful.

Last year both India and Nigeria had substantially fewer cases than ever before. In India the number of cases went down from 741 in 2009 to just 41 in 2010.
Polio eradication has benefited immensely from having Rotary’s support. Rotary had the vision to get involved in 1985 and has kept polio eradication as its top priority.

Philosopher and historian Will Durant once observed that the only thing that could get countries to join forces would be an alien invasion. To my mind, terrible diseases are surrogates for an alien invasion. If we are to succeed, the world needs leadership from a global institution and significant, coordinated resources from rich countries to fund activities in the poorest countries.

For polio, the World Health Organization (WHO) has played the central role with Rotary International, the Centers for Disease Control, and UNICEF as key partners. Polio eradication has benefited immensely from having Rotary’s support. Rotary had the vision to get involved in 1985 and has kept polio eradication as its top priority. Everywhere I go to learn about polio, I see Rotary members helping out with the hard work.

I feel sure that with continued support we will be able to show significant progress building on this year’s work. The site www.polioeradication.org tracks the key parts of the campaign including fundraising and the latest cases. I will make a number of trips focused on polio this year, including additional trips to India and Nigeria, and will write a report for the foundation website.

For anyone who wants to support the polio campaign, which would be fantastic, visit www.rotary.org and click on the EndPolioNow logo.
SINCE 1985 MORE THAN TWO BILLION CHILDREN HAVE RECEIVED ORAL POLIO VACCINE
But Rotary’s work is not done: The disease has not yet been eradicated.

THE US $200 MILLION CHALLENGE FOR POLIO ERADICATION

As of 22 February 2011, Rotarians have raised approximately US $163 million for the US $200 Million Challenge.

These contributions will help Rotary raise US $200 million to match US $355 million in challenge grants received from the Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation.

CONTRIBUTE TO ROTARY'S $200 MILLION CHALLENGE

Rotary's US $200 Million Challenge is the Rotary Foundation's response to the two grants totaling $355 million from the Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation to help eradicate polio.

Every dollar given to PolioPlus will be counted toward the $200 million match, which must be completed by 30 June 2012.

We need your contributions. Contribute to the PolioPlus Fund online or by mail to support Rotary's dream of a polio-free world.

POLIO ZERO IS OUR GOAL

As far as Rotary is concerned we will continue to use the word eradication not elimination and that certification means the eradication of the wild polio virus for a period of three years.
ROTARIANS ARE WORKING TOWARDS THE ERADICATION OF POLIO. THEY ARE DEDICATED AND WILL BE THERE AT THE FINISH LINE.

The historically polio-endemic states of Bihar and Uttar Pradesh in India have not seen a case of Polio in more than six months.

The most recent case was a wild poliovirus type 1 (WPV1) case with date of onset 01 September 2010 in Champaran East district, Bihar. Halting transmission in these areas means winning a key battle in the war against polio as they have traditionally been large exporters of the virus.

The dramatic reduction in cases in this region is largely the result of the introduction of bivalent oral polio vaccine (bOPV) and of the consistent support and commitment from all levels of political and health leadership. Local (Rotary) leadership, especially RIPE Kalyan Banerjee and TRF Trustee Ashock Mahajan have been outstanding.

Please read in the following pages and be proud of the dedicated, incredible hard work and hands-on efforts of the Rotarians from India.
ROTARY HAS PRODUCED MANY WARRIORS IN THE BATTLE AGAINST POLIO. ASHOK MAHAJAN (INDIA), A TRUSTEE OF THE ROTARY FOUNDATION (TRF) IS A WARRIOR.

ASHOK MAHAJAN, A WARRIOR IN THE BATTLE AGAINST POLIO
Trustee, The Rotary Foundation (2009-13),
Director, Rotary International (2007-09),
Member, International Polio Plus Committee

Polio eradication has entered a crucial phase in Bihar. We are now confident that the virus can be destroyed in every post where it tries to surface.

The credit to this must go in a large measure to the Chief Minister Mr. Nitish Kumar.

Politically, Minister Kumar recently created history in the electoral scene by nearly wiping off an entire opposition and putting the State and the government of Bihar back on the track of progress and development.

The same vigor was seen in him to wipe off polio and other diseases from the state.

This resolve of the Government of Bihar has rubbed off on the polio eradication programme partners in the state including Rotarians.

During my meeting with the Chief Minister Mr. Nitish Kumar on February 12, 2011, he assured me that within the next year the health ministry in Bihar will ensure that the routine immunization programme in the state is streamlined.

