



## **Rotary Club of Pensacola Year-End Report July 1, 2009 through June 30, 2010**

The purpose of this report to the members of the Rotary Club of Pensacola is to inform the members of the accomplishments of the Club in this Rotary year. The governing structure of the Club is divided into five Councils, which, in turn, govern Committees.

### **Community Services Council**

Andrea Farage and Alison Rogers, Co-Chairs

### **Community Grants Initiative Committee**

Alison Rogers, Chair

Club members were generous in their contributions to the Rotary Club of Pensacola Foundation. This Committee had the pleasure of evaluating grant applications and to award \$10,000 in grants. If the application was for \$500 or less, approval of the Board was not required. If the application included a request for over \$500, the Board had to evaluate and act on the application and the Committee's recommendation.

Grants were awarded as follows:

Ballet Pensacola: \$1,000 for Discover Dance (provides students in Escambia and Santa Rosa Counties with exposure to the performing arts with in-school presentations by artistic staff).

Learn to Read: \$500 for dictionaries for adult students in literacy program.

Baptist LifeFlight: \$500 (combined with \$1,000 awarded in 2008-2009) for enhancement of life-saving helicopter medical services in the region.

Pensacola Sports Association: \$500 to support the annual scholar-athlete banquet in May 2010.

Northwest Florida Blood Services: \$1,000 for assistance in purchasing hand sealers used on bloodmobiles for a more sanitary and faster blood collection process.

Head Start: \$500 to purchase books for the children in the Head Start program as a Christmas gift.

Waterfront Rescue Mission: \$500 to further its mission.

Covenant Hospice Camp Monarch: \$500 to further its mission.

Our Lady of Angels, St. Joseph's Medical Clinic: \$500 to further its mission.

Rotary's Camp Florida: \$500 to provide a camp experience for disabled children.

Gulf Breeze Science Olympiad: \$500 to support education through contest participation.

Boy Scouts of NW Florida: \$1,000 to further its mission.

ARC Gateway Childhood Programs: \$1,000 to further its mission.

### **Scholarship Committee**

Malcolm Thomas, Chair

The contribution of \$60,000 to Pensacola Junior College and \$60,000 to the University of West Florida was completed in this Rotary year, with the groundwork done last Rotary year. The dollars are part of match programs at each school. As a result, the dollars will increase and allow more students to receive financial assistance. Our Club will monitor the scholarship funds at each school, as well as the scholarships that are awarded.

### **Interact Clubs**

Ed Wonders, Chair

Pensacola High School (John Shaffer): The Club meets on a regular schedule, and ordered Rotary tee shirts for about 50 members in recognition of the students' service to Rotary. The students served lunch at Ronald McDonald House, rang the bell for the Salvation Army, and raised funds for about 100 backpacks for Costa Rica. They executed a Purple Pinky Project this spring and raised funds to help eradicate polio in the world. The PHS Interact Club was awarded the Presidential Citation for its service to Rotary.

B.T. Washington High School (Frances Yeo and Trey Manderson): Students participated in bell ringing for the Salvation Army, and conducted a food drive for Manna.

RYLA: This leadership meeting of youth from this Rotary District took place this spring. Our Club sponsored three students: Ashley Hall (West Florida High); Jonathan Cagle (Escambia High); and Martin Zomerschoe (Escambia High).

### **Ethics in Business Committee**

Britt Landrum, Chair

The awards luncheon was held May 3. This is a project of the Combined Rotary Clubs of Pensacola (“CROP”). The awardees were Ed Carson and Donna Fassett.

### **Military Liaison Committee**

Nancy Fetterman, Chair

This Committee worked with CROP on the November Military Appreciation luncheon, and supported Alison Rogers’ efforts for the Club in providing \$200 of soft drinks to the USO for its Thanksgiving Dinner for local military personnel.

### **Literacy Initiatives Committee**

Alexis Bolin, Chair

*Imagination Library* was the literacy effort supported by this Committee. Through its efforts, over \$1,250 was collected from members who purchased a year of books for children as a holiday gift in the name of friends and family. The Committee also raised funds from other clubs for Imagination Library, and was successful in obtaining \$1,700 from Wal-Mart.

### **Salvation Army Bellingers Committee**

Earl Hutto, Chair

Through the efforts of Earl and his Committee, the Salvation Army was provided bellringers over the holidays, and collected \$11,483 that will be used by the Salvation Army to provide shelter, clothing, toys, and to meet other necessities. Members were stationed at Cordova Mall, Sam’s Club, and Wal-Mart on Creighton. The total hours donated to this effort was 240 in a four week period.

