



Join Rotary Clubs across North America for Exciting Events on World Polio Day

We have been asked to join with clubs all across North America to raise awareness for Rotary efforts to end polio on World Polio Day, October 2011. By clubs all across the continent each holding a local event on the same day, we will receive great media coverage, and thus increase awareness about our efforts to end polio. Would your club like to join in this effort? Here are some ideas from clubs around the district, that you may want to use in your area.

Walking Marathon to End Polio Now

The Rockland Club is reaching out to other clubs in the midcoast area for a huge walk along the coast of Maine. Each club will walk a short section, but combined this will be an impressive marathon length event. Will there be any hardy souls who walk the entire course? This is a great idea, because in many ways, Rotary's work to end polio is a marathon.

Government Declared Rotary Day to End Polio

From the Beauport Club comes the idea to approach local, state and federal governments to declare the day Rotary Day to End Polio, and then government officials make public announcements to the media about this. Clubs could provide Rotary Polio pins to those who contribute. The idea is this could become like wearing a poppy on Veteran's Day.

Stop to Polio Now!

From the Bangor Club comes an idea based on a fundraiser done by the Katahdin Area Club. They have arranged a voluntary toll on a local bridge to

collect donations for past projects. Imagine many clubs, each in their own community, setting up a voluntary toll on a bridge or road, and asking drivers to stop and make a small donation to end polio. Again, by having many local events, the press coverage opportunities are immense, not only across our district, but across Canada and the US.

Please think about using one of these ideas for your club, or coming up with additional ideas and working with neighboring clubs. Arthur Hayes (sahayes@gwi.net) is ready to help the clubs in Maine, and Dino Marzaro (dmarzaro@ciot.com) is the point person for polio in Quebec. Contact them for help in planning your clubs' event.

For generating the coordinated publicity, send the details of the event planned by your club to PDG Gary Walker (garyrobertawalker@gmail.com), so that he can help coordinate the regional and national press coverage.



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