

Paul Harris Society Becomes Official Recognition

The trustees adopted the Paul Harris Society (PHS) as an official recognition program of The Rotary Foundation effective July 1, 2013. Until July 1, the PHS recognition was a district administered program. The PHS was created in 1999 by Past District Governor, Wayne Cusick from District 5340. PDG Cusick created the PHS program to encourage and recognize individuals who personally pledged to contribute US\$1,000 annually to the Foundation. The idea quickly spread to other districts throughout the world.



As an official recognition program of the Foundation, RI assists districts with PHS program administration. Districts will continue to recruit and recognize new PHS members. All PHS members receive a wearable recognition insignia and a certificate.

Rotarians and friends of Rotary can join the Paul Harris Society by making a US\$1,000 contribution to the Foundation or by automating your PHS gifts through Rotary's recurring giving program, Rotary Direct at www.rotary.org/contribute. Monthly gifts of US\$85 or quarterly contributions of \$250 automatically make an individual a member of the Paul Harris Society. PHS members are agreeing to continue this level of sustained giving annually as long as they are financially able. Contributions can be designated to the Annual Program Fund, PolioPlus, or an approved Rotary Foundation grant.

The Paul Harris Society has been, and will continue to be, one of The Rotary Foundation's most important ways to recognize and thank continued generosity. If you have questions about the PHS or want to indicate your commitment to the Foundation at the PHS level annually, contact District 7620 PHS Chair, Anna-Mae Kobbe for assistance. She can be reached at amkobbe@aol.com or by calling 301-277-0414.

Contributed by Anna Mae Kobbe, Area Governor and PHS Chair, District 7620