

District 7690
Rotary International

History of the Origin of the
Triple Crown Club

In September 2003 PDG Dr. Stuart Fountain had assumed the position of District Rotary Foundation Chair and was preparing for the District's first Foundation Seminar for the new Rotary year. Most of the clubs in the District were already 100% Paul Harris Fellow Clubs and also 100% Sustaining Paul Harris Fellow Clubs. A new challenge was needed for the clubs to keep the momentum going on behalf of the Rotary Foundation.

On September 18, 2003 DRFC Dr. Fountain made the following audacious statement at the District 7690 Foundation Seminar: "Many of our clubs are already a 100% Paul Harris Fellow Club and 100% Sustaining Paul Harris Fellow Club. But the time is nearing when a club will really distinguish themselves by achieving the 'Triple Crown' of being a 100% PHF Club, a 100% Sustaining PHF club AND a 100% BENEFACTOR Club. Rotary International doesn't have a Triple Crown banner but if a club does that I will personally sew a banner for them!!" Dr. Fountain knew that he would not have to go learn how to sew or to find a sewing machine but if several clubs got many new Rotary Benefactors out of the effort it would still be of great benefit to the Rotary Foundation for years to come.

However he underestimated the competitive nature of Rotarians as successful people and their desire to make their club very successful as well. Nothing more was heard about this challenge until the District Conference in the Spring of 2004. Patrick Eakes, then President of the Crescent Club in Greensboro and later District Foundation Chairman, walked up to PDG Fountain with a big grin on his face and said "You better start sewing!"

Dr. Fountain was incredulous that a club had taken his challenge so seriously and was already closing in on being the first Triple Crown Club in the Rotary World!! And as a retired dentist all the sewing Fountain had ever done was stitching people's gums!!

The wife of PDG Don Allred, Pat Allred, was a talented designer and a highly motivated Rotary partner. Dr. Fountain persuaded her to create a couple of designs, of which one was selected. Pat was able to get four banners made by a professional company utilizing her design. We were confident that those four banners would be enough to last several years. They have had to be reordered several times since then.

(more)

TRIPLE CROWN CLUB



From: Brian King [KingB@rotaryintl.org]

Sent: Wednesday, August 11, 2004 3:56 PM

To: Stuart Fountain; Patrick Eakes

Cc: Don Allred; Bob Newton; Phil Morris; mitziewva@triad.rr.com; Mike Sigmon; Everett Padgett; Arnold G. King; Jackie McGuire; Brian Donley; W. Daniel Pate; G. Kenneth Morgan; Gregory Franks; America Ulmo; Rocky Jacobs (E-mail); Eric Adamson (E-mail); Sandy Duckworth (E-mail)

Subject: Crescent Rotary Club: Triple Crown!

Stuart and Patrick,

I am very pleased, and privileged to formally acknowledge the Rotary Club of Crescent as the world's first Triple Crown Rotary Club!

100% Paul Harris Fellows;

100% Rotary Foundation Sustaining Members;

and 100% Benefactors!

CONGRATULATIONS!

The dedicated Rotarians of Crescent, through your generous support and leadership are a shining example of Every Rotarian participating in YOUR Foundation, Every Year!

This tremendous achievement is truly an honor and demonstrates the club's dedication to the ideals of The Rotary Foundation. It is because of the support from clubs like yours that The Rotary Foundation is able to carry out our humanitarian and educational programs that benefit so many people. Please accept my sincere thanks for all that you have done and for all you plan to do for Rotary and your Foundation. We look forward to your continued leadership and support as we "Celebrate Rotary".

Sincerely,
Brian

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EVERY ROTARIAN, EVERY YEAR:

Are you a Rotary Foundation Sustaining Member?

To find out more, click below:

<http://www.rotary.org/foundation/development/annualprograms/sustaining.html>

