



# End Polio Now

The Rotary District 5110  
Polio Newsletter



Volume 1, Issue 1, Fall 2009

## In This Issue

<i>The Iron Lung Returns</i>	2
<i>Borrow the Iron Lung</i>	3
<i>Ed McDunn's Story</i>	4
<i>N.I.D. Information</i>	4
<i>Fundraising Ideas</i>	5
<i>Supplies for your Event</i>	5
<i>Corporate Partnerships</i>	6

## District Clubs Celebrate World Polio Day

This year, the World Health Organization (WHO) declared October to be World Polio Month and October 24 to be "World Polio Day" in honor of Jonas Salk's birthday.

Around the world, Rotary clubs held "events" to make their communities aware that Polio has not yet been fully eradicated and the importance of getting the job done NOW to insure that everyone will be protected against polio.

### ROTARY CLUB OF SISTERS

The RC of Sisters had been working on their community awareness / fund raising event for more than a month. Under the direction of **PP Barbara Turner**, the club contacted the District Polio chair in September and requested the use of the newly restored iron lung for their "**Pennies for Polio**" event to be held on October 24 at Ray's Market in Sisters. They set up a table outside the market, displayed the iron lung, provided brochures and information to the community and collected \$327 for Polio.

To quote one of the Sisters volunteers, several people came to the booth to talk about their personal experience as a polio victim or time spent in an iron lung. Upon seeing the iron lung, one individual asked if it was a "BBQ" As we said, we need to create community awareness about Polio and the need to complete the global eradication.

### RC OF PORT ORFORD

Under the able direction of AG Emily Francona, the RC of Port Orford pulled out all of the stops to "create awareness" in the Port Orford community of the need to eradicate polio. Following is AG Emily's recap of the

highly successful community campaign:

*"On Saturday, October 24, a group of Port Orford Rotarians dressed in bright red "End Polio Now" smocks raised their community's awareness about Rotary's International drive to eliminate polio forever. Similar events were being held by Rotary clubs in all parts of the world as a part of World Polio Day celebrating the elimination of Polio in most of the world and emphasizing the need for a final push to end it completely.*

*Rotarians Karen Auborn, Michelle Breuer, Emily*

*Francona, Rick Francona, Dave Holman, Ronn Kerr, Bill McArdle, Ken Williams, and Bill Oleson took turns showing videos, providing information, distributing brochures, selling Polio Roses, answering questions, even collecting \$180 for Polio Plus!*

*The most common reaction from local citizens during the day was that they thought polio had been wiped out long ago, making this kind of community awareness event very relevant to Rotary's polio eradication efforts.*

*Port Orford Rotarians have already surpassed their Polio Plus giving*

*goals for the current Rotary year and continue to raise funds with the Good Bye Polio Rose project. They also plan to continue raising community awareness by participating in next year's World Polio Day.*

*(NOTE: Provide the District Polio chair with a story and photos to include your club's events in this newsletter. Email your story to [in2dtp@empnet.com](mailto:in2dtp@empnet.com))*



### District 5110 PolioPlus Committee

- Harriett Schloer (Chair)*
- Tom Burdett*
- Tom Collier*
- Georgianne DeMarco*
- AG Emily Francona*
- DGND Dell Gray*
- David Klindt*
- Ed McDunn*
- AG Bob Strosser*



## Iron Lung is Restored and Ready to Roll . . .

### A GIFT TO ROTARY

This is the story of a very special iron lung and the contribution it has made toward eradicating polio.

District 5110 didn't always have an iron lung, but in 2002 when Rotary International decided to hold a three-year fundraising initiative to endeavor to complete global eradication by 2005 (Rotary's Centennial year), District 5110 was given a special gift.

**Good Samaritan** hospital in **Eugene** had an iron lung. It had been moved to storage after the last iron lung patient was released from the hospital many years earlier and had been in storage since that time.

When Rotary launched its three year initiative, "Good Sam" came to Rotary D5110 and offered us the lung with the following conditions, "Let people know where it came from, put it to good use raising money for polio eradication, and . . . **DON'T BRING IT BACK!**" We said "thank you" and quickly put it to work creating awareness and raising money for Polio.

