



Engage!

Rotary District 7620 Foundation Newsletter



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Be a gift to the world

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4064 Lomar Drive
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"Peace on Earth Goodwill to All "

Andrew M. Baum, DRFC

(December, 2015) Another year is rapidly approaching its end and like many of you, I am reminiscing about what transpired during the twelve short months. Our families, our communities, our country, our world, all the events that happened and where we are today. I know that this article should focus on the Foundation and I won't disappoint you but all the programs of our organization's charity arm begin with an evaluation of family, community, country and world. The strength of our family, the core of our being provides us with the drive and determination to do good deeds. It also provides valuable resources that can be leveraged to provide so much more to those in need. Our communities give us the direction as to the particular groups that may best benefit by our support. The country brings together vast resources, including specific expertise to carry out complex projects both here and abroad. Finally, the world, as it is our responsibility as an International organization to work for a common goal, one that

our Rotary forefathers established over 100 years ago. That goal, World Peace and Understanding.

Many of you were probably glued to your televisions watching the events in San Bernardino play out. Innocent victims who were injured or lost their lives in this country, a country that prides itself on democracy and freedom. As I watched, several thoughts went through my mind. Being the parent of a State Trooper, I thought about the safety of all the officers involved in an active shooter event. I also felt saddened by the loss of freedom that this event illustrated. I grieved for the families whose lives were being forever changed. All during this ordeal, I kept thinking about Rotary's responsibility. More than once, I saw a banner on the fence surrounding the facility with the local Rotary Club as a supporter of the organization. I kept thinking, how will they respond to the grieving community? What do you say? How can you reach out and provide care and compassion in a time of chaos? These are not easy times and Rotary's mission gets tougher day to day. I realize that peace comes at a price and at times seems so very distant. Nonethe-



Past District Governor,
Andy Baum
2015-2018 District Rotary
Foundation Chair

less, with a world in turmoil our mission is even more essential. Our future, our children's future, the world's future depends on Rotary to continue to find answers to the most difficult questions. It depends on us to be there with a hand up to those in need. It depends on us to consolidate our more than 1.2 million members into "one voice." The voice that has only one agenda, the establishment of peace and goodwill throughout the world. Please enjoy the holiday season and as we set our sights on the second half of our Rotary year, remember that the programs of the Rotary Foundation begin and end with us, the Rotarians.



BARTON GOLDBERG COMPLETES 25K MAJOR GIFT TO THE ROTARY ENDOWMENT FUND

Barton tells his story below:

My story is quite simple:

I have been giving to philanthropic causes all my life. Over the years, in addition to giving my time I have made many small donations to several organizations including Rotary as well as a few large donations, e.g., an endowed scholarship at my alma mater University of Pennsylvania. I am at a stage of my life where I have been fortunate to earn enough money to now give an increasing sum of this money to causes that my family and I admire.

At the top of my list is Rotary, and here's why. I like that there are 1.2 million Rotarians in more than 200 countries organized in 35,000 clubs. This gives

Rotary a global yet local reach that is quite unique. I have had the pleasure to attend Rotary meetings in several counties during my travels and enjoy how each club interprets Rotary to fit their local needs while never moving too far away from core Rotary values like the 4-Way Test.

In my short 11-year stay in Rotary, I have really enjoyed the comradery and friendships built up through Rotary activities that I have participated in. These include facilitating the multi-club/multi-District Beacon Hope Initiative global grant project, and ongoing participation in the US/Russian Inter-Country Committee, the Rotary Yacht Squadron of Chesapeake Bay, Rotary Leadership Institute where I recently

became certified to help teach, and the many wonderful District events both formal and informal. I greatly enjoyed my year as president of the metroBethesda Rotary Club and really feel rewarded in my current role as Area Governor. My wife has become increasingly active in Rotary events, and our two teenagers have also caught the Rotary bug; they are active in their local Interact Club and next year our daughter intends to spend her junior year in high school abroad with the Rotary Youth Exchange program. So as you can see, like so many other honorable Rotarians, Rotary plays an important part of our lives.

Given that we believe in Rotary, becoming a Major Donor was simply a matter



Barton Goldberg
Area 9, N. Montgomery County
2015-2016 Assistant Governor

of time. I chose to set up the Barton Goldberg Family Fund as an endowment fund within the Rotary Foundation since this allows me and my family to continue to contribute to the endowment fund over the years. Interest coming from the Fund goes to support District grant, which closes the circle for me.

