



Issue 253 - November 2024

From the President's Desk

Dear Fellow Members,

Over the last couple of months, there has been a lot of activity happening 'behind the scenes'. We had been facing challenges on the process of membership renewals and dues payment, and also with new member registrations. Our team has been tirelessly working with the development agency, and am pleased to inform that all the issues have now been fixed.

Members would have started receiving renewal notices, so please do go ahead and make the dues payments. Do let us know if you face any difficulties in doing so. We shall address the same immediately. I also request members of our Fellowship to spread the word and encourage like-minded Rotarians to join our Fellowship. They can directly join through this link: <https://rghf.org/join-rghf/>

Last month, we received the fantastic news of The Rotary Foundation receiving the highest rating from Charity Navigator for the 16th consecutive year. No mean achievement this, and it should give us Rotarians tremendous pride in being associated with such an organization. This, in itself, should serve as motivation to all of us to continue contributing to The Rotary Foundation for *Doing Good in the World* and showing *The Magic of Rotary!*



Jeetendra Sharma
President
Rotary Global History Fellowship (RGHF)

TRF Trustee Chair's message

There are as many reasons to join Rotary as there are members. Most join for experiences — new friendships, expanding professional circles, or putting Service Above Self into action to create impact.

Rotary delivers on all of these, often simultaneously. Through our Rotary Foundation, Rotary also has a knack for offering unexpected experiences and new opportunities that open doors and change lives.

I learned this firsthand at age 30 when I served as president of the Rotary Club of Decatur, Alabama. That year, my wife and I sought out the chance to try something new: attending the 1985 Rotary International Convention in Kansas City, Missouri. There, we witnessed the dawn of PolioPlus and met members from different backgrounds, realizing we were part of a global family.

Later that year, I learned that a Rotary Group Study Exchange team from Nigeria was scheduled to visit Alabama, but Decatur was not on the agenda. After making a few calls, we soon welcomed the Nigerian team into our home. It was an incredible and unexpected experience.

Before the group departed, the team leader recommended me to lead the six-member team from Alabama that would visit Nigeria the following year, which I did. There, I met people whose lives had been impacted by polio, including several family members of our hosts. I learned that polio reaches its victims across borders, economies, and religions.

That Foundation program — Group Study Exchange — opened my eyes to what Rotary is and what it can do. Taking part in the exchange set me on a path for new friendships and opportunities to serve on multiple continents.

Just as The Rotary Foundation has enriched my Rotary life, it can do the same for you. This month, during Rotary Foundation Month, I invite you to explore new Foundation experiences.

Look for ways you and your club can support Foundation-led efforts like polio eradication, disaster response, or the Rotary Peace Centers. Get involved in global grant or district grant projects. And if you have never had the experience of giving to our Foundation, I invite you to join other Rotary members as a Foundation donor. Your support will mean the world to both Rotary members who want to help and to the individuals and communities who need it.

The Rotary Foundation is not a place or a building. It is an experience, one that lives in our hearts and hands as we do good in the world. The Rotary Foundation is all of us.



Mark Daniel Maloney
Trustee Chair 2024-25

Message from TRF Trustee

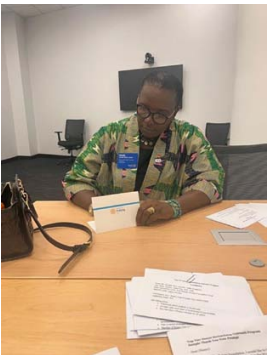
My dear friends,

Welcome to November, specially dedicated to The Rotary Foundation. Let me first appreciate you all for the audacious outing during the just concluded 2024 World Polio Day. The pictures, the colours, the talks, walks and ofcourse the Donations and all.....waoooo.....never been this proud to be called a Rotarian .

Our fight to End Polio continues, we've recorded amazing successes but we are not done yet!. The Polio Plus Society is a good way to be part of this Legacy, please subscribe and encourage others to do so.

As we walk through this month, remember our Goal of \$500M, we need to achieve it and more to better our Communities and ourselves. We have few more months towards our Goal of 2025 by 2025, let us be part of history and subscribe in every way we can. The Grants are available, let us seek them diligently and expand our reach.

The Foundation Team are standing by for all your needs and assistance, make that move. You are the indeed the best. Thanks and God bless you ALL.



Ijeoma Pearl Okoro
TRF Trustee

**Rotary Foundation receives highest rating from Charity Navigator for
16th consecutive year**



For the 16th consecutive year, The Rotary Foundation has received the highest rating — four stars — from [Charity Navigator](#), an independent evaluator of charities in the U.S.

The Foundation earned the recognition for adhering to sector best practices and executing its mission in a financially efficient way, demonstrating both strong financial health and commitment to accountability and transparency.

“We are delighted to provide the Rotary Foundation with third-party accreditation that validates their operational excellence,” said Michael Thatcher, president and CEO of Charity Navigator. “The Four-Star Rating is the highest possible rating an organization can achieve. We are eager to see the good work that the Rotary Foundation is able to accomplish in the years ahead.”

Charity Navigator analyzes nonprofit performance based on four key indicators, referred to as beacons. Currently, nonprofits can earn scores for the impact and results, accountability and finance, culture and communities, and leadership and adaptability.

Charity Navigator is the largest and most utilized independent charity evaluator in the U.S. Since 2001, the organization has been an unbiased and trusted source of information for more than 11 million donors annually.

A Generous Donor



Smt. Rajashree Birla being felicitated by PRID (2007-09) Ashok Mahajan with the diamond studded necklace received from The Rotary Foundation for her generous contributions of over 13 Million US\$ towards Global Polio Eradication Initiative of Rotary International.

‘When,’ not ‘if’: Progress continues toward ending polio

On World Polio Day, Rotary International leaders and public health experts reiterate their commitment to global eradication



Rotary leaders, including RI President Stephanie Urchick (middle), and global health experts discuss the future of the polio eradication effort at a World Polio Day event in Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania, USA, 24 October 2024.

Eradicating polio around the world is still an attainable goal, Rotary International President Stephanie A. Urchick and public health experts said as they commemorated World Polio Day in the city where the vaccine was developed.

“I know it is a question of *when* polio will be eradicated, not *if*,” Urchick told the audience at [a livestream event on 24](#)

[October](#) in Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania, USA.

“Our Action Plan talks about improving our impact. That’s really where our polio eradication program shines,” Urchick added. “Millions of children won’t get this crippling disease. Billions of U.S. dollars won’t be spent on ancillary health care costs as a result of this disease. We have made so much progress.”

World Polio Day raises awareness and funds for the Global Polio Eradication Initiative’s work to eliminate the disease. Since Rotary and its partners formed the GPEI in 1988, the number of wild polio cases has decreased by 99.9%. The event highlighted Rotary’s continuing efforts toward complete eradication.

Read more [here](#).



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#Rotary25

Our Foundation Newsletter



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