



The Polio Post

The Voice of the Polio Survivors & Associates Fellowship

(A group of Rotarians dedicated to improving the health of polio survivors. This Fellowship operates in accordance with Rotary International policy, but is not controlled by Rotary International.)

Issue # 4, May 2004

LET US INTRODUCE...

As one of the newest kids on the Fellowships block we are just starting the process of "Getting Organized". We have said before that PSA is a work in progress and we are taking this opportunity to introduce our organization and the people who are making it happen at the "home office". You are the ones who will take the actions that are required for us to succeed.

With this issue of the "Polio Post" we are introducing a new format and a new Editor, **Jack Campbell**...we believe he will bring creativity and stability to our publication and we all look forward to improving the quality of our product as we move along.

On page two you will find our Standard Response Letter that will go out in answer to questions about who we are and what we do or plan to do. You can use this too when you are telling our story or enlisting others in our cause.

I, **Ray Taylor**, am the founder and Chairman of PSA until 1 July 2005. I am a Red Coat PDG (D7690) from **Cliff Dochterman's** Class of 1992-93. My experience with polio began in 1925 (when I was a robust 9 months old). I have remained active in the Polio Plus and Polio Eradication programs and we all hope to be in on the celebration of our success in Chicago in 2005. I have been a Fellowships enthusiast since I first heard about them. In 2000-01 I served as Vice-Chairman of **Frank Devlyn's** Fellowships Task Force and in 2003-04 was the Chairman of the RI Fellowships Committee.

Dave Heagerty, Vice-Chairman is another Red Coat PDG (D5170). He is also a long-time worker in the RI Polio programs, and his district is a leader in working to assist polio victims in India. He will be taking over the leadership of PSA next year.

Meanwhile we are working together to put together the best organization and programs we can. And we are both open to suggestions and help.

Mike Abdalla, M.D. is heading up our Medical Advisory group. He is PDG from district 5320 and is active in both Rotary Foundation and Polio Eradication programs as well as being on the Chicago Convention Promotion Committee. Other PSA Directors serving with him on our Medical Advisory group are **Harold Friend**, M.D., and **Joe Serra**, M.D. as well as other polio specialists in California. **Joan Headley**, Director of Post-Polio International Health in St Louis is assisting with various polio-related health care organizations and their website www.post-polio.org will be our primary source for this sort of information. We hope to establish various links to our proposed PSA website within a short time.

Dr. **Kris Klugman** of Australia will concentrate on International press relations and concentrate on Membership Development in the Australasia area. **Shirley Pozzuoli** is our List Administrator and is developing and maintaining our Membership records. Past RI President, **Cliff Dochterman**, 1992-93 is our anchor man and serves as our principal advisor for contacts with RI officers, committees, Rotary Foundation and is our principal coordinator of all aspect of the Chicago Centennial Celebration in 2005. We will be publishing more detailed biographies of this group as time and space permit. I am sure you all realize it will take a maximum effort by each of us for the Rotary world to become aware of our presence and even longer to make connections with the non-Rotary world in developing projects both large and small to help Polio Survivors of the world. Thanks for joining us...please enlist your friends and acquaintances by addressing: psafellowship@msn.com and good luck to us all.

Ray Taylor, Chairman
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POLIO SURVIVORS & ASSOCIATES (PSA) FELLOWSHIP

PURPOSE – MISSION – OBJECT – PRODUCT - MEMBERSHIP

The PSA Fellowship is the outgrowth of the Rotary International project to eradicate polio by underwriting the cost of vaccines for mass inoculations. The health needs of individuals who encountered the polio virus before vaccines were available, or who missed the eradication program are a logical extension of Rotary's concern for the health needs of the world.

Rotary's Fellowships are founded on the First Object of Rotary – Acquaintance, and the idea of Rotarians with common interests banding together to share this common interest. Associates will come from non-Rotarians who have special interests in polio-related health issues - such as caregivers, Support Groups, Governmental and non-Governmental agencies, hospitals, clinics, medical societies, etc.

The Mission of PSA is to create a worldwide Network to gather and disseminate information believed to be a helpful contribution to the health of polio survivors and to make the Rotary Connection with those involved with polio-related health care.

Our first objective is to form an Information Network throughout the world that can be shared by all Rotarians with individuals and organizations and institutions already active in the field of polio health. By so doing, we believe we can both empower and encourage individual Rotarians to take action in their own communities to meet the needs of polio survivors. This can take the form of individual action or by enlisting clubs and districts in projects with polio support groups, health facilities and institutions, etc.

Our second objective as a Rotary Fellowship is to tell the Fellowships story to our fellow club members and Rotarians as often as possible and to explain and promote the inclusive benefits of Rotary Fellowships to families and friends throughout the world.

Our Product is information. Our goal is to share all information and disseminate it as widely and as economically as possible throughout the world. We seek to strengthen the "Rotary Connection" with polio health programs now in progress as well as in future.

Membership is open to all Rotarians, Spouses, and Rotaract members. All people and institutions with knowledge and interest in polio health are welcome to join the email "List" as Associates. The precise definition of Associates is to be determined by subsequent PSA Board action. At present there are no dues. As the need for financing becomes evident, the PSA Board will determine the best method for raising funds.

Enrollment on the List has no obligation except to help us tell our story as you are able to do so.

Ray Taylor, PDG 7890, Founder/Chairman PSA. raytaylor@rotaryfellowships.org