



Issue 252 - May 2024

Editor's Note

Dear Readers,

This month is an important one in Rotary as we have a significant event taking place between the 25th and 30th - the Rotary International Convention. This year, the convention takes place in amazing Singapore. Rotarians across the globe look forward to the interesting activities at the convention, listening to insightful speakers and an opportunity to meet old friends and make new ones. Our RGHF is having a booth at the convention, and we look forward to our own members and their friends to visit the RGHF booth.

Time flies...and its just two months for the end of the current Rotary year. A good time to reflect and check if we have accomplished all that we set out to do at the commencement of the year, whether it was around service projects in our community, participation in the various Rotary programs, introducing a new member into Rotary, or one's own contribution to The Rotary Foundation. In case some of these are unmet, there is still time to meet the goals.

On eye is now already on the incoming Rotary year, and the leadership roles for next year are in the process of participating in learning sessions to gear up for the new roles. Within RGHF too, we look forward to our members to come forward and indicate their willingness to take on new responsibilities and roles. Do write to us on your interest.

Rotary Regards,



Jeetendra Sharma
Editor-in-Chief
RGHF's Our Foundation Newsletter

RGHF Booth at the Singapore Convention



SHARING HOPE WITH THE WORLD

All attendees of the upcoming Rotary International Convention being held in Singapore between 25th and 30th May 2024 are cordially invited to the **RGHF Booth!**

We also invite RGHF members to spend time and support us in managing our RGHF Booth. Please contact:
Nevine Abdelkhalek - nevine.abdelkhalek@gmail.com
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Next year's Foundation goals

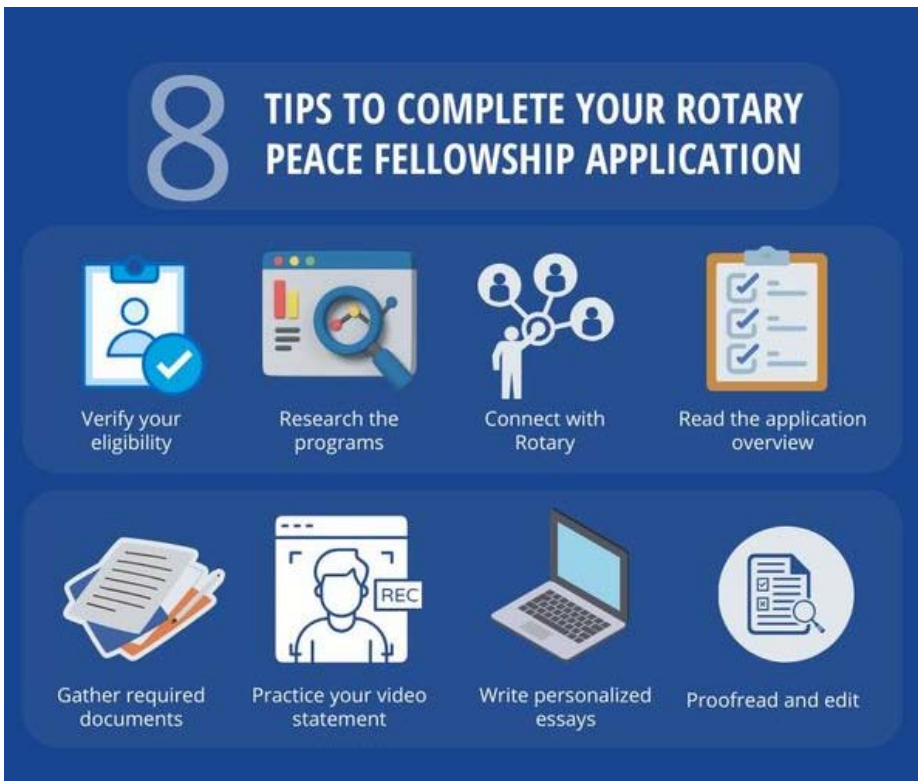


Mark Daniel Maloney, our incoming trustee chair, has set some Foundation-related goals he calls “Mark’s Magical Markers” for district leaders next year:

1. Lead by example by [contributing](#) to the [Annual Fund](#) by 31 August and the [Endowment Fund](#) by 31 December.
2. Increase the number of donors in your district who are enrolled in [Rotary Direct](#), our recurring giving program.
3. Encourage giving to our [PolioPlus Fund](#), and learn how to establish or continue to build a district-administered PolioPlus Society.
4. Raise awareness of the [Paul Harris Society](#), whose members generously commit to giving US\$1,000 to the Annual Fund every year.

