

Foundation Focus

District 6840

May 2007

As of March 31, 2007, 29 of the 53 clubs in District 6840 had not contributed any funds to The Rotary Foundation!! Does your club fall into any of these categories?

1. "I've tried to get my fellow club members to give, but they just won't."

Start small by asking your members to become "Sustaining Members". This is easily achieved by giving just \$100 per year. Rotary has adopted the slogan "Every Rotarian Every Year" to promote the sustaining member campaign of \$100 to The Foundation each year by every Rotarian. Encourage your members to give just \$25 through quarterly club billing, to save their change throughout the year, or just write a check. It's not much to ask, but it sure goes a long way. There's no time like the present, so become a Sustaining Member without delay.

2. "We are giving to local hurricane recovery projects instead of The Foundation."

Hurricane Katrina is the very reason we should be giving to The Rotary Foundation. We've experienced first hand the profound impact Rotary can have on the lives of so many. District 6840 has received millions of Rotary and Rotary Foundation dollars for hurricane recovery projects. Just think of where our recovery efforts would be today if all those from around the world who gave in the spirit of humanity had not given to The Foundation. Now more than ever we should appreciate the value and good works of The Foundation and it's our duty to support the many humanitarian projects of The Foundation. Surely if compassionate anonymous Rotarians can lend their generosity to District 6840, we can extend a "thank you" by doing our share to support The Foundation.

3. "We'll give at the end of the year."

The Foundation is inundated with contributions at the end of the Rotary year. If you wait until then when so many are also giving, there is a chance that you will not receive your certificate and medallion in time for presentation at your year end celebrations. So beat the rush and send in your contribution today.

4. "Our club does not get anything back from The Foundation."

Has your club received a District Simplified Grant? Does your club enjoy the fellowship and camaraderie of the GSE Team? Has your club had the honor of one of your members serving as a GSE Team Leader? Has a dedicated member of your community participated as a GSE Team member? Has a young adult with future Rotary aspirations from your community been awarded an Ambassadorial Scholarship (worth \$25,000)? Has an Ambassadorial Scholar made a presentation to your club?

If you answered "yes" to any of these questions, your club has received direct benefits from The Foundation. Based on contributions to date, our District's ability to award Ambassadorial Scholarships and participate in the GSE Team in 2009-10 is at serious risk. The contributions in 2006-07 fund those programs in 2009-10.

The GSE Team from Italy will be here the entire month of May. So honor them and the GSE Team program by contributing to The Foundation this month.

Contributions by your club and club members begins with encouragement from you as club and district leaders. To find out if your club is in the 29 or if I can be of any assistance in increasing your club contributions to The Rotary Foundation, please contact me at necaise@singingriver.com and 228.497.1313, ext.

2340.

Ace Necaise

District Governor 2009-10