

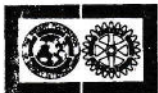
THE ROTARY FOUNDATION



End of Rotary
Year 08 - discuss with
John on inf to be
announced to Rotary World on
the success and importance
of two permanent funds
rather than a District trying to raise
this fund which is still
growing

7 July 2005

Past RI President William E. Skelton
P.O. Box 146
Blacksburg, VA 24063



Dear Past President Skelton and Rotarians of District 7570:

As Rotary's centennial celebration drew to a close, I was delighted to learn that this extraordinary year was marked by a significant achievement in District 7570. Congratulations on reaching your ambitious goal of US\$1 million to fully fund the William E. Skelton Endowed Ambassadorial Scholarship! This is a remarkable accomplishment; congratulations to each of you and thank you for your dedication to this most worthwhile endeavor.

Over the past several years, you have built the largest pooled fund administered by The Rotary Foundation. We are extremely grateful for this scholarship, and we are delighted that you intend to use it not only for students from District 7570 but also for students from low-income countries who will pursue post-graduate studies at Virginia Polytechnic Institute. Thank you for sharing your resources with those less fortunate and for reaching out to our global community through The Rotary Foundation.

On behalf of Trustee Chairman Frank Devlyn and the Foundation's Trustees, I extend a special note of thanks to Past President Skelton, who has contributed to our Foundation in innumerable ways long before, throughout, and every day since his term as Rotary International's president. Thank you, Dr. Skelton, for your continued leadership and your dedication to our Foundation's educational programs. There is no more worthy namesake of this important endowment than you.

I also send my appreciation to PDG Henry Nickels, who was instrumental in facilitating the logistics of this ambitious fundraising initiative. To Henry and to everyone else within District 7570 who played a role in this effort, thank you. You have so much for which you can be proud.

It would seem that reaching such a milestone would call for some well deserved respite! But in keeping with your district's hardworking reputation, I have learned that you are well on your way to reaching a \$500,000 goal for the Reid Jones Endowed Ambassadorial Scholarship. With the exciting news of a recent \$150,000 contribution to this fund, I am filled with confidence that you will soon reach your goal. I've no doubt Mr. Jones would have been very proud.

The ambassadorial scholarship program is The Rotary Foundation's oldest. Because of Rotarians like you, thousands of scholars have had the opportunity to further peace and build bridges of cultural understanding. As one of the many afforded this life-changing opportunity, I extend my sincere personal thanks.

Again, congratulations.

Sincerely,

John T. Osterlund
General Manager
The Rotary Foundation

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