### **Core Values**

Charlie Blackwell, Chair

This Committee prepared to continue its efforts to visit schools and share core values.

### **Foundation Council**

Scott Grissett and Bob Rogers, Co-Chairs

### **International Projects Committee**

Kathy Horton-Brown, Chair

Costa Rica Backpack Project: CROP organized a project to provide 600 backpacks filled with Spanish/English dictionaries and school supplies to students in Costa Rica. The project budget was estimated at \$4,500. Our Club’s Foundation contributed \$1,000. Rotarians from our Club have participated in this project in Costa Rica.

Etta Projects, Bolivia: This is a matching grant to provide clean water and hygiene training to 25 villages in Bolivia. The project budget is \$42,700. Our Club's own Foundation contributed \$5,000, and the Club also allocated \$5,000 of its share of District Designated Funds to this project. The Rotary Foundation of Rotary International is unable to contribute any funds to this project, but is exercising its usual oversight function to ensure project integrity. Numerous other clubs are involved, including Subwest, Gulf Breeze, and Five Flags. Our Club heard from Penny Nixon-West on May 25 about the Project.

Sullurpet, India Eye Project: This involves a matching grant for equipment at a new Rotary eye hospital. The matching grant was awarded in 2008 to buy two surgical microscopes as well as beds and eye testing equipment. The Rotary Foundation of Rotary International awarded \$9,210 towards a project budget of \$24,005. Our Club's own Foundation contributed \$3,120, and District 6940 allocated \$3,125 of District Designated Funds to the project. Payment of the grant was delayed until late 2009 due to difficulties between TRF and the District in which the host partner club is located in India. The funds were paid to the Rotary Club of Sullurpet in mid-December, 2009. The equipment has been ordered and should be received by mid-February 2010.

Heredia, Costa Rica Wheelchair Project: This Project involved a matching grant for another specialty wheelchair project for children and young adults, continuing our Club's longtime commitment to this project. This is one of the relatively few matching grants awarded this year by The Rotary Foundation of Rotary International. Clif Payne deserves a great deal of credit for his perseverance and attention to detail in preparing an excellent application and having it at TRF's office on the first day that it was accepting applications. The Foundations' award was for \$24,324 toward a project budget of \$59,967. Our Club's own Foundation contributed \$17,138, and the Club allocated another \$9,313 to the project from its share of District Designated Funds. Other clubs involved are Rotary Club of Heredia, the Cantonment Rotary Club, and the Five Flags Rotary Club. The grant funds have been paid, and Clif got the equipment ordered and is organized a trip to Costa Rica to deliver and fit the chairs.

### **Group Study Exchange** Ron Richards, Chair

We heard from Group Study members from India on April 27. The presentation was informative and the Group Study members were engaging. Rotarians Ron and Innes Richards volunteered to host a team member visiting District 6940, so we were able to get the team to make a presentation to our Club.

### **Student Exchange** Carol Powell, Chair

This Committee worked to identify students to travel abroad, and host homes for students visiting Pensacola.

### **Polio-Plus Committee**

Scott Grissett, Chair

To help achieve our Club's goal of raising \$2,500 for Polio Plus, Rotarian Margaret Stopp has committed to match \$500 to the monies raised for this project. The Committee had a raffle for tickets and dinner for *Dance Your Heart Out Evening*, won by Rotarian Will Merrill. A pair of National Champion Alabama slacks donated by Rotarian Tom Birdwell was raffled for \$100, with the lucky winner bid from Rotarian Dale Jordan. The PHS Interact Club raised funds through the Purple Pinky Project, and individual Rotarians made contributions. We reached our goal of \$2,500.

### **Naturalization Committee**

Roger Vinson, Chair

Members representing our Club attended naturalization ceremonies at the federal Courthouse.

### **Communication Council**

Tommy Tait and Shawn Brantley, Co-Chairs

### **Program Committee**

Richard Sherrill, Chair

Week after week, this Committee provided our Club with excellent and informative speakers. Special thanks to John Shaffer for providing impromptu technical assistance on the days of our meetings.

### **Sunshine Committee**

Ron Martin, Chair

Members of this Committee entertain us (some more than others...) each week. They introduce our military, visiting Rotarians, and guests, and recognize members celebrating birthdays, and lead us in prayer and the pledge.

### **Music Committee**

John Appleyard, Chair

The Rotary Rooters entertained us once a month, and offered an informative and entertaining holiday program. John played his harmonica, leading us in happy birthday wishes to our members.

### **Helicopter Committee**

Betty Roberts, Chair

Each week, you see the product of this Committee with our Club's newsletter. Members of this Committee are reporters who write about our meetings. It includes information and updates for our members, and is sent by e-mail, with a paper copy on the tables.

