

THE POLIO POST

THE VOICE OF THE POLIO SURVIVORS & ASSOCIATES FELLOWSHIP

Issue Number Two, December 2003

'The Polio Survivors Fellowship is a group of Rotarians dedicated to improving the health of polio survivors. This Fellowship operates in accordance with Rotary International policy, but is not an agency of, or controlled by, Rotary International.'

Many of you were surprised to receive the first issue of "The Polio Post". We could not think of any way to announce something that had never been announced and not surprise someone. Our objective was not to startle but to inform. Issue two will focus on: Concepts, Ideas and Call for Volunteers.

CONCEPTS

Rotary Fellowships are not widely known. They are one of several structured programs that are operated independently by Rotarians (as noted above). We call ourselves the "Friendmakers" There are now about eighty Fellowships based upon the benefits of Acquaintance with other Rotarians with similar interests.

Membership becomes the individual Rotarian's personal connection with Rotary International. Interest groups vary from Sports and Game, Hobbies, Vocations, and Service. Polio Survivors (PSA) is a Service Fellowship, based on the premise that individual Rotarians can Take Action, and provide Help and Information on a local basis to polio survivors. If one Rotarian in every club Acted to help one polio survivor in his or her community, we could have over 32,000 single acts of kindness and service. We do not need a top down program to succeed. We seek individuals who see the need and fill the need.

IDEAS – CALL FOR VOLUNTEERS

1. See the Fellowships website: www.rotaryfellowships.org to learn more about Fellowships. Tell the Fellowships story to your club after you visit the site.
2. Volunteer to help RI complete the Polio Eradication Fund-Raising program and volunteer your talents to the PSA Fellowship.
3. Contact post-polio organizations already in the field. Visit www.post-polio.org or contact postpolioinfo@aol.com to learn what is happening now.
4. Start planning now to attend the 100th Anniversary Convention of RI in Chicago in 2005. This is your opportunity to Lead with your Ideas and Participate in polio-centered programs and activities.
5. Join with other organizations or agencies in your community who are already in the field of helping people with disabilities.
6. Send the names of Rotarians who may be polio survivors or have demonstrated a special interest in polio eradication and polio support groups to psafellowship@msn.com and/or share your ideas and helpful suggestions with others on our group's information list which is: psa@taranto.com
7. In your community and with your friends tell the story of Rotary International and our dedication to Eradicating Polio and to the Helping Hand we are extending to polio survivors.

As the founder of PSA my job is to IGNITE...our success depends upon YOU.

Ray Taylor – Chairman PSA until 1 July 2005