**PDG Bob Kings** was in charge of the district's polio fundraising campaign and **David Klindt** and his partner at **Willamette.Net** donated a trailer to transport the lung around the district. Many, many miles were put on the trailer during that time and a LOT of money was raised from generous Rotarians.

After the campaign was completed, the lung was transported to Northern California and spent the next 4 years traveling back and forth between District 5110 and the Northern California districts continuing to raise money for polio.

### THE IRON LUNG COMES HOME

Now, fast forward to July of 2009. When Harriett Schloer was asked in April of 2009 by then DGN Claire Little to take on the task of chairing the District PolioPlus Committee (2009-she Harriett did was locate the iron

lung and have it returned to the district permanently. It took a couple of months but it finally arrived in Bend in late August.

When unloading the iron lung from the trailer (with four people) it immediately became evident that the trailer which had been transporting it for the past six years was not suitable for transporting the lung safely. So, the search began for a new trailer. (*more on that later*)



### UNANTICIPATED RESTORATION

When the lung arrived it was in very poor "physical" condition. For the past several years it had not been covered during transport and both its exterior and interior were badly rusted. In addition, there had been an oil leak in the



hydraulic brake system and oil had been blown all over the lung (inside and out), making it a perfect target for dirt, road grime, rock chips, etc. It was a rusted, dented, damaged, greasy mess and not suitable for use by the clubs. This was not something the new Polio chair had anticipated, but she knew that something had to be done. **Tom**

**Collier** came to the rescue. Tom is an independent auto dealer and also a collector of classic cars. As such, he knows both auto detailers and auto body repair / restoration specialists. First he called upon a nationally recognized auto detailer to see if detailing would help any . . . The detailing expert told us "What this thing needs is an 'Extreme Makeover', not just a quick fix." Tom thanked him and then went to Plan B. He contacted an auto

body repair shop in Bend that specializes in restoring classic cars to their original state. After seeing the lung "up close and personal", the owner was amazed (to say the least) but said he could and would do the job, but before he did, everything had to be removed from the lung, and he meant EVERYTHING.

### THE IRON LUNG REPAIRMAN

Since the Iron Lung has taken up "residence" at the Schloer home in Bend, and since there had not been any snow so he could begin wood cutting for the winter, **PDG Walt Schloer** took on the job of completely dismantling the lung, including the brake and motor. It took over a week.

Once dismantled, (it was just a rusty yellow shell) it was loaded onto a utility trailer and moved to the body shop where it spent four days being fully sanded inside and out and completely repainted to its original, computer-matched, pale yellow color.

After the lung returned "home", the reassembly process began. All of the screws, nuts, bolts, washers, etc. as well as all of

the parts and pieces attached to the lung had been catalogued and boxed for easy identification during reassembly. But even then, it was not an easy task. Day after day as Walt worked on it another piece of the puzzle came together until finally, nearly two weeks later, after many trips to Harbor Freight (*to get "Just one more thing"*) the job

was done. Every single nut, bolt, screw, washer, part and piece had been cleaned with commercial degreasing solvent and steel wool. There were shiny new screws and bolts, brand new larger wheels (to make it easier to load and unload from the trailer) a motor that took two days to degrease and get into working order, an electrical system that now works, and a repaired hydraulic system on the brake. And, the custom-made cover which had been covered with dirt, grease and grime now looked like new. It is a sight to behold and well worth all of the effort that went into it. And . . . to top it all off, the iron lung now WORKS!! Lights and all!

Now it was ready for the trailer.

### A CUSTOM-BUILT TRAILER

Ah yes . . . the trailer. That's another saga but after nearly six weeks Harriett located a company in Portland that agreed to build the trailer to our specifications with all of the additional features that we needed.

**Trailer World** in Bend placed the order and **Eagle Trailer Mfg.** built it, finishing the job on October 13. The Schloer's picked the trailer up in Portland the same day.

