

ROTARY MOMENT

FW Rotary,

February 2015

February Rotary Moment

This month's Rotary theme is World Awareness, as I was thinking about this theme I wondered what I could cover in this month's addition, Our Little School in Freetown, Sierra Leone came to mind. All the children whose lives our little club has tried to make better by providing an improved school. Most recently we had been anxiously awaiting news of the new desks and chairs to be completed. Sadly the school has been closed for months due to the Ebola Outbreak.

What a story really Solade Nicol in our club was instrumental in working with Freetown and Fort William Rotary to do something good for his homeland, a way to give back to his people. Of course the club was behind Solade every step of the way. And now our club waits for news that the school is reopened and the new desk and chairs are filled with happy children ready to learn and grow.

Then Ebola hits and we have no idea the impact that this outbreak has had on the children. I often think of those young children and wonder if they are ok, have any of them succumbed to the disease or lost a parent or even worse both parents. But then I think of Rotary and how much Rotary does all over the world to support third world or under-developed countries.

Health, Education, Security, Food are all essential for people to be successful. Every child deserves the opportunity of an education, and a safe clean school in order to learn. Education is critical to our individual and collective success. Underdeveloped countries need to develop knowledge in its children to pave a new way forward. Our children need and children need an education to ensure a strong financial future for themselves and in some cases to break the cycle of poverty. Education effect so many aspects of our lives. Education hopefully secures higher paying jobs. Higher paying jobs provides the financial means to maintain a good diet and to access health care. An education also provides the knowledge tools needed to live a healthy lifestyle.

Our little too Freetown to help rebuild their school will keep giving for many years to come and will have a tremendous impact on the health and wellbeing of the children and also their community. Rotary is also helping Countries effected by the Ebola Outbreak by using the infrastructure developed through the Polio Eradication Project. The ways that Rotary helps the world are endless. Even a small project like our Freetown School has the potential to positively impact the world community today and into the future. This club should be proud of what we have done for these children, Solade you have done an amazing job seeing this through, your steadfast leadership on both of these projects has been the catalyst that made it happen.

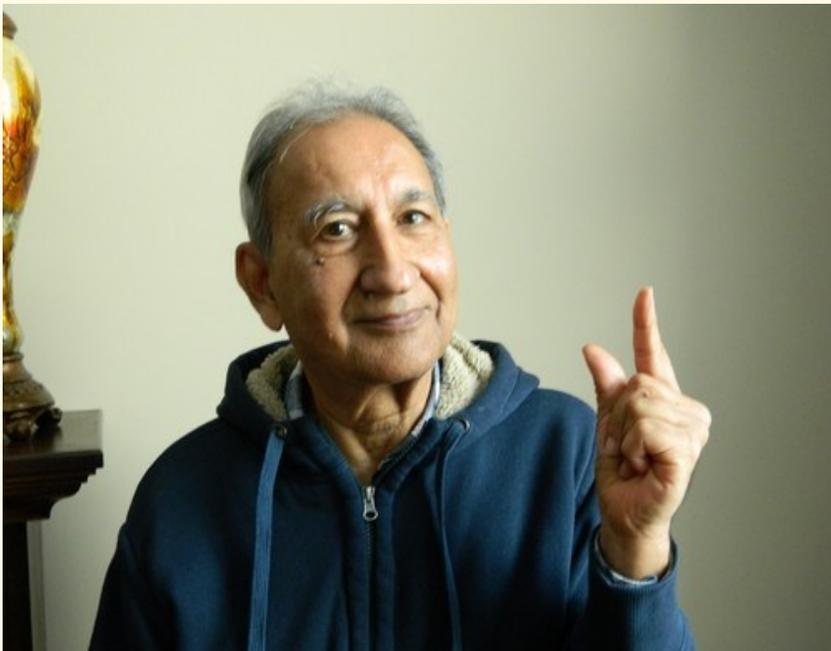


In This Issue

- Rotary Awareness
- Polio Eradication
- Ajoy Chatterjee

Polio Eradication

Rotary Clubs around the world have been working for more than 30 years to Eradicate Polio. Polio is a highly infectious disease that effects the central nervous system. Polio can be either symptomatic or non-symptomatic. Those that display symptoms can develop breathing problems and paralysis. The predication is that we will eradicate polio by 2018!! The number of global cases this year is 247 compared to 298 last year. Pakistan has the highest number of new cases, in fact the total number of new cases outside of Pakistan this year is only 35 as compared to 187 one year ago. We are almost there, our donations to support this project has never been more critical! Any donation directed to Polio Plus is immediately sent to support the efforts around d the world. We are behind on our goal Polio Plus goals for this year, every penny counts!! We could be on the verge of making history and saving so many lives and human suffering.



Our dear friend Ajoy reminds us of how close we are to Polio Eradication!

Famous Quotes

“If we train our youth properly, we need not have any fear as to the future of the world.”

--Percy Hodgson, 1949-50 RI President, speech to the 1949 convention

“Just as Rotary itself can never keep its place unless it is constantly growing, so each individual Rotary club cannot afford to stand still while the stream of lifemoves onward.” — *Ever Forward!*, THE ROTARIAN, February 1941

“The spirit of Rotary is not exclusive; it expands. It is not local, it is universal. It is the wish to understand and be understood, to see virtues rather than faults in others, to find what we have in common rather than what divides us.” — *Address to 1957 Rotary Convention, Lucerne, Switzerland*

When a tree stops growing — it is ready to die....A Rotary club is like that: It is moving ahead only when it is growing. When the growing ends, the knife-and fork club begins.” — *Little Lessons in Rotary (Third Edition)*, March 1978

One of the most impressive examples I know of international cooperation is in those gardens where we find plants, shrubs, and trees flourishing side by side in perfect harmony and beauty....There is much wisdom to be learned in a garden, and the very beginning is a realization of the fact that all final results depend upon proper preparation of the soil....So it is with Rotary. The crop we envisage is world peace and stability, a world in which we all live together as friends and neighbors. The seed to be sown — fellowship, friendship, understanding. The soil —the minds of individual Rotarians. — *Address to 1960 Rotary Convention, Miami-Miami Beach, Florida, USA*

A Rotary club is autonomous, free to seek its own outlets for service. This is a source of strength. Springing from it is the ability of a club to adapt itself to the local community.” — *Address to the 1974 Rotary Convention, Minneapolis-St. Paul, Minnesota, USA*

“The time we take to serve those who need us can be the turning point, not only in their lives but also in our own.” — *Take Time to Serve*, THE ROTARIAN, July 1980

Rotary International’s masterpiece is The Rotary Foundation....It transforms our most daring dreams into the most splendid realities....The Rotary world and even the political world are already aware that The Rotary Foundation is the most generous expression of Rotarian generosity — a generosity that not only brings benefits, but also brings help and cooperation to solve the problems that affect mankind....Only God achieves the impossible, but The Rotary Foundation achieves the best that mankind can possibly achieve.” — *Address to 1996 Rotary Convention, Calgary, Alberta, Canada*