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# Being a Rotarian

To be a young ,is to swim in pool you have not built To be a Rotarian, is to build a pool in which you will not swim

To be a young, is to eat fruits from a tree you have not planted To be a Rotarian, is to plant a tree, fruits of which you will not eat

To be a young, is to live in a house you have not constructed To be a Rotarian, is to build a house in which you will not live

I remember these lines which I read in Rotary somewhere when I joined 25 +years back. These lines made great impact on my mind as they represent Rotary's motto "Service above self". I started searching as to what is "being a Rotarian".

Moment some body joins a Rotary club and is presented a Rotary pin, he or she gets a new Identity-that is of a "Rotarian xxxxx".

People in community start looking at such a person from different angle. Rotary expects Rotarians to represent their vocations or professions in Rotary and in turn Rotary in their activity related workplaces or associations and in general, in community they belong to. When the person conducts well everywhere, he or she brings laurels to Rotary. If not, a bad name .In fact Rotarians also represent what is known as "Rotary Brand" when they are called Rotarians and wear Rotary pin.

When those clubs which perform well in their club affairs and also in service to community, outsiders think that "Rotary is good". Where there are infightings or only celebrations or fellowships, people think that "Rotary is like that only". Thus being a Rotarian, it is the responsibility of every member to see that people see to Rotary in high esteem .Because for local community, Rotary International is nothing but local rotary club/Clubs. Rotary is taken as most esteemed service organization world over, with yeomen work done by thousands of Rotarians.

# RI President's Message October 2022

In August, I was proud to visit Pakistan and highlight Rotary's top goal, eradicating polio. It was also a tremendous opportunity to spotlight female health workers who are playing a critical role in protecting children from this vaccine-preventable disease.

This month, as we celebrate World Polio Day, we are shining a spotlight on our more than 30-year effort to lead the first global polio eradication campaign and our success in forming partnerships capable of completing this massive goal. We all know that this is one of the most ambitious global health initiatives in history and that we've reduced polio cases by more than 99.9 percent worldwide.

Pakistan is one of only two countries in the world where wild poliovirus remains endemic. (The other is neighboring Afghanistan.) I was able to witness and take part in vaccination campaigns in Pakistan, and soon after I left, a monumental nationwide immunization campaign took place, focused on 43 million children under the age of 5. I saw the incredible work of Rotary members on the ground. More than 60 percent of vaccinators in Pakistan are women, and they are doing a remarkable job building trust and convincing mothers to vaccinate their children.

Seeing it all firsthand, I know that the will exists across the Rotary world to end polio, and I'm confident that we have the strategy. The Pakistani media has been very supportive of our efforts as well, and this is making a difference. This month, a new global pledging moment at the World Health Summit in Berlin promises to pull together more resources to fund these time-sensitive eradication efforts. Now it is up to us to do our part and raise \$50 million this year to earn the full 2-to-1 match from the Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation.

There's great cause for optimism on the polio front — but also some staggering new events that have further raised the stakes. Over the past few months, new polio outbreaks have occurred in Israel, the United Kingdom and, most recently, in the New York City area. These stories are frightening, but in every case, the response is clear — vaccines work, and if polio is spreading, we need to make sure the most at-risk people have kept their vaccinations up to date.

Most importantly, we need to eradicate this virus now. If polio exists anywhere, it can spread everywhere. What I saw in Pakistan convinced me that we can and must finish the job, but it will only happen if we remain committed to a strategy that's working and back it with all necessary resources.

Through our commitment, generosity, and sheer determination, we will #EndPolio.

Jennifer Jones President 2022-23 Since beginning, this human factor has been essence of Rotary. "The individual Rotarian is Rotary and every Rotarian makes Rotary come thru" wrote RIPP Louis Geay ,in "The Rotarian" of August 1996. He further wrote "If we compare a Rotary with a big building, every one of the men and women in the club is like a brick holdings together this extra ordinary service organization structure. The strength of structure depends upon the strength of its components .The individual Rotarian is a key element in Rotary."

Another past president late Rtn Paulo V C Costa wrote in The Rotarian of Sep1990-" the Power & Vitality of Rotary strength comes from Rotarians themselves. Rotary's story was written by the courageous actions and goodwill of individual Rotarians - their services, intelligence and ideas."

We see many otherwise busy Rotarians in their own sphere of activity devoting enough time for Rotary work or projects and your Rotary identity is the password to get access to them .They are willing to receive you and accompany you for any worthy work for or through Rotary. Founder Paul Harris said "friendliness is the motive power of Rotary. A virtue in its own right, it begets others. Neighborliness, kindness, tolerance, and usefulness are children of friendliness". How true these are when we experience this with dedicated and friendly Rotarians. The borders of religion, language, nationality or monetary powers get lost and being a Rotarian, one experiences what Paul has written.

Hence being a Rotarian is to carry a responsibility of creating good image of oneself and in turn that of Rotary. This could be thru transparency in working, accountability of public funds, following and bringing Rotary ideals in practice and talking Rotary whenever one gets opportunity to do so in Public.

Last but not least, being a Rotarian means telling others ---

I am dependable

I am available

I give more than what I receive

And

I am proud being a Rotarian.

(Source: e-mail of PDG Rtn. Binod Khaitan)

# Four-way Test

- 1. Is it the TRUTH?
- 2. Is it FAIR to all concerned?
- 3. Will it build GOODWILL and BETTER FRIENDSHIPS?
- 4. Will it be BENEFICIAL to all concerned?

### **Declaration of Rotarians**

As Rotarian engaged in a business or profession, I am expected to:

- 1. Consider my vocation to be another opportunity to serve;
- Be faithful to the letter and to the spirit of the ethical codes of my vocation;
- 3. Do all in my power to dignify my vocation and to promote the highest ethical standards on my chosen vocation;
- 4. Be fair to my employer, employees, associates, competitors, customers, the public, and all those with whom I have a business or professional relationship;
- 5. Recognize the honor and respect due to all occupations which are useful to society;
- Offer my vocation talents to provide opportunities for young people to work for the relief of the special needs of others, and to improve the quality of life in my community;
- 7. Adhere to honesty in my advertising and all representations to the public concerning my business and profession;
- Neither seek from nor grant to a fellow Rotarian a privilege or advantage not normally accorded others in a business or professional relationship.

## Message for the week

To recognize weaknesses is to have the ability to transform them.

## **Thought to Ponder:**

We do try to work on weaknesses to remove them, but most times we are not able to understand what is the real cause for them. So, we do not find any marked difference, i.e., we are not able to bring about much of a change. The method to find the real weakness is to keep introspecting as to why the weakness is working. This needs honesty in the heart and clarity in the intellect.

#### Point to Practice:

Today I will pick out one weakness of mine and check what is the real cause of that weakness. When I try and understand, I find that I am much more easily able to work on removing my weaknesses. I then don't have guilt or negativity but am able to work on it with confidence.

**To the absentee members :** We have missed you in the last RWM. We shall be happy to see you in the next RWM.

#### **Rotary Months**

January - Rotary Awareness February - World Understanding Marc h - Literacy

- Literacy - Magazine - Rotary Fellowships August - Membership and Extension September - New Generations

October - Vocational Service November - Rotary Foundation December - Family

Invite your friends and relatives to attend our regular weekly meeting.