The new trailer is a 10 ft X 5 ft. single axel flatbed tilt-trailer. It has an additional 18" stationery platform at the front on which sits a 5 ft X 18" X 18" custom built storage container which was made by our **DGN Chuck Root**. There is an 18" railing around the sides and front of the tilt-bed portion of the trailer, six large D-links embedded into the floor of the flatbed

along the sides, a full "knife edge" on the rear to insure that there is no gap between the trailer deck and the ground when unloading, a spare tire on the front tongue, a 1200 lb. winch with an automatic brake for easy loading and unloading (with a custom-built handle which extends to the outside of the trailer so it can be cranked without having to stand on the trailer deck); 15" wheels with heavy-duty tires and heavy duty fenders.

On Wednesday, Oct. 15, for the first time the newly rebuilt iron lung was loaded onto the trailer (by only two people!), tied down, covered and was ready for transport. First stop . . . The annual District 5110 TRF Seminar held in Cottage Grove on Oct. 17.

### IRON LUNG MAKES ITS DEBUT



Restored iron lung and trailer with parade banners on display at Rotary Club of Bend (OR, USA) meeting on 11/4/2009.

To say that the newly rebuilt iron lung was a sensation at the TRF seminar would be an understatement. It was more than that . . . much more and those who were present shall not soon forget what happened that day.

When the trailer arrived at Cottage

Grove High School with the lung on-board, it was quickly and easily unloaded by three Rotarians and rolled into the school and up the ramp onto the stage.

Throughout the entire TRF seminar the lung remained on the stage . . . highly visible and a constant reminder as to why Polio Eradication is Rotary International's #1 Top Priority. Then, Ed McDunn, a new member of the RC of Eugene Airport went to the microphone to tell his personal story as a polio survivor. It was a moving presentation, filled with humor and sadness. When Ed came to the point in his story where he related his being placed in an iron lung (*an adult sized lung because they didn't have one small enough to "fit" a five year old boy*),

PDG Walt Schloer went to the lung and turned on the motor and the lights and the lung began to pump. . . . . the room fell totally silent as everyone listened to the sound of the lung. Tears fell and continued to fall as the lung continued to pump throughout the remainder of the Ed's speech. It was moving, it was more than powerful, it was an awakening. Ed received a standing ovation and more than a dozen immediate requests to speak at Rotary clubs. And . . . those present reached deep into their pockets and contributed more than \$2700 to polio eradication.

It was an extraordinary day and if you were not present, you missed one of the great experiences that being a Rotarian has to offer. It was a very special day.

## Schedule the Iron Lung for Your Club / Event

The newly refurbished iron lung and trailer are available for club use. Whether it is a club meeting with a special polio speaker, a club fund raiser, a parade, or a community event, this polio eradication "package" has been assembled by District 5110 to make it possible for our clubs to create community awareness of the need to Eradicate Polio NOW . . . FOREVER!

When you get the trailer and lung you get a lot of other "stuff" with it including: Banners to be hung on the sides and rear of the trailer during parades (or used at events); aprons for all of your volunteers (see page 1 of this issue);

polio Posters, Polio Brochures and contribution envelopes, acrylic stands for the brochures and acrylic signs to create your own signs; Polio collection coin boxes, an 8 foot tablecloth, a 7 foot "pop-up" display banner and other "stuff" as well. It's all there and it's for you to use.

Go to the district web site and click on the district polio page: <http://district5110.org/Committees/PolioEradication> Then, check the Polio Calendar for the date(s) you want to use the lung. If it is not scheduled for those dates, fill out all of the paperwork on the polio page and submit it to the Polio Chair. Once approved, you'll be able to use the iron lung.

## Ed McDunn Tells His Story

Ed McDunn is a new member of the Rotary Club of Eugene Airport. When he gave his "new member talk" to his club, he had a special message to bring to his club and others about Polio.

