Rotary Foundation and Paul Harris Fellow FAQs

What is the goal of being a 100% PHF club:
• Help the district meet its goals
• Raise money for the Rotary Foundation
• Provide encouragement for prospective Rotary Members to join and stay in Rotary.

What gifts “count” toward PHF?
• Gifts made to the Rotary Foundation Annual Fund / Share count toward PHF status.
• Gifts made to the Rotary Foundation Endowment, Polio Plus, Specific Causes (Peace Centers; Disease prevention; Clean water; Mothers / children; Education; Promoting local economic growth) and Specific-Foundation Approved projects DO NOT COUNT toward PHF status.
• Gifts made to Rotary Club of Alamance for fundraisers (poinsettias sales, golf tournament, sponsorship for luncheons, pass the green bucket donations etc.) DO NOT COUNT toward PHF status.
• The charity fund invoiced on the quarterly statements goes toward local projects and DOES NOT COUNT toward PHF status.
• Club, district and Rotary International dues DO NOT COUNT.

How does Sustaining Membership play into this? Is this something totally different?
• A Sustaining Member is a Rotarian who gives at least $100 per year to the Rotary Foundation Annual Fund / Share. The same money given by a member to be Sustaining counts toward being a PHF. One gift provides credit for both. That is why we encourage all members to give at least $100 annually to the Rotary Foundation Annual Fund / Share.

How does the weekly card raffle count benefit the Rotary Foundation?
• When the card raffle is “won,” provided the balance is above $200, the pot is split between the winning individual or team and the Rotary Foundation. For example, if the pot is $500, $250 goes to the winner and $250 goes to the Rotary Foundation. When the $250 is sent to the Rotary Foundation, a request is made to split that $250 across all the members ($250/55 members for a gift in this example of $4.54 per member). That is why you may receive a thank you from the Rotary Foundation for a small, odd amount a few weeks after the raffle is won. By splitting the gift across all members, it ensures at a minimum, EREY (Every Rotarian Every Year) status is achieved by the club, even if some members only are credited for that small amount. So participating in the weekly card raffle “counts” toward PHF status, but it’s a slow way to get there.
What does the Rotary Foundation do with contributions?
• 50% of the money contributed goes back to the district it came from, with a lag of three years (i.e., the money received by a district in 2015 reflects contributions made in 2012). The other 50% goes to Rotary Foundation projects around the world. Members are encouraged to continue giving $100 per year to the Rotary Foundation even after they are a PHF because donations fund good works locally and internationally.

What if I want to be a Rotarian, but don’t want to or can’t contribute to the Rotary Foundation.
• Randy and Julian will sit on you until you change your mind. You have been warned. Seriously, it’s an important part of being a Rotarian. In the past, the club has covered individuals who don’t make contributions, but the current board does not think that this make sense and all members (after a trial period of 6 months or so) should be making an effort to giving $100 per year to the Rotary Annual Fund / Share.

How do I give to the Rotary Foundation? Can’t it just be invoiced?
• Although an annual Rotary Foundation donation of at least $100 is heavily encouraged, it is still “voluntary.” Thus in order to make your gift, you can go online to: https://www.rotary.org/myrotary/en/rotary-foundation to make your gift. Check with Carolyn if you need log-in information or your RI number. To mail a check, make your check to the Rotary Foundation and be sure to list your RI number and Club #6090 to make sure you and the club get credit. Mail to The Rotary Foundation, 14280 Collections Center Dr., Chicago, IL 60693.
• Can Carolyn mail this for me? No but she can give you a stamp if you are desperate.