Recruit a team to plan a million-dollar event to increase giving to our [Foundation's Endowment](#).

Rotary Peace Fellowship



For anyone applying for the Rotary Peace Fellowship, keep these tips in mind! If you know someone who is applying, please share this information with them. The deadline to apply is **15 May**: <https://on.rotary.org/3IDTZV0>

Rotary recognizes President Emmanuel Macron for France's commitment to a polio-free world

Rotary International presented its Polio Eradication Champion Award to French President Emmanuel Macron today, in recognition of France's significant role in the global effort to eradicate polio. The ceremony was a feature of the Rotary Day event at UNESCO, centered on education and peace.

Under President Macron's leadership, France notably pledged €50 million to the Global Polio Eradication Initiative (GPEI) in October 2022. This commitment was complemented by a significant partnership announcement in December 2023 between the Gates Foundation and the French Development Agency (AFD), which included a loan of up to €55 million to support the World Health Organization's polio efforts in Pakistan, bringing the country's total commitment to polio eradication to up to €105 million (\$103.4 million). France has also been a strong advocate within the G-20 and G-7, urging other nations to continue their support for a polio-free world.

"I am delighted to recognize President Macron and the Government of France for the outstanding commitment to a polio-free world," said Rotary International President Gordon McNally. "Our experience over more than thirty years of battling polio has shown us what we can achieve by working together. As part of the global team to end polio, we are committed to reaching every child and eliminating polio even in the most difficult environments."

Rotary has contributed more than \$2.7 billion to fight polio, including matching funds from the Gates Foundation, and countless volunteer hours since launching its PolioPlus program in 1985. Rotary's over 1000 clubs in France have contributed a total of \$24.64 million (around €23.17 million) toward ending polio. In 1988, Rotary joined in partnership with the World Health Organization, UNICEF, and the U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention to form the Global Polio Eradication Initiative. The Gates Foundation and Gavi, the Vaccine Alliance, later joined. When the initiative launched, there were 350,000 cases of polio every year. Today the incidence of polio has plummeted by more than 99.9 percent.

Source: www.rotary.org

Kingdom of Saudi Arabia pledges US\$ 500 million to protect children from polio

New commitment will help vaccinate 370 million children against polio over five years, preventing paralysis and even death, and strengthen health systems to achieve and sustain a polio-free world.

At the first-ever World Economic Forum (WEF) Special Meeting hosted in Riyadh, the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia has pledged US\$ 500 million over the next five years to support the work of the Global Polio Eradication Initiative (GPEI).

This announcement marks a significant increase in funding for the global effort to eradicate polio – a devastating virus that paralyzes and can be fatal for children but is preventable with vaccines. The funds announced today will enable GPEI partners – the Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation (BMGF), Gavi, the Vaccine Alliance, Rotary International, the United Nations Children’s Fund (UNICEF), the U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), and the World Health Organization (WHO) – spearheaded by national governments, to protect more than 370 million children with polio vaccines every year. It will also facilitate the delivery of other life-saving interventions like nutritional supplements and bed nets to underserved communities and strengthen health systems to better prepare countries for emerging health threats.

The commitment was made as part of a broader more than US\$ 620 million partnership by Saudi Arabia and BMGF to support polio eradication and contribute to other global health initiatives, including the [Lives and Livelihood Fund](#). The partnership was [announced](#) at the WEF Special Meeting by His Excellency Dr. Abdullah A. Al Rabeeah, Advisor to the Royal Court and Supervisor General of the King Salman Humanitarian Aid & Relief Centre (KSrelief) and His Excellency Fahad bin Abdurrahman Al-Jalajel, Minister of Health of the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia, in the presence of Dr. Tedros Adhanom Ghebreyesus, Director-General of the WHO, and Bill Gates, co-chair of BMGF.

For full story, read [here](#).

Webmaster for RGHF Website



Our RGHF website is an excellent repository for Rotary history articles and information. Please visit www.rghf.org to see for yourself.

Rotarians across the globe keep feeding history information and our members have been meticulously collating and compiling these for the benefit of all website visitors. To better manage this activity, we are looking for a **Webmaster** to help lead and manage the RGHF Website.

Those interested in taking up this role could write back to:

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Our Foundation Newsletter



This newsletter is published by the Rotary Global History Fellowship. The comments and stories in this newsletter do not reflect the opinions of Rotary International, The Rotary Foundation of Rotary International or any other Rotary related organization.

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