2017 ROTARY PEACE FELLOWSHIP INFO NOW AVAILABLE ONLINE

Dear Rotarian, We are excited to announce that the 2017 Rotary Peace Fellowship is now available online!

We encourage you to promote the fellowship and have your district endorse qualified applicants who are dedicated to promoting peace.

● [Rotarian Program Guide to the Rotary Peace Fellowship](#)

● [Rotary Peace Centers Brochure](#)

● Rotary Peace Centers Programmatic Webinar (English only):
<https://vimeo.com/147646382>

We thank you for your support to the Rotary Peace Centers and the Rotary Peace Fellowship. By working together to recruit and select highly qualified candidates for the 2017 Rotary Peace Fellowship, we continue to build peace and work towards conflict prevention and resolution in our world.

Warm regards,

[Rotary Peace Centers](#)



About this newsletter—Engage! Is the quarterly newsletter by District 7620 Rotary Foundation. Material is submitted by members of the District Foundation Committee. If you have information and/or photos on your club's Foundation activities, contact your district committee chair or area coordinator by March 1. The next issue will be April 1, 2016.

Editor: Dawn Wittfelt
(Sykesville), District Public Relations Chair



HOUSE OF FRIENDSHIP AT #7620REIMAGINE ROTARY CONFERENCE

House of Friendship

By Mike Twigg, House of Friendship Chair

If you have had the opportunity to attend a Rotary International Convention you know how important the House of Friendship is to the overall purpose of the convention.

Rotary is unique because of the ability of local clubs to partner with other local clubs anywhere in the world and change the lives of people in a specific community. That is the essence of Rotary. It is the excitement of Rotary. It is the soul of Rotary.



The House of Friendship is the marketplace for clubs to highlight what they are doing in the world. It provides ideas and answers questions about processes and resources. It does these things by the human interaction of meeting, greeting, and schmoozing...all things Rotarians love to do.

It is in this spirit that District 7620 wants to have it's own House of Friend-

ship. A true marketplace where ideas are shared and connections made for existing or new global and district projects. For this to be successful all we need is for clubs to participate and if your club is currently involved in an active project or has one that is going through the process, what better way to attract partners that may be willing to share in the effort of making your project a successful one.

Participation is a simple process. First you must email Mike Twigg (House of Friendship Chair) at mbtwigg@gmail.com and say, " My club will participate!"

Then I need 3-5 interesting facts about your existing or proposed project. That will secure for your club a kiosk at the House of Friendship. Then you put together a simple but informative display of your project and interact with fellow Rotarians during the 1 ½ hours which includes those 3-5 important facts.

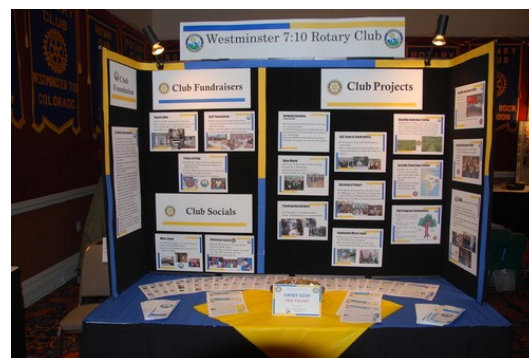
The House of Friendship will be officially open



from 3 -4:30 Saturday afternoon of the Conference. This also coincides with the cocktail hour after the day's activities at the Conference and before the evening's traditional awards dinner.

This is the perfect storm for Rotarians attending the Conference. Cocktails, schmoozing, learning, sharing, meeting new people...it just doesn't get any better.

BUT it does get better!



From the 3-5 interesting facts you submit as part of reserving your spot the HOF game show hosts will be randomly scouring the

crowd and asking questions on an open mike. If you are chosen and answer a question correctly you will be eligible for exciting prizes such as free drink tickets, your picture taken with DG Ken Solow or DGE Anna Mae Kobe if you don't want to be seen in a picture with Ken. This 1 ½ hour period will be the absolute highlight of the Conference week-end which you will not want to miss.