He was emphatic that the routine immunization schedule will be adhered to very strictly and efforts will be taken to ensure that every child is immunized.

INDIA RECORDS SHARP DECLINE IN POLIO CASES

The Chief Minister has also advised the Minister, Health Department, the Secretary and other officials to give sufficient publicity to the National Immunisation Day, which will fall on February 27, 2011. In addition he has also

Continued ...
agreed to convene a meeting of the Members of the Legislative Assembly in the Assembly Hall and address them about the initiatives that need to be taken for polio eradication.

This meeting will also be open to Rotary leaders who will have a unique opportunity to talk to the policy makers of the most important state of India.

THE FIRST WEALTH IS HEALTH

The new mantra of the Government in Bihar is ‘The First Wealth is Health.’ The health department is now committed to providing quality healthcare to ‘the last household and to the last person of the State.’

Bihar has 37 Districts and is located in the eastern region of India. It borders Nepal in the North, West Bengal in the East, Uttar Pradesh in the West and Jharkhand in the South.

It is important that the polio eradication effort in this landlocked state is effective since we cannot afford to allow any virus to be exported from Bihar.

This is true for every state and only a coordinated effort to fight polio in every state will result in total eradication.

THE GOAL IS THE TOTAL ERADICATION OF POLIO

Director General of Health Society Bihar, Mr. Sanjay Kumar IAS, who is also the Secretary to the Government, was proactive in his interaction with Rotary. He is adding additional resources to strengthen the teams which function in the transit points of the surrounding states and in particular with the neighbouring country Nepal.

The immunisation drive will be intensified in the districts of Patna, Begusarai, Darbhanga, Samastipur, Khagaria, Saharsa and Madhepura.
More than 14,000 vaccination teams have been formed by the Government to visit every household. Focusing on the most vulnerable mobile and migrant population which is responsible for sustaining polio transmission in the state, polio immunisation was carried out during the festive season by targeting thousands of families visiting Bihar.

More than three lakh* (Lakh* = Hundred Thousand) children were vaccinated during Shravani Mela (The Shravan month as per traditional Hindu calendar followed in North India is of great importance at Baba Baidyanath Dham – the Lord Shiva Temple at Deogharh in Jharkhand), 12.82 lakh (Hundred Thousand) during Diwali (For Hindus, Diwali is not only a festival of lights but also a special occasion to worship Lord Ganesha, Goddess Lakshmi and Lord Mahabali) and Chhath (famous festival of Bihar and Jharkhand is celebrated on the month of Kartik after Diwali continues for four days and is dedicated to the Sun God) and about 30,000 during Sonepur Mela (The famed cattle fair is held at Sonepur, in Northern Bihar on the banks of the River Gandak, one of the Asia's largest cattle fair).

Continued ...
The Bihar Polio Mukt Task Force set up by Rotary with PDG L B Singh as the Convener and Rtn. Dr. B N Singh, INPPC Member has been enthusiastic in taking the campaign forward.

**THE NEW FACE OF BIHAR**

You have just read about the new face of Bihar. This is the crucial phase for Rotary too. Everyone must now contribute to clinch that victory over the polio virus that has evaded us so long. We are very close to realizing our dream of eradicating polio from Bihar. The Government has shown its resolve.

It is time all Rotarians here also did.

**By: Ashok Mahajan**

*Trustee, The Rotary Foundation 2009-2013*

*Director, Rotary International 2007–2009*

*Member, International PolioPlus Committee*
Bill Sergeant Dies.
A Leader in Polio Eradication

By Dan Nixon
Rotary International News -- February 2011

William T. Sergeant, who served as RI vice president in 1981-82 and as chair of the International PolioPlus Committee (IPPC) for 12 years, died 13 February in Knoxville, Tennessee, USA. He was 91.

Sergeant chaired the IPPC from 1994 to 2006. During his tenure, he provided direction to regional and national PolioPlus committees, and worked with the spearheading partners of the Global Polio Eradication Initiative (GPEI) to help establish strategies and policies for ending the disease.

He joined the Rotary Club of Oak Ridge, Tennessee, in 1947. He also served Rotary as an RI director, Rotary Foundation trustee, chair of the Council on Legislation (twice), and district governor.

“Bill Sergeant was a Rotary icon!” said RI President Ray Klinginsmith. “His intelligence and persistence placed him at the highest level of Rotary leadership, and he was one of our most popular leaders. His knowledge of the Council on Legislation meetings and the Rotary constitutional documents was unrivaled, and it was my pleasure to work with him on many legislative committees.”

