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Rotary



The Rotary Reader

Presidential Citation Award Winner for 20 years

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The Rotary Club of Fort Walton Beach

www.fortwaltonrotary.org

Leon Hirsh

District 6940 Governor 2015-2016



Leon Hirsh was born in Cincinnati, Ohio and developed early interests in music, dance, baseball in general, and the Cincinnati Reds in particular. His high school years were spent at the Kentucky Military Institute outside Louisville, Ky. and then he received a degree in Psychology from Transylvania U. in Lexington, Ky.

Leon managed home furnishings businesses for a family owned chain in Indiana until the "mother of all blizzards" caused him to flee to Pensacola, He has been a financial consultant for all of his career in Florida and was awarded the Certified Financial Planner designation in 1989. A.G. Edwards was his employer for well over twenty years and last year Leon had an opportunity participate in the rebirth of A.G. Edwards by helping to open a Benjamin F. Edwards office in Pensacola. Benjamin F. Edwards has opened 50 offices in 24 states in the last six years.

Leon has been a member of Pensacola North for 31 years. He served as President 2005-06, Assistant Governor for Area 2 from 2008-11, district chair for World Community Service 2011-14, and is now beginning his tour of duty as District 6940's 102nd District Governor.

Daughter Erin is the Athletic Director for the Chinese-American School in Hangzhou, China. She lives there with her husband, Dan, who creates experiential education programs and is involved with National Geographic's Planet Walk China. They have two children: Alaia is three and Koa is one. Son Adam lives in Indianapolis where he is an assistant professor in the graduate school of Clinical Psychology for the combined Indiana U./Purdue U. campus in downtown Indianapolis.

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NIGERIA SEES NO WILD POLIO CASES FOR ONE YEAR

Today marks one year since Nigeria last reported a polio case caused by wild poliovirus, putting the country on the brink of eradicating the paralyzing disease.

The last case was reported on 24 July 2014 in the northern state of Kano. If no cases are reported in the coming weeks, the World Health Organization is expected to remove Nigeria from the list of countries where polio is endemic, leaving just two: Afghanistan and Pakistan.

Nigeria is the last polio-endemic country in Africa. The continent is poised to reach its own first full year without any illness from the virus on 11 August.

“Every Rotarian in the world should be proud of this achievement,” says Rotary International President K.R. Ravindran. “We made history. We have set Africa on course for a polio-free future. But we have not yet reached our goal of a polio-free world. Raising funds and awareness and advocating with your government are more crucial than ever.”

Progress in Nigeria has come from many measures, including strong domestic and international financing, the commitment of thousands of health workers, and new strategies that reached children who had not been immunized earlier because of a lack of security in the northern states.

“Rotary’s commitment has been the number one reason for the recent success in Nigeria,” says Dr. Tunji Funsho, chair of Rotary’s Nigeria PolioPlus Committee. “We have infected political leaders with this commitment. The government has demonstrated this with political support and financial and human resources. And that went down the line from the federal level, to the state, to the local governments.”

Nigeria has increased its domestic funding for polio eradication almost every year since 2012 and has allocated \$80 million for the effort this year.

Funsho also applauds religious leaders who championed the vaccination efforts to families in their communities.

Despite the historic gains in Nigeria, health experts are cautious about declaring victory. Funsho says the [Global Polio Eradication Initiative](#) partners must strengthen routine immunization especially in hard-to-reach areas, in addition to boosting sensitive surveillance to prevent resurgence of the disease. If no new cases are reported in the next two years, Nigeria, along with the entire Africa region, will be certified polio-free.

“The virus can be introduced from anywhere where it is still endemic, particularly now in Afghanistan and Pakistan, into areas that haven’t had polio in years,” Funsho says. “It is important we keep the immunity level in Nigeria to at least 90 percent.”

For instance, Syria experienced a sudden outbreak of the disease when 35 cases were reported in December 2013. None had been reported there since 1999. “Immunizations become imperative for history not to repeat itself in Nigeria,” says Funsho.

In June, Rotary announced \$19 million in grants for continued polio eradication activities in Africa, including almost \$10 million for Nigeria. Since 1985, when Rotary launched PolioPlus, the program that supports the organization’s polio eradication efforts, its worldwide monetary contributions to the cause have exceeded \$1.4 billion.

“We’ve come a long way and have never been so close to eradicating polio in Nigeria and around the world, but it’s not a time to fully celebrate,” says Funsho. “We have some grueling years ahead of us before WHO can certify Nigeria and Africa polio-free.”

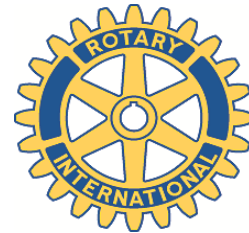
THE OBJECT OF ROTARY

The Object of Rotary is to encourage and foster the ideal of service as a basis of worthy enterprise and, in particular, to encourage and foster:

- FIRST. The development of acquaintance as an opportunity for service;
- SECOND. High ethical standards in business and professions; the recognition of the worthiness of all useful occupations; and the dignifying of each Rotarian's occupation as an opportunity to serve society;
- THIRD. The application of the ideal of service in each Rotarian's personal, business, and community life;
- FOURTH. The advancement of international understanding, goodwill, and peace through a world fellowship of business and professional persons united in the ideal of service.

THE ROTARY 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?