All we need is participants and every club that has a current or proposed project absolutely should be participating...it's the Rotarian thing to do. We just need to know by 15 February with your 3-5

important facts so the committee can prepare and develop the exciting game show where the ex-

ROTARY CLUB OF POTOMAC BETHESDA'S NEPAL HEARING PROJECT

PREVENTION OF DEAFNESS AND PROMOTION OF HEARING AMONG CHILDREN IN NEPAL

By Dr. Milan Maharjan

Twelve months ago, the Rotary Club of Kathmandu Mid-Town (KTM) invited me to speak at one of its Club meetings about the work of Ear Care Nepal (ECN), a charitable volunteer organization that I lead. The main purposes of ECN are to prevent hearing loss among economically disadvantaged school-age children in Nepal and to promote conservation of hearing through provision of ear care education, ear screening, primary ear care, and middle ear surgeries.



Ed Edmundson, a new member of the Potomac-Bethesda Rotary Club, listened to my speech. When he returned to Maryland, he advocated on behalf of ECN. Ultimately, PB Rotary obtained a matching grant from the District 7620 Foundation and was able to send \$3,700 to ECN through the KTM Club, which had agreed to administer these funds. Following the completion of over

2000 ear screenings, 30 children received middle ear surgeries to correct problems caused by middle ear infections sometimes known as chronic otitis media. If left untreated, these conditions can lead to eardrum perforations and destruction of little bones, thereby causing hearing loss and even death. After consultation with PB Rotary and KTM, \$400 remaining from the initial grant was released to pay for transportation to the Solukhumbhu District of Nepal for the purpose of ECN conducting "ear screening" camps. Solukhumbhu is located in a remote, mountainous district in Eastern Nepal that includes Mt. Everest. Salleri, its capital city, is about 150 miles from Kathmandu. Due to rough roads, it takes 10 to 12 hours to drive there. The ear screening camps were conducted at government schools and Buddhist monasteries, where school-age children are raised as young monks and nuns. The locations where the screening activities took place are accessible only on foot. Due to the very difficult terrain, the hard walk from Junbesi to Chheskam took four days. All of the screened children and their teachers received education on primary ear care via posters, power point presentations, and distribution of booklets that include drawings related to primary ear care. In Junbesi, ear screening



at two schools and two monasteries found that 7.68 percent of the public school children and 12.36 percent of the school-age children in the monasteries had middle ear pathology. In Chheskam, 9.88 percent of the screened children were similarly identified. Here are the overall statistics from the Junbesi and Chheskam ear screening camps:

- Number of children screened: 1,169.
- Number identified as having middle ear problems causing various degrees of hearing loss: 120.
- Number requiring ear surgery to restore their hearing: 15.
- Number fitted with hearing aids: 8.

I and ECN's other volunteer ear, nose, and throat surgeons will conduct all of the surgeries free of charge. ECN will incur various costs, including the cost of transporting the candidates for corrective surgery to and from the locations where their surgeries will be performed. Donations to ECN from various individuals and one Nepalese foundation, and discounts from anesthesiologists, a hospital, and a pharmacy will make all of this possible. The Solkhumbhu ear screening camps were a great success that will help in the prevention of deaf-

ness and promotion of hearing among many marginalized Nepalese children.

ECN is very grateful to the PB Rotary Club for providing the \$3,700 grant, which was used very carefully in both surgical correction of deafness and in preventive care for many under-privileged Nepalese children.



GIVE NOW



CATCH all the latest articles from Rotary International on the online version.

ALSO on Facebook



2014-15 GLOBAL GRANT SCHOLAR UPDATE

BY SARAH DOBSON

I had been living and working as a volunteer in Nicaragua for two years when I found out about the Global Grant Scholarship to study peace-related Masters abroad.



I had moved to Nicaragua to found a community organization educating youth in a rural Nicaragua. I worked long days and long weeks running afterschool programming, coordinating volunteers, fundraising, managing partnerships, and working to continuously dialogue with the community to adapt programs to fit their needs and goals. It was an incredible job, allowing me to live among an incredible community of families, live a simple life in a beautiful place, learn the language and culture, and discover what it meant to start and run a community project. While there were many benefits to the job, including living next to a beautiful crater lake, it did not come with a salary. I had been working to find a Nicaraguan for my position, and was ready to

move to a back seat supporting role in the organization.

While coordinating community projects, I became familiar with Rotary when I applied for and received a District Grant. I worked closely with host clubs, and a Rotarian in our sponsor club, upon hearing my goal of studying a Masters in Peace Studies, encouraged me to apply for a Global Grant. I applied with the support of the College Park Rotary Club in Maryland who sponsored me to compete within the District process. Almost a year later, I received news that I would be attending the University



for Peace in Costa Rica—as a Global Grant Scholar!