LEADER IN POLIO ERADICATION

Sergeant received recognition for his outstanding work as a leader in polio eradication from the other major partners of the GPEI. He was also was the recipient of the first Hannah Neil World of Children Award (1998) from the Kellogg Corporation and the Fries Prize for Improving Health (2006).

“Bill’s leadership as chairman of the International PolioPlus Committee earned the respect and admiration of Rotarians around the

When the world is finally declared to be polio-free, very few will have played a more crucial role than Bill Sergeant. His genius and guidance were absolutely central to the growth of the Global Polio Eradication Initiative from a small and often fragmented effort into the global initiative that now reaches into every corner of the world, every village, and every household so that children everywhere are protected against this awful disease, irrespective of geography, culture, or conflict.
Rotarian Bill Sergeant, A Polio Warrior

world as well as the officers of our partners, the World Health Organization, UNICEF, and Centers for Disease Control and Prevention,” Klingensmith said. “It was the studious and tireless efforts of Bill Sergeant that earned Rotary the allegiance of our partners and that kept Rotary at the forefront as the catalyst and chief advocate for the global polio eradication campaign. A truly outstanding citizen of the world!”

The GPEI called Sergeant “a towering force and a legend in polio eradication,” according to a statement released on 16 February.

“When the world is finally declared to be polio-free, no one will have played a more crucial role than Bill Sergeant,” said Dr. Bruce Aylward, director of the GPEI. “Bill’s genius and guidance were absolutely central to the growth [of the GPEI] from a small and often fragmented effort into the global initiative that now reaches into every corner of the world, every village, and every household so that children everywhere are protected against this awful disease, irrespective of geography, culture, or conflict.”

Compassion and perseverance characterized Sergeant’s pursuit of a polio-free world. With the incidence of the disease reduced by 99 percent, the greatest obstacle to eradication, he said, “is not from the virus itself. It’s from people that might get discouraged. We must keep in mind how successful we have been, and there is no reason whatsoever why we cannot finish the work.”

Dr. Robert Scott, who succeeded Sergeant as IPPC chair in 2006, has a special place in his heart for his predecessor. “Bill Sergeant will always be remembered for his extraordinary efforts toward the eradication of polio,” Scott said. “However, on a personal note, for more than 24 years he was an adviser and friend whom I called ‘my father in Rotary’ and who was still giving me advice two weeks ago. I will truly miss him.”

CAREER

Sergeant served in the U.S. Army during World War II and the Korean War, rising to the rank of lieutenant colonel. For many years, he was in charge of local security for the U.S. Atomic Energy Commission in Oak Ridge. He retired as director of nuclear safeguards and security of the U.S. Department of Energy-Oak Ridge Operations in 1979.

Sergeant was preceded in death by his first wife of 34 years, Isabelle Morrison Sergeant (1981), and his second wife of 20 years, Carolyn Bolting Wilson Sergeant (2004).

He is survived by four children from his marriage to Isabelle: son David Sergeant and daughters Kathy Sergeant, Patty Daughtrey, and Barbara Hood; seven grandchildren, and 10 great-grandchildren.

Funeral services were held 18 February in Knoxville. Condolences may be sent to the family at 8749 Belle Mina Way, Knoxville, TN 37923, USA.
HELP US TO IDENTIFY AND RECRUIT QUALIFIED APPLICANTS FOR ROTARY WORLD PEACE FELLOWSHIPS

The Rotary Peace Fellowship recruitment effort has officially kicked off and we need your help to spread the word!

In the last peace chair mailing, we gave you three tips for recruiting qualified applicants in our Recruitment Guide. In addition to directly calling for applicants, districts can also find qualified applicants by simply talking about the Rotary Peace Fellowship and sparking the community’s interest.

An Australian Peace Chair who has been successful in recruiting applicants in the past said this: “I find one of the most effective ways to [recruit] is through word of mouth. I promote the program at every opportunity I get. This includes being a guest speaker at clubs in the district and presenting at Rotary seminars.”

Below in our tip section, find more ideas for how your district can spread the word. If you have questions about any promotion ideas, please contact Niki Fritz, Program Assistant, at niki.fritz@rotary.org.

Spread the Word!

1. UTILIZE YOUR SOCIAL NETWORKS!
   Many clubs and districts have Facebook profiles with hundreds of “friends.” Post the fellowship opportunity with a link to www.rotary.org/rotarycenters. Also “friend” the Rotary Peace Centers Facebook page for weekly updates.