*"THE REFURBISHED  
IRON LUNG IS SO  
WELL DONE, BUT IT  
SURE BROUGHT  
MANY UNHAPPY  
MEMORIES OF  
1948 BACK TO THE  
SURFACE."*

Ed is a polio survivor. He contracted a severe case of polio at age five. It literally happened overnight. One day he was a happy kid playing with other kids and the next day he had polio. Soon thereafter he was placed in an iron lung. It was this story that he shared with his fellow club members

When the District Polio Chair learned about Ed she invited him to speak at the annual TRF Seminar on October 17. The DRFC Chair, Bert Morris had decided that he wanted to have a major focus on polio at this year's seminar and Ed was a big part of that.

On October 17, Ed arrived in Cottage Grove. Prior to his arrival, the newly restored iron lung had been unloaded from its custom built trailer and rolled into the high school

and up the ramp onto the stage. (see photo). Following the seminar the District Polio Chair



received the following message from Ed:

*"The refurbished iron lung is so well done, but it sure brought many unhappy memories of 1948 back to the surface."*

Ed's story was emotional, funny, powerful, and very moving. When he told how he arrived at the hospital in Fargo, South Dakota with his parents to be placed in an iron lung, they learned that they did not have any children's size lungs available. Instead he was placed in a full size adult lung (like the lung on the stage behind him.) When Ed spoke about this part of his experi-

ence, the iron lung was turned on and continued to function throughout the remainder of his speech.

When Ed was done, he received a prolonged standing ovation. Following his presentation, those present dug deep into their pockets and contributed more than \$2500 to Polio.

During the break, Ed was approached by more than a dozen clubs to speak to their members.

The district is currently placing Ed's speaking schedule on the Polio calendar on the District web site.

If you are looking for a great speaker for your polio "event" or for a club meeting, you are encouraged to contact Ed. He is more than willing to tell his story if it will help bring an end to polio worldwide. You can reach him by email at:

[EdwardMcDunn@msn.com](mailto:EdwardMcDunn@msn.com)

Or by phone at:

Home: (541) 689-4477

## Information on Upcoming N.I.D.

If you are a district Rotarian that is interested in participating in National Immunization Days (NIDs), PDG Anil Garg (a speaker at our TRF Seminar), will be leading a team to India, February 2-13, 2010.

Anil has provided all of the required paperwork to the District PolioPlus Chair and it has been posted on the Polio Page of the District web site. If you are interested in partici-



pating in this NID with other district Rotarians as well as Rotarians from District 5240, you will need to complete and submit the paperwork to PDG

Anil along with the required deposit in order to secure a place on the February team to India.

Read the instructions carefully and follow them completely. If you have any questions about this upcoming trip, contact the District Polio Chair, Harriett Schloer at [in2dtp@empnet.com](mailto:in2dtp@empnet.com) or by phone at 541-388-0769

## Raising \$\$\$ to meet the Gates Challenge

For the next three years, all of our clubs will be raising funds for Polio Eradication. This is Rotary's BIG push along with the Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation to end polio. We are at the final inch but it is the hardest "final inch" we have faced to date. That being said, progress is being made and there is good news from all four of the indigenous countries.

Unlike previous fundraising initiatives for Polio, we are NOT asking our Rotarians to fund this one personally. We sincerely hope that new Rotarians will make a significant contribution as they have not previously had the opportunity to give to Polio and we hope that all Rotarians will give a minimum of \$20 or more per year. But the BIG contributions will come from our communities. Here's how.

1. Clubs will set their polio fundraising goal and then plan public awareness and fundraising activities in their communities.
2. In conjunction with these fundraising activities, clubs will be shown how to get "corporate partners" to come

on board and match the funds which are raised in the community event.

3. In the spring (April) we will endeavor to have all school districts in District 5110 participate in a "Pennies for Polio" funding drive. This will include all grades from Kindergarten through High School. In conjunction with this, the District will develop a "Global Health Curriculum" for all grade levels that will be taught during the period of time that the Pennies for Polio campaign is being held. Right now, we are looking at the last two weeks in April for the campaign and will soon be contacting school districts to get them to agree to the campaign. *(Note: A district in Michigan with only 53 clubs and 1500 Rotarians raised over \$100,000 in a 2 week period earlier this year.)*
4. To create awareness of the continuing need for Polio Eradication, the Iron Lung will be used throughout the district in parades, community events, club events, etc. Get your event organized and get on the Iron Lung schedule

ASAP as requests are starting to come in.

