



RELEASE FOR ROTARY LEADERS: ROTARY HIRES NEW GENERAL SECRETARY

The Rotary International Board of Directors announced today that John Hewko, formerly an international partner with the law firm Baker & McKenzie and, more recently, the Vice President for Operations and Compact Development at the Millennium Challenge Corporation, will officially replace retiring General Secretary Ed Futa on July 1, 2011.

Rotary International and The Rotary Foundation have flourished during the past decade in no small part because of the leadership of General Secretary Ed Futa. Noteworthy accomplishments that occurred during Ed's tenure include, but are by no means limited to:

- 1) The reorganization of departments and staff to address the growing needs of Rotarians worldwide;
- 2) A stable financial condition that was achieved in especially difficult economic times;
- 3) An emphasis on, and investment in, major information technology services and systems;
- 4) A growing emphasis on improved communication strategies and methods;
- 5) Successful movement toward organizational strategic planning;
- 6) Outreach to expand our network of strategic partners, including The Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation and USAID, among others;
- 7) Significant increase in Rotary and Rotary-partnered fundraising and progress in Rotary's efforts to rid the world of poliomyelitis.

At a time when Rotary is recognized throughout the world for its leadership in the area of community service, its unique and diverse membership, and its ability to address significant global challenges, it is appropriate that Rotary International attract a unique individual to replace its retiring General Secretary.

That individual is John Hewko, an international partner from 1992 to 2004 in the international law firm of Baker & McKenzie (B&M). At B&M, he specialized in international mergers and acquisitions, privatizations and other international corporate matters, participated in the development of the firm's Moscow office and was the managing partner of its offices in Kyiv and Prague. While in Ukraine in the early 1990s, he assisted in the development of the initial draft of the new Ukrainian constitution and was a charter member of the first Rotary club in Kyiv.

In 2004, John left Baker & McKenzie for public service. He joined the Millennium Challenge Corporation, a newly-established US government agency designed to deliver foreign assistance to the world's poorest countries in a new and innovative manner. As Vice President for Operations and Compact Development, John was responsible for the development and negotiation of foreign assistance agreements with 26 countries in Africa, Asia, South America, the Middle East, and the former Soviet Union. During his tenure, agreements totaling \$6.3 billion were completed with 18 countries for projects in infrastructure, agriculture, water and sanitation, health and education.

John has written extensively on international and other issues, including opinion articles in the Washington Post, the Wall Street Journal, the Los Angeles Times and the Christian Science Monitor. In addition to his native English, John speaks five other languages. He is married to Margarita and has one daughter, Maria, who will be graduating this spring from high school in the Washington, DC area. John's father is a Rotarian in Clarkston, Michigan.

John will inherit a position first mastered by revered Rotary leader Ches Perry and will provide the same visionary leadership and effort attributed to that first general secretary so that Rotary can continue to grow in numbers, stature and involvement and contribute to making the world a better place for all people.