2. SHARE OUR “BUILDING PEACE” YOUTUBE VIDEO.
   Rotary Peace Centers has a 7-minute-long promotional video that is a great tool for educating others about the program. Consider embedding the video on your district’s website or Facebook profile page.

   Watch the video here: http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=jR3_8ZBVqK0.

   You can embed or share a video by clicking the “embed” or “share” button under the video and copying the code to your website or profile page.

Continued...
Did you know?
Forty-five Rotary Peace Fellows were previously TRF or RI program alumni. After the 3 year waiting period alumni from other Rotary program are great recruits for the Peace Fellowship.

3. START THE CONVERSATION WITH YOUR LOCAL NEWS SOURCE

Rotary Peace Centers has a press release template which districts can send to local media. Click here to open the press release template.

Districts can also send letters to the editor expressing the need for peace in these tumultuous times and highlight the work of Rotary Peace Centers and our alumni. Contact Niki Fritz at niki.fritz@rotary.org for more information about press releases or letters to the editor.

4. PRESENT THE FELLOWSHIP AT LOCAL CLUBS

Local club members may know the perfect peace fellow. Giving presentations at local clubs not only informs Rotarians about this unique program but also opens the dialogue to start talking about peace. Contact Niki Fritz at niki.fritz@rotary.org for a PowerPoint presentation.

5. HAND OUT BROCHURES

You can order up to 99 brochures at a time at shop.rotary.org. Keep a stack with you and hand them out to anyone interested in the program.

For a full guide of recruitment tips, check out our recruitment guide by clicking here.

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Fellows studying at the Rotary Peace Center at Duke-UNC

The Rotary Peace Center at Duke and the University of North Carolina is a unique place for unique persons such as Rotary Peace Fellows. Each year, ten fellows are selected to study at this center. Five fellows are enrolled at Duke and five at UNC.

The Fellows take 4 core classes together and collaborates on projects and different initiatives. Fellows at Duke are enrolled in the Master’s in International Development Policy and fellows at UNC are enrolled on one of the master’s degrees with a focus in peace and conflict resolution.

The strength of the universities combined with dedicated staff and the incredible support of local Rotarians, creates an exceptional Rotary Peace Center in North Carolina.

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IS YOUR DISTRICT OFFERING AMBASSADORIAL SCHOLARSHIPS THIS YEAR?

My district 5470 in Colorado, USA is offering one Academic-Year Ambassadorial Scholarship. In past years we have given as many as three. This year we didn’t have enough in District Designated Funds (DDF) to offer more than one. As a member of our district’s Scholarship Committee— the decision broke my heart.

Academic-Year Ambassadorial Scholarships provide a flat grant of US$27,000 for one academic year of study in another country. These awards are intended to help defray costs associated with round-trip transportation, tuition and other fees, room and board, and some educational supplies and are usually funded through DDF.

Since 1947 Rotarians have awarded over 40,000 Ambassadorial Scholarships.

Can you think of a better way to build a more peaceful world? Can you think of a better way to advance goodwill, world understanding and peace?

Eddie Blender, Publisher
THERE ARE MANY PAST AND PRESENT RI/TRF STAFF—WHO WERE ACADEMIC-YEAR AMBASSADORIAL SCHOLARSHIP AWARDEES.

SOME OF THEIR STORIES FOLLOW …..

From left: Ambassadorial Scholars Mark Garavaglia, Sarah Datz, Brad Lauman, John Osterlund, Harvey Newcomb, Jamie Revord, Steven Solomon and Abby Breitstein.

Mark Garavaglia (Former RI Staff) as assistant general counsel, was sponsored by the Rotary Club of Joliet, Illinois, USA (District 6450) to attend University of Melbourne in Australia in 1984-85.