5. Encourage ALL of your members to participate in the "Text POLIO to 90999" with their Cell Phone Provider each and every month. Set aside time in your club meeting each month when all members pull out their phones and text POLIO to 90999. This will be charged to their bill and forwarded to TRF.

You can also sell Polio Roses (contact DGN Chuck Root), have an auction, sponsor a run/walk, hold a wine and cheese event, etc., etc., etc. Just put raising funds for Polio on your club goals list.



**"SET UP A TIME DURING YOUR CLUB MEETING EACH MONTH WHEN ALL MEMBERS PULL OUT THEIR CELL PHONES AND SEND THE TEXT MESSAGE "90999". THIS WILL BILL THEIR ACCOUNT IN THE AMOUNT OF \$5.00 WHICH WILL BE DONATED TO POLIO BY THEIR CELL PHONE PROVIDER."**

## Planning a Polio Fundraiser? Order Supplies!

When you are planning a Polio fundraising event for your club be sure to order all of your polio supplies from RI at least 30 days in advance. You should have all of the following on hand:

1. Polio DVD (contact Polio Chair if you do not have a copy)
2. Polio Posters (free) from the Rotary online catalog
3. \$200 Million Challenge Brochures and contribution envelopes. Contact the District Polio Chair, Harriett Schloer, by email at [in2dtp@empnet.com](mailto:in2dtp@empnet.com). She will con-

tact RI and have them ship a bulk quantity directly to you.

4. Pop-up coin boxes (\$3.00 each) in the RI online catalog.
5. Polio pins (\$.50 each). A bag of 100 is \$50.00. Hand these out at your event.

Plan your event far enough in advance so you can arrange to have the iron lung available to help create awareness in your community. Check the polio calendar online and reserve your date.



## Rotary District 5110

### **PolloPlus Committee**

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**Are You Passionate About  
Eradicating Polio? Join our  
Committee and help us defeat  
Polio NOW! YOU can  
make a difference NOW!**



**END  
POLIO  
NOW**

## *Inviting Corporate Partners to help raise funds*

*One of the best ways to raise funds for Polio is to acquire "Corporate Partners". Each of us, as Rotarians, know individuals / businesses in our communities that would make great Corporate Partners in our fundraising endeavors. Make an appointment with them and sit down for a "face to face" meeting.*

*Contact the District Polio Chair to obtain a Polio Presentation Kit you can use to make your presentation. Tell them about the Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation \$355 Million gift. When the corporation makes a donation, the funds will be matched by Gates and they will become a "Gates Foundation Partner".*

*The idea is to get these corporations / businesses to help make a difference in the world by "partnering" with Rotary and the Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation" in the eradication effort.*

*Here are some of the ways corporate partners can help support the fundraising initiative.*

- 1. Make an outright donation to the endeavor.*
- 2. If the club will be holding a fundraiser for Polio, ask them to match what you raise up to a specific amount. Again use the "Gates partner" line.*
- 3. Sponsor a fundraising event for Polio with all the proceeds going to Polio and the sponsor getting all of the credit, plus the "Gates Partnership".*

## *The Corporate Partner Presentation Package*

When approaching a potential corporate partner, it is a good idea to have a presentation package to provide them with. A package of this type has been created by the District Polio chair and is available from her upon request. It contains the following items.

1. The "End Polio Now" DVD
2. The \$200 Million Challenge Brochure and a donation envelope
3. The Rotary "End Polio Now" newsletter.
4. An "End Polio Now" pin
5. An "End Polio Now" Poster
6. The "End Polio Now" Headliner Kit.
7. Various printed items with updates on the current status of polio, specifically the four remaining countries where Polio is still active.

8. A "Pledge Form" to be completed and signed by the corporate partner.
9. Other items as they become available from Rotary International.

The contents of this package will give all potential and prospective sponsors the type of information they will need to determine whether they will become a partner and the type of partnership they are willing to support. The goal is to have them commit to a 3-year period of time.