After three years living in rural Nicaragua, I felt like a Queen moving into my host family's house with a hot shower and clean drinking water from the tap!

Studying Gender and Peacebuilding at UPeace was like a dream. There were 150 students from all over the world who came to Costa Rica to study peace, focusing on human rights, international law, the environment, media, education, and gender. In the small school, there were over 60 languages spoken, and in my program of 13 students we represented 9 different countries from North and Central America, Africa, and Asia. The community of young, activist scholars passionate about peacebuilding was unlike anything I have ever experienced. I am hopeful to know they are working in their corners of the world bringing their energy and expertise to transform local and global issues.

In September, I was hired as the Coordinator of Youth Projects at Earth Charter International based in Costa Rica. My job is engage and empower youth to build a more peaceful, just, and sustainable world. I hope to fulfill that mandate, and learn from impressive young people doing innovative, creative projects in their communities. One component of my work is partnering with other key

organizations who are also working with a similar vision and I would love to explore the possibilities of partnering with the Rotaracts and exploring how the Earth Charter can be a useful tool in their development as positive leaders.

As I move forward with my career, I will remember and recognize the critical role that Rotary played in my education and career opportunities as a Global Grant Scholar. However, beyond remembering, I intend to continue engaging with this vibrant network of passionate people



ple and find ways to collaborate to achieve our collective dream of a more peaceful world.

To learn more about the community project in Nicaragua, please visit <http://proyectococoman.go.org/>.

To learn more about the Earth Charter, please visit www.earthcharter.org.

7620 POST SECONDARY SCHOLARSHIP COMPETITION

BY NEIL FAY, ROTARY CLUB OF CARROLL CREEK

Announcement of the 2016 District 7620 Post-Secondary Scholarship Competition

All clubs are invited to submit one candidate as a finalist for one of two competitive \$5000 scholarships provided by District 7620. The deadline for candidate

package submission is March 15, 2016. Application and instructions are posted on the District website under the sidebar of "Scholarships". To be eligible, applicants must reside in our district, not be related to a Rotarian, and plan to enroll in an accredited

US college, university or technical school for 2016-2017. Local Rotary Clubs will review their applicants and forward their finalist to the District Post-Secondary Scholarship Review Committee. Finalists will be interviewed at the District level on April 9, 2016

Scholarship funds will be sent to the academic institution of winning scholars to cover tuition, room, board and books.

District point of contact is Neil Fay at:

neilfay302@gmail.com

EMPHASIS ON PLANNED GIVING

IRA CHARITABLE ROLLOVER NOW PERMANENT, FROM ROTARY.ORG

Congress reinstated a law that allows you to make a tax-free gift from your individual retirement account (IRA). Known as the IRA charitable rollover, this law no longer has an expiration date so you are free to make annual gifts to The Rotary Foundation from your IRA this year and well into the future.

The recently reinstated law allows individuals 70½ and older the ability to transfer up to \$100,000 from their individual retirement accounts directly to a qualified charitable organization without being subject to income taxes on the distribution.

Here's the Details

You are age 70½ or older at the time of the gift.

- You transfer up to \$100,000 directly from your IRA. This opportunity applies only to IRAs and not other types of retirement plans.
- You transfer the funds outright to one or more qualified charities. The legislation

does not permit direct transfers to charitable trusts, donor advised funds, charitable gift annuities or supporting organizations.

Frequently Asked Questions
Q. I've already named The Rotary Foundation as the beneficiary of my IRA. What are the benefits if I make a gift now instead of after my lifetime?

A. By making a gift this year of up to \$100,000 from your IRA, you can see your philanthropic dollars at work. You are jump-starting the legacy you would like to leave and giving yourself the joy of watching your philanthropy take shape. Moreover, you can fulfill any outstanding pledge you may have already made by transferring that amount from your IRA under this legislation as long as it is \$100,000 or less for the year.

Q. I'm turning age 70½ in a few months. Can I make this gift now?

A. No. The legislation re-

quires you to reach age 70½ by the date you make the gift.

Q. I have several retirement accounts—some are pensions and some are IRAs. Does it matter which retirement account I use?

A. Yes. Direct rollovers to a qualified charity can only be made from an IRA. Under certain circumstances, however, you may be able to roll assets from a pension, profit sharing, 401(k) or 403(b) plan into an IRA and then make the transfer from the IRA directly to The Rotary Foundation. To determine if a rollover to an IRA is available for your plan, speak with your plan administrator.