"My Rotary counselor picked me up at Tullamarine Airport in Melbourne after thousands of miles of air travel and invited me to share a meal with his family. This was just the first of many meals and time with them, including all the major holidays. They actually hosted an American Thanksgiving fest in November, knowing that this was something common in my home country. There were also the people at the school. I still stayed in contact with my advisor nearly 20 years after my stay in Australia. There were also the students. During my year, I stayed at Graduate House. This residence chiefly housed foreign graduate students. Through the years, I have had the opportunity to see some of these people. Overall, it was not one memorable experience about my year, but many that all centered around good people."
Sarah Datz, Former TRF Communications Specialist, was sponsored by the Rotary Club of Moline, Illinois, USA (District 6420) to attend Université de Strasbourg in France in 1996-97

"When I think back on that time, what I reflect on most are the interactions I had as the only American in a group of 10 or so international friends. We had a lot of fun, but we also learned a tremendous amount from each other. The discussions were often political and almost always heated, and I was continually called upon to speak up on behalf (or in defense) of my country. I understood then why the interview for the scholarship was so rigorous, and why the word "ambassador" was part of the title. And I began to believe that if every young person had the same opportunity as we did to learn about other cultures in this way - through daily interaction away from the classroom and without textbooks - that the goal of a more peaceful world really was possible. It is for this reason I sought work at The Rotary Foundation upon my return and have been here ever since."

Brad Lauman, Manager, Rotary Peace Centers Department, The Rotary Foundation of Rotary International, was sponsored by the Rotary Club of Valparaiso, Indiana, USA (District 6540) to attend University of Madrid in Spain in 1981-82

"My most memorable experience as a Rotary Scholar was speaking to the Rotary Club of Madrid, immediately followed by an international law professor who outlined the possible ramifications of the ongoing Falkland Islands (Islas Malvinas) crisis. That Universidad de Madrid Complutense professor then suggested that the US should have asked the United Nations to mediate the crisis between the UK and Argentina. When I returned to my host family that evening, I asked my host grandfather why Spain didn't take back control of Gibral-
tar while England's ships were steaming toward Argentina and he responded, "That wouldn't be an honorable thing to do." Subsequently, I decided to pursue a masters degree in international policy studies so I could better understand geopolitical science and peace and conflict resolution."

ALUMNUS BRAD RECENTLY WROTE:

Dear Rotary Peace Centers Community:

When RI President-elect Kalyan Banerjee officially announced the 2011-12 theme, Reach Within to Embrace Humanity, it occurred to me, as I am sure it did to many of you, that our current Rotary Peace Fellows and 536 alumni can relate to this theme. It is unimaginable that any of our program alumni have not had to reach within themselves from time to time, if not on a daily basis, to carry out their work in peace-building and conflict prevention/resolution around the world.

While Peace Fellows seek inner strength to apply their skills in challenging times this year and next, rest assured that our Fellows are strongly supported by the family of over 1.2 million Rotarians.

Try to attend or support one of the upcoming Rotary Peace Center seminars, I am sure you will find it is a great way for Rotarians and Rotary Peace Fellows to connect or reconnect with their Rotary family.

Peace,
Brad
Brad Lauman
Manager, Rotary Peace Centers Department
The Rotary Foundation of Rotary International

MARK YOUR CALENDARS FOR 20-21 MAY! THAT’S WHEN THE ROTARY REUNION WILL BRING TOGETHER ROTARY FOUNDATION ALUMNI AND PAST, CURRENT, AND INCOMING RI OFFICERS AT THE 2011 RI CONVENTION IN NEW ORLEANS, LOUISIANA, USA. FOR ALUMNI, IT’S AN OPPORTUNITY TO RECONNECT WITH ROTARY, CELEBRATE EXPERIENCES AND ACHIEVEMENTS, AND LEARN ABOUT SERVICE OPPORTUNITIES
ALUMNUS JOHN OSTERLUND, TRF GENERAL MANAGER

John Osterlund, general manager of the Rotary Foundation, was sponsored by the Rotary Club of Sebring, Florida, USA (District 6890) to attend Stockholm's Universitet in Sweden in 1987-88

“With a name like Osterlund, the Trustees of The Rotary Foundation figured I needed to connect with my ancestry. As such, I was assigned to spend the 1987-88 academic year at the University of Stockholm in Sweden's capital city studying social welfare and political science as a graduate student. As a 22 year old from a lower middle class family in Florida, it was the first time I had traveled outside the US. It was a life changing experience to be sure. I was hosted by the Stockholm Borgen Rotary Club; I was the first Ambassadorial Scholar they had ever hosted. To be candid, they were not terribly interested in me at the beginning of the year.

It was a year in which I made many new friends—fellow students and Rotarians. These friendships continue today. I was able to travel a good deal that year throughout Scandinavia and on the continent of Europe. I learned a great deal about myself that year; I definitely matured. I also learned an immense amount about Sweden, American foreign policy and my family history. It was a rich and rewarding year.