Proposed Members

Neal Bern, Allstate Insurance, proposed by Charles West

Ann Boyton, Newman-Dailey, proposed by Debbie Bodenshine

Stephanie Jones, proposed by Joe Brewster

ROTARIANS WITH BIRTHDAYS AND ANNIVERSARIES

Diane Poff July 26th

Today in History

1890

Artist [Vincent van Gogh](#) died of a self-inflicted gunshot wound in Auvers, [France](#).

1958

[President Eisenhower](#) signed the congressional act that created [the National Aeronautics and Space Administration](#) (NASA) was authorized by Congress.

1968

In *Humanae Vitae* (of Human Life), [Pope Paul VI](#) reaffirmed the Catholic Church's prohibition on artificial methods of birth control.

1981

[Prince Charles](#), heir to the British throne, married [Lady Diana Spencer](#).

2003

Red sox switch hitter Bill Mueller became the first baseball player to hit grand slam home runs from both sides of the plate in the same game.

Rotary Roster

Bill Alexson

Military Operations Commander

Robert Anderson, SM

CPA

Jack Arthur, PHF SM

Insurance

Spencer Barnes, SM

Employee Benefits

James Bass, SM

Funeral Director

Debbie Bodenshteyn, PHF SM RotY *

Economic Development

Joseph Brewster, PHF SM

Cable Television

Frank Brutt, PHF SM

County Planning

Mack Busbee

County Government

Tom Butcher

Honorary Member

Kevin Cagle, SM

Office Machines

Gerry Chalker, (8) PHF SM *

Pension Administration

Andy Corbin, PHF SM RotY *

Electronics Mfg.

George Dorris, PHF SM

Dentistry

Jeff Dunford

Banker

JT Edwards, PHF SM RotY

Landscaping Owner

Dan Empson

Honorary

Cliff Ennis

Business IT Management

Ralph Fallin, (34) PHF SM RotY *

Dairy Products

Bob Fowner, PHF SM

Association Manager

Tony Gilligan, PHF SM

Government Contractor

Ben Gordon

Attorney

Ron Grissom, SM

Utilities

Haydon Grubbs, PHF SM

Education

Chad Hamilton, PHF SM

CPA

Ross Hamilton

Education- College

Sallie Hardy, PHF SM

Commercial Properties

Tom Hayes, PHF SM

Financial Services

Jody Henderson, PHF SM *

Accounting/Auditing

Mitzi Henley, SM

Retail Shopping Center

Ken Hinrichs

Non-Profit Administration

Jeff Hooton, PHF SM

Commercial Lending

Laura Kirby (2)

Business Development

Richard Kunkel, PHF SM

Education

Chuck Landers, PHF SM

Certified Public Accountant

Ross LeBlanc, SM

Certified Public Accountant

Tony Leonard, PHF SM **

Retail/Musical Instruments

John Linn, PHF SM

Kitchens-Retail

Ted Litschauer, PHF SM

Public Safety

Jamey Mattern, PHF SM

Architect

David Macdonald PHF SM **

Shopping Center Manager

Julie McNabb, SM

Developmental Disabilities

Joe Meyer, SM

Retail/Computers

David O. Miller, (13) PHF SM

Developmental Disabilities

John Morgan, PHF SM*

Computer Engineer

Matthew Morgan, SM

Electrical Engineer

Dan Nelson, PHF SM

Restaurant/Fast Food

Michelle Nicholson, SM

Communications

Susan Page, SM

Professional Counseling

Roger Peadro, PHF SM RotY*

Pastor

Mary Plummer, PHF SM

Real Estate Sales

Lyndon Poff, PHF SM RotY

Paint & Body Shop

Diane Poff

Paint & Body Shop

Jan Pooley, (9) PHF SM RotY*

Department Store

Charlie Potts, PHF SM*

Jeweler

Kathy Pritchard, PHF SM

Commercial Banking

Fred Pryor, PHF SM RotY*

Utility Service-Gas

Dusty Ricketts, SM

News Media

Eulice Shelley, PHF SM*

Moving & Storage

Scott Smitt, PHF SM*

Chiropractor

Whitney Smith, SM

Attorney

Allan Stearns, PHF SM*

Travel Agent

Rick Stevens, PHF SM RotY*

Surge Suppression Systems

Randy Stokes, PHF SM*

Architecture

Kent Tinsley, SM

Commercial Banking

Herb Tinsley, PHF SM RotY*

Savings & Loan Mgmt.

Forrest Townsend, PHF SM RotY*

Veterinarian

Alex Trum, PHF SM

Orthodontist Retired

Matt Turpin, SM

Certified Public Accountant

Aaron Webber, SM

Condo Management

Charles West, PHF SM

Investment Broker

Ken Williamson, PHF SM *

Retired

Jean Woo, PHF SM

Dentist

Jack Yeiser, PHF SM

Mortgage Broker

Russ Youngblood PHF SM**

Psychologist

PH: Paul Harris Fellows

SM: PH Sustaining Members

* FWB Club Past Presidents

** Past President Other Clubs

RotY: FWB Rotarian of the Year

Members in purple have perfect attendance.

Don't forget that you can make up missed meetings at neighboring clubs. They include: Crestview: 12 p.m. Wednesday at Ryan's
Destin: 7:15 a.m. Tuesday at Rutherford's at Regatta Bay
DeFuniak Springs: 12 p.m. Wednesday at McLain's Family Steakhouse
Mid-Bay: 7 a.m. Wednesday at Bluewater Bay Golf Club
Navarre: 12 p.m. Thursday at Tuscan Grill at Hidden Creek
Niceville: 12 p.m. Thursday at Northwest Florida State College Building K
South Walton: 7:30 a.m. Thursday at Embassy Suites