Q. Can my gift be used as my minimum required distribution under the law?

A. Yes, absolutely. If you have not yet taken your required minimum distribution, the IRA charitable rollover gift can satisfy all or part of that requirement. Contact your IRA custodian to complete

assets from a pension, profit sharing, 401(k) or 403(b) plan into an IRA and then make the transfer from the IRA directly to The Rotary Foundation. To determine if a rollover to an IRA is available for your plan, speak with your plan administrator.

Q. Can my gift be used as my minimum required distribution under the law?

A. Yes, absolutely. If you have not yet taken your required minimum distribution, the IRA charitable rollover gift can satisfy all or part of that requirement. Contact your IRA custodian to complete the gift.

[Read entire article here](#)

It is wise to consult with your tax professionals if you are contemplating a charitable gift under the extended law. Please feel free to contact Rotary's Planned Giving team at (847) 866-3100 or planned.giving@rotary.org with any questions you may have.

WHAT'S UP WITH POLIO?

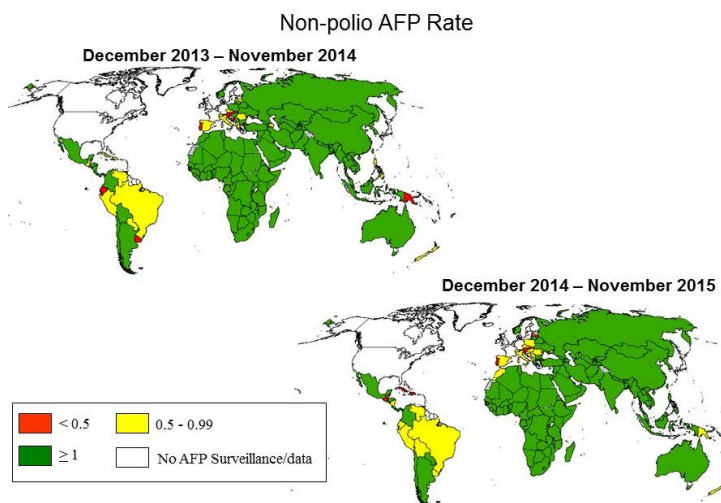
FROM POLIO ERADICATION.ORG

Polio this week as of 13 January 2016

This week India marks five years without reporting a single case of wild polio, a remarkable achievement. Today, lessons learned in India and Nigeria are being used to drive progress in the last two polio-endemic countries: Pakistan and Afghanistan. Read more [here](#).

There are three months to go until the globally synchronized switch from the trivalent to bivalent oral polio vaccine. This will be an important milestone in achieving a polio-free world. Read more [here](#).

- See more at: <http://www.polioeradication.org/dataandmonitoring/poliothisweek.aspx#sthash.CgexDriz.dpuf>



GIVE NOW

JOIN "THE WORLD'S GREATEST MEAL"

FROM WGMEAL.COM

For as little as US60 cents, a child can be vaccinated against polio for life.

Your donation now works even harder!

From 2013 to 2018, every US dollar Rotary commits to polio eradication will become three dollars, thanks to a 2-to-1 match from the Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation.

Rotary District 7620 will be promoting such events throughout the Rotary Year.

As of Jan 8th 2016:

• There have been **2,055 events** registered in **71 countries**.

• More than **121,600 participants** worldwide
 • USD **\$1,707,956.00** has been raised, a total of USD **\$5,123,868.57** with matching funds from the Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation

• This translates to **enough funds to buy more than 6,710,000 polio vaccinations!!**

The idea is so simple. Your Club can arrange an event any time. By joining together in a world-wide event many have greatly enjoyed international fellowship via Facebook....all monies collected go straight to The Rotary Foundation/End Polio Now account with full credit going to your Club.



2015-16 Rotary President, K.R. "Ravi" Ravindran, and wife Vanathy



ROTARY DIRECT

Rotary's recurring giving program



ROTARY DIRECT SAVES...

- ✓ **Time** — Sign up once to give continuous support
- ✓ **Money** — Lower administration costs means more money for programs
- ✓ **Lives** — Give to The Rotary Foundation to do good in the world

EFFICIENT.

Contributions go directly to The Rotary Foundation, resulting in faster processing and achievement of your club and personal charitable goals.

CONVENIENT.