One of the highlights was attending the Nobel Prize Ceremony on December 10, 1987. I shall never forget being in the audience that day when seven Nobel laureates received their respective prizes. Who would have thought that a young man from Sebring, Florida would be able to witness such an event and later that day meet the King and Queen of Sweden as well as the Prime Minister? Rotary gave me that opportunity and I am eternally grateful.

I have since served as the sponsor counselor for two Ambassadorial Scholars sponsored by my Rotary club. To have the vicarious scholarship experience was also rewarding. Like my own experience, I observed these two young people mature right before my eyes.

Abby Breitstein, speech writer, was sponsored by the Rotary Club of Ithaca, New York, USA (District 7170) to attend University of Birmingham in England in 1999-2000

"When I finally arrived at Digbeth Station from Ithaca, New York, four hours late and in a gloomy gray drizzle, I couldn't help wondering if I'd made a terrible mistake. Then I noticed a man with a white moustache and a very British umbrella waving energetically with a
newspaper. My host Rotarian, Dennis Harbird, had been waiting for me the entire afternoon - in the rain. My fondest memories of Birmingham are of evenings spent eating Hobnobs, drinking tea, and watching Coronation Street in the Harbird's living room. Whenever I wanted a break from studying, from my student lodgings, whenever I just felt I needed to be at home - I rang them up and asked to come over. And they always said, "Of course!" I went to Birmingham for a degree, and I left with one - but it was the least important thing to come from that year.

Four years later, the Harbirds flew to New York to walk me down the aisle at my wedding. I'm not even sure where my diploma is, but the picture of them at my wedding is on my living room wall."

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**Jamie Revord, Senior Major Gifts Officer, was sponsored by the Rotary Club of Wilmette Harbor, Illinois, USA (District 6440) to attend University of Stirling in Scotland in 1994-95**

"From climbing in the gorgeous mountains of Glen-coe to learning to cook Bangladeshi dishes with my kitchen mates to eating my first haggis at my host counselor's home, every day held another new discovery. But my most memorable experience must be joining the Scottish undergrads in Stirling University's production of "West Side Story." I was described as a "real authentic American" on the play bill, was regularly asked for pronunciation tips, and got to sing "Somewhere" with the Scottish National Orchestra for 6 nights in a row.

The Ambassadorial Scholarship was a life-changing experience for which I'll be forever grateful to The Rotary Foundation."
Harvey Newcomb III, division manager of The Rotary Foundation Programs, was sponsored by the Rotary Club of Rockford, Illinois, USA (District 6420) to attend Universitat Wien in Austria in 1990-91.

"My most memorable experience is really a series of experiences that increased my awareness of how fortunate I was to have enjoyed a life thus far in a free democracy and in relative peace. While studying in Vienna, I spoke at the same Rotary club meeting as the Kuwaiti Ambassador to Austria, whose home had been invaded and was under control of a foreign power at that very moment; I watched the local news with live television coverage of fights taking place on the Austrian-Slovenian border and the scrambling of the Austrian air force as the conflict in the Balkans spread; I traveled to Budapest, Prague, and Bratislava with Rotaractors, seeing first-hand the continued impact of years of conflict and totalitarian rule; I met other university students who were required to serve in the military for a minimum period of time.

These experiences combined had a great impact on me, and helped me realize that I needed to find ways through my professional and personal life to help make the world more peaceful for everyone. Based on my experience as an Ambassadorial Scholar, I changed my career plans from going into international sales and marketing and instead becoming involved with international education. My goal was realized soon after in 1992 when I was offered a position with the Educational Programs Division of The Rotary Foundation, and it pleases me to no end to be continuing in this role 17 years later."

Harvey Newcomb III
Rotary Club of Evanston Lighthouse, Illinois, District 6
Steven Solomon, Annual Giving Officer, was sponsored by the Rotary Club of Buffalo Grove, Illinois, USA (District 6440) to attend University of KwaZulu-Natal in Durban, South Africa (D-9270) in 2000-01

“Living in South Africa, a country that has been characterized by a history of deprivation and impoverishment, had an overwhelming influence on my life. The Ambassadorial Scholarship gave me credibility and confidence that led to global experiences beyond my wildest dreams.

I enjoyed immersing myself in local community service projects and endless cultural encounters. I developed a better appreciation for the resources and opportunities available in my privileged world. I explored the human condition through home-stays with both historically privileged and marginalized families in urban and rural environments.

This global journey continues today. I look back over my time in South Africa with such fond memories and continue to grow the life-long friendships which were initiated there. Thank you Rotary!”

