

“Every Rotarian Every Year”

by Immediate Past President Jacqe Lahn

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(Editor’s Note: Immediate Past President Jacqe Lahn is assisting our District 6250 Governor in sharing the message about “Every Rotarian Every Year”. This article is excerpts from her remarks at today’s meeting.)

Twenty eight cents a day! What can you buy for twenty-eight cents a day?

Today with the induction of three new members and with the awarding of a Paul Harris Fellow we have seen a snapshot of what Rotary is about.

Why did you become a Rotarian? Most likely it was to become a member of a service club made up of business and professional leaders within this community where we live and work. For many of us, it may take a few years to recognize what the “I” in RI (Rotary International) means. For example, it means:

- Seven Rotary centers for international studies at leading major universities around the world.
- Group study exchange providing travel grants for teams of young professionals to visit other nations.
- Matching funds raised by clubs and districts for international service projects in two or more countries. Over \$342 million has been spent on nearly 31,000 grants in 199 countries since 1965.
- Ambassadorial scholarships which have funded nearly 40,000 scholars from 115 countries to promote peace and world understanding.
- District simplified grants which support short-term humanitarian projects both locally and internationally.



Immediate Past President
Jacqe Lahn (file photo)

How do Rotarians do such great work?

That’s where **EREY (Every Rotarian Every Year)** becomes an important tool in making things happen. It is contributions by Rotarians all around the world to the annual programs fund building the foundation. A donation of \$100 is a standard amount for all Rotarians everywhere.

The foundation’s mission statement is to “advance world understanding, goodwill and peace through the improvement of health, the support of education and the alleviation of poverty.”

EREY, Every Rotarian Every Year, began in 2003 with the goal to achieve every member giving \$100 every year to the Rotary Foundation in order to build the foundation and continue through the 3-year share cycle to make sure that project goals are met.

Today we recognized Bob Schmidt as a new Paul Harris Fellow. We have a number of Fellows in the club as well as multiple recipients of awards. I challenge every member to set a personal goal to become a Paul Harris Fellow. With the club’s matching points you can become a fellow in five years by giving \$100 every year.

Club presidents are required to set a goal for giving to The Rotary Foundation every year and the district strives to see that this goal is met by educating, motivating, cultivating and making the “ask”.

Last year you helped this Club meet the goal I set by giving generously to the foundation. This year President Jon set a goal of \$4,650 for our club. Tuesday he told the board that we have achieved 49% of that goal. That’s wonderful. Thank you to those who have given.

I encourage you to give something even if it is not \$100. I have not always met that goal and I understand it if you cannot because your dollars are committed elsewhere, but I encourage you to give something. Become a member of EREY – Every Rotarian Every Year – even if it is only at \$10, \$25 or \$50. I will be asking you and reminding you of the opportunity to give as we move through the end of Jon’s year as president.

Twenty-eight cents per day. Less than two dollars per week. Another way to serve your community and the world. Building Bridges, Building Communities. Thank you.