Minimize work for you and your club's leadership by setting your own schedule of contributions that count toward Paul Harris Fellow, Paul Harris Society, and Major Donor recognition, as well as your club recognition banners.

SECURE.

It's the safest and most secure way to contribute to The Rotary Foundation.

DOING GOOD JUST GOT EASIER!

Enroll Online: www.rotary.org/give

Mail: Rotary Direct FD420
Rotary International
One Rotary Center
1560 Sherman Avenue
Evanston, IL 60201-3698 USA

Fax: +1-847-328-5260
Phone: +1-866-976-8279

Please call to modify your existing
Rotary Direct contributions.



Scan to contribute



☒ **YES! I WILL ENROLL IN ROTARY DIRECT.**

Name _____

Rotary membership ID _____

Club name _____

Club number _____

Billing address _____

City _____ State/Province _____

Postal code _____ Country _____

Phone _____

Email _____

GIFT DESIGNATION (choose one)

☐ Annual Fund-SHARE ☐ PolioPlus Fund ☐ Other _____

RECURRING GIFT AMOUNT (minimum US\$10)

☐ \$25 ☐ \$85 ☐ \$100 ☐ \$250 ☐ \$1,000 ☐ Other _____

Currency (if not US\$) _____

FREQUENCY

☐ Monthly ☐ Quarterly ☐ Annually (specify month) _____

CREDIT OR DEBIT CARD

☐ Visa ☐ MasterCard ☐ AmEx ☐ Discover

Card number

Expiration / CVN

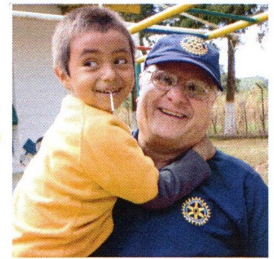
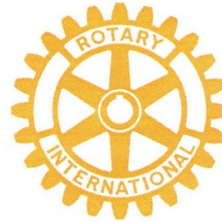
Signature _____

Contributions are tax deductible where allowed by law. For security purposes, please do not send credit card contributions via email.

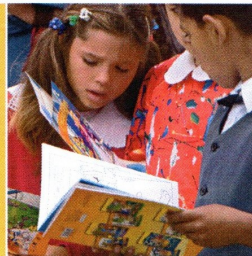


District 7620 Vehicle Donation Program

Rotary



What Would It Take To
Change The World?
YOU!



YOU COULD BE TURNING CARS
INTO CASH RIGHT NOW!

Is Your Club Part of the District 7620 Vehicle Donation Program?

CONTACT DISTRICT 7620 ROTARY PROJECT TRUST FUND TO JOIN

WHY PARTICIPATE?

Proceeds Benefit: ■ Club Charitable Projects ■ End Polio Now Campaign Rotary ■ RI Annual Fund

How the Vehicle Donation Program works ...

- Rotarians generate vehicle donations through family, friends, and associates
- Melwood Charity Car Donation Center (District 7620's Partner) accepts cars, trucks, motorcycles, and RV's
 - As a rule there must be a clean vehicle title; towing is free to donor
- To donate simply call the Rotary 7620's toll-free number 1- 844-686-7620, or go online to: <http://goo.gl/dL3Pji>
- Donor names Rotary Club to be credited for the donation
- Melwood's Call Center assigns the vehicle to a local towing and auction company
 - Donor provides vehicle title and keys to the tow truck operator; towing receipt left with the donor
- Once the vehicle has been picked up a receipt will be issued to the donor using District 7620 Trust Fund letterhead
- Vehicle sale information recorded and reported monthly to District 7620 Trust Fund; Club is advised by Trust Fund
- Upon sale, auction proceeds are forwarded to Melwood and management fees are deducted
- Residual forwarded to District 7620 Trust Fund for distribution to Club and/or beneficiary projects
- Melwood processes donor acknowledgement letter along with required IRS 1098C tax forms
- Melwood provides ongoing promotional support for District 7620 Trust Fund and participating Clubs
- Donation files are maintained by Melwood for a period of three years

MORE CASH, MORE MISSION!

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:

ROTARY DISTRICT 7620 TRUST FUND - BILL FINE - EMAIL: WFINE46@VERIZON.NET - PHONE: 410-493-8467
MELWOOD CHARITY CAR DONATION CENTER - RON FARRIN - EMAIL: RFARRIN@MELWOOD.ORG - PHONE: 301-856-6340