With Dr. Jane Goodall at the House of Friendship at the 2009 Rotary International Convention in Birmingham, UK

With Archbishop Desmond Tutu at the Rotary World Peace Symposium in Birmingham, UK
A vocational training team specialized in pediatric heart surgery made a profound difference in the quality of life for 11 young people in Uganda in October.

Organized by Rotary International districts 6560 (Indiana, USA) and 9200 (Eritrea, Ethiopia, Kenya, Tanzania, and Uganda), the 12-member team from Riley Hospital for Children in Indianapolis, Indiana, performed the life-saving procedures at the Uganda Heart Institute at Mulago Hospital in Kampala.

The team also spent several days monitoring their patients’ recovery. After Dr. Mark Turrentine operated on 19-year-old Onesmus to correct serious congenital heart abnormalities, he asked the youth, “What do you want to do with your life?” “I want to help people like you do,” Onesmus said. “I want to be a doctor, if that’s what God decides for me.”

**THE TEAM ALSO SHARED THEIR SKILLS WITH THEIR COUNTERPARTS AT THE INSTITUTE.**

“We taught the physicians, nurses, and operating room staff not only surgical and operating room techniques, but postoperative medical care of children with congenital heart defects as well,” says Dr. Stephanie Kinnaman, team leader and a member of the Rotary Club of Greenfield.

This was the Riley Hospital team’s third mission as part of an initiative called Our Hearts Are in Uganda to improve care for kids with congenital heart defects. “It is so amazing to me that I saw 11 miracles made possible by 12 very talented and dedicated professionals,” says District 6560 Governor Salim Najjar, who accompanied the team at his own expense and recorded its achievements with photos and vid-
eos. “I saw firsthand another dimension of our Rotary contributions at work in saving young lives.”

Past District 6560 Governor Jim Graham played a pivotal role in making the team’s accomplishments possible by completing the global grant application and organizing his district’s support for the effort.

The Rotary Club of Makindye aided the team’s work by transporting members to and from the hospital, providing meals, and assisting with other needs, along with including them in club functions. Grace Agwaru, of the Rotary Club of Soroti Central -- the first person to receive heart surgery through Gift of Life in 1975 -- was also instrumental in helping coordinate the team’s visit.

In September, Ugandan President Yoweri Museveni sent a message to the Zone 20A Rotary Institute held in Kampala, commending Rotarians for their support of the Uganda Heart Institute. The heart institute was established with Rotarians’ help in 1988 while RI Director Samuel Owori was governor of District 9200. Owori now serves as a director on the heart institute’s board.

In addition, Museveni lauded Rotarians for their role in preventing diseases such as polio and malaria in Uganda, and progress in literacy, safe water, sanitation, and nutrition, goals also targeted by the Future Vision Plan.

“The contribution of Rotary is visible in Uganda,” Owori says. “By networking in the community, we are well known on the ground for health and other projects, and the government appreciates our role.”

The initiative was launched by the Gift of Life Foundation and Rotary International in 2008 and is designed to continue until 2014, when it is turned over to the Uganda Heart Institute.

A US$33,094 global grant, sponsored by the Rotary clubs of Makindye, Uganda, and Greenfield, Indiana, partially funded the vocational training team’s mission, which addressed the maternal and child health area of focus under the Rotary Foundation’s Future Vision Plan and the RI Strategic Plan.
WHAT THE ROTARY FOUNDATION MEANS TO ME NOW AND FOR THE FUTURE
扶輪基金現在與未來對我有什麼意義

The Rotary Foundation provides me with solid roots and strong wings. The roots serve as the basis for my beliefs and they help me grow as a person; the wings enable me to serve others and give me the joy of service. I consider it a privilege to be able to have these roots and wings and to play my part in The Rotary Foundation.

扶輪基金提供我穩固的根基和強固的羽翼。該根基充實我信念的基礎並幫助我成長為一個人；至於該羽翼則賦予我服務他人以及給了我服務的快樂。我認為它讓我能擁有這些根基與羽翼並參與扶輪基金的一種特權。
Takashi Uyeno  [Spouse: Junko]
Regional Rotary Foundation Coordinator
Zones 2, 2004-07
Districts: 2570, 2580, 2590, 2600, 2610, 2620, 2750, 2770, 2780
Districts Located in: North Central Japan, Micronesia
2010-2013: Rotary Centers Committee Member

Taka has been CEO of Uyeno Transtech Ltd., a sea transport company since 1987. He is executive of the Yokohama Chamber of Commerce and Industry, and serves as president of the Japan Coastal Tanker Association. Taka also serves as Yokohama Honorary Consul to Venezuela.

A Rotarian since 1986, Taka is a member of the Rotary club of Yokohama where served as club president in 1997-98.

塔卡是Uyeno Transtech有限公司首席執行長，該海運運輸公司成立於1987年。他是橫濱工商會執委，並擔任協會日本沿海油輪工會會長。同時也出任委內瑞拉橫濱名譽領事。

塔卡於1986年成為橫濱扶輪社社員，並擔任1997-98年度該扶輪社社長。

Recent Committees:

Rotary Peace Centers Committee (member 2010-2013)
Rotary International Training Leaders (Member, 2003-04)
Leadership Development and Training Committee (Member, 2003-04)
2003 Brisbane Convention Promotion Committee (Member, 2002-03)
Frank Devlyn’s District Committee – Internet (Member, 2000-01)

2003-04年度扶輪國際訓練領導人委員
2003-04年度領導發展訓練委員會委員
2002-03年度2003年布利斯班國際年會推廣委員會委員
2000-01年度Frank Devlyn網際網路地區委員會委員

Taka is a Paul Harris Fellow, Foundation Benefactor, and a Major Donor.

Taka presented the following story (Next Page) during his years as an International Assembly Training Leader. Taka is a Rotary Warrior for world Peace.
AUGUST 6, 1945
HIROSHIMA

It was an August morning in 1945. My mother was to take me to the barber and we were leaving the house. Perhaps my diaper was wet, I cried and my mother took me back inside.

Just as she was about to change it, the house was struck by a formidable shock, unlike anything we'd ever experienced. Although she folded me tightly in her arms and got down on the floor, we were blown into a corner of the room by the blast.

After a long moment, she raised her face and looked up to find no ceiling, no roof but only blue sky above. A flying stone had hit her and there was a gash on her forehead.

Pressing one hand to the wound on her forehead, she held me in her other arm, and went to ask neighbors for help. What she found was a completely devastated city of Hiroshima, raised to the ground.

Since I was only 8 months old at the time of the atomic bombing of Hiroshima, I heard all this from my parents. But because this story has been told to me over and over ever since I can remember, I have come to feel as though I had gone through this horrifying experience myself.

Almost sixty-six years have passed since humankind saw the atomic bomb disasters of Hiroshima and Nagasaki.

However, as Rotary founder Paul Harris once said, "The way to war is a well-paved highway, and the way to peace is still a wilderness," it seems that an immeasurable amount of time is still needed to realize world peace.

Continued on next page ...
There is a small stone monument in Peace Memorial Park in Hiroshima, located in the area which was the atomic explosion's epicenter. Words of prayer for the bomb's 150,000 victims are engraved on it, which sincerely pledge, "We will never repeat our mistakes."

I think it is significant that these words were inscribed by the citizens of Hiroshima who suffered the devastating experience. Peace can only be realized when the parties involved in conflict swear jointly, without distinguishing themselves as friend or foe, that they will never repeat past mistakes. Some people might call this idealism, yet I believe it is the only way to pave the path in the wilderness.

The Centennial of Rotary recently gave us the opportunity to reflect on how far we have come and reaffirm our stand for peace. As a member of this organization to which I am proud to belong, I have a firm belief that Rotary will do its utmost to promote peace whenever and wherever possible.

It is my sincere hope that we will build a world where the 6 billion people on this globe can someday pledge together, "We will never repeat our mistakes."

Rotarian Takashi “Taka” Uyeno

… to promote world peace whenever and wherever possible

Hiroshima, Japan
“Good works are not all there is in Rotary; good works are expressions only of something beneath.

Some of the most powerful forces in the world are invisible…electricity, ...gravity. Even the air we breathe is invisible and yet it sustains life.

The power of Rotary is invisible and yet it performs miracles. The gates of empires have been lifted from their hinges by the power of ideas.

Beneath the good works of Rotary there is an invisible power; it is the power of good-will and by virtue of the power of good-will Rotary exists."

Paul Harris in his autobiography, My Road to Rotary, (p 262)
Sri Lanka Rotarians Rebuild Four Schools With a US$1.9 Million Rotary Foundation Grant Made Possible Through the Contributions of Every Rotarian, Every Year.

This grant was made possible through the contributions of Every Rotarian, Every Year.
End Polio Now message illuminates world landmarks

Will you be with us to the finish line?

The capitol building in Puerto Rico is illuminated with an End Polio Now message. Photo by Manolo