### **Public Relations & Communications**

Bryan McCall, Chair

Our Club had coverage in the Pensacola News Journal and the Independent on the scholarships we provided to PJC and UWF. New officers after the annual meeting were listed in the PNJ. A press release was prepared and sent out about the Club's raising funds for ShelterBox.

The website has posted to it the Helicopter, along with articles and pictures. Our Club's partnership for a minivan to Trinidad-Tobago to help cancer-stricken children is one of the features, along with the ShelterBox slide show presented to our Club as part of the fundraising effort.

The Club now has a form for use by Committee Chairs for activities that merit a wider audience. This continues our efforts to let the community know about the good works of Rotary.

### **Administration Council**

Ray Jones, Chair

### **Investment Committee**

Bob Benz and Ray Jones, Co-Chairs

This Committee monitors our funds to confirm that they are invested appropriately.

The Committee met and developed new procedures and allocations for investing the funds of The Rotary Club and the Rotary Club Foundation, which resulted in substantial improvements in financial performance.

One major initiative was the development of the idea and recommendation to the Board to support the University of West Florida and Pensacola Junior College Foundations for scholarships, in lieu of providing direct awards to students. As a result, the donation to these Foundations improved the outreach of each school and ensures that the funds remain in the community, while reducing the administrative load on the Club to award the scholarships.

### **Nominating Committee**

Margaret Stopp, Chair

This Committee prepared a slate of officers and directors that was approved by the Members. The officers for 2010-2011 are:

Ray Jones, President  
Alan Bookman, President-Elect  
Ron Jackson, Treasurer  
Innes Richards, Secretary

Board Members elected for 2010-2011 are:  
Mort O'Sullivan  
Gerry Hoewing  
Scott Grissett  
Alison Rogers

Returning Board members for 2010-2011 are:

Andrea Farage  
Bob Rogers  
Shawn Brantley  
David Stafford  
Margaret Stopp, Past President

Thank you to the Board members who are leaving the Board after providing service and governance to our Club. They are:

Rex McKinney  
Tommy Tait

### **Membership Council**

Rex McKinney and David Stafford, Co-Chairs

### **New Member Committee**

David Safford, Chair

This Committee presented proposed new members to the Board. Our membership increased from 245 members to 247 members.

### **Membership Committee**

Jack Williams

This Committee works with proposed and new members, educating them about our Club and Rotary.

## **Greeters and Raffle Committee**

Leslie Halsall, Chair

This Committee makes sure every Club member has the opportunity to greet members and guests coming to our meetings, and lines up the labor to sell raffle tickets, with proceeds going to a lucky winner, and the Club Foundation.

## **Family of Rotary**

Maria Goldberg, Chair

This Committee assisted with the sale of Ice Pilot tickets for a night of fun with other Rotarians, and a fundraising opportunity to benefit our polio fund. We also enjoyed a Family of Rotary night hosted by Club members that was a great success, allowing Club members to get to know each other better. It was terrific food and fellowship.

## **Other Activities**

### **Initiative Grants**

The Board reviewed larger grant requests related to our Club's Rotary initiatives projects, addressing literacy, health, hunger, and vocation. The following grants were awarded from the Rotary Club of Pensacola Foundation:

Every Child a Reader Escambia (ECARE): \$1,500 to support literacy through support of family nights.

Ronald McDonald House: \$3,000. This continues our Club's support of Ronald McDonald House, and is combined with contributions from other Clubs to sponsor a room.

Manna Food Bank: \$3,000. The Club also brought hundreds of boxes of breakfast cereals to one of our December holiday meetings, and a single anonymous Rotarian provided enough funding for 1,500 boxes of cereal.

Junior Achievement: \$3,000. The Club continues its support of this important vocational endeavor.

### **Seville Rotary Club**

The Seville Club received its banner and bell with a case from our Club as a part of this Club's support of the newly chartered Club aimed at younger Rotarians.

### **Paul Harris Society**

Our Club has five (5) new Paul Harris Fellows. Additionally, we have fourteen (14) Rotarians who have earned Paul Harris Plus pins ranging from Plus 1 to Plus 6. This is an indication of our members' support for The Rotary Foundation and international projects and is

also reflected in our fundraising campaign. Our Club members contributed a total of \$28,405 to The Rotary Foundation. We achieved Every Rotarian Every Year (EREY) status by meeting our goal set at the first of the year. We have a total of 104 active Rotarians who are Paul Harris Fellows in our Club.

### **ShelterBox**

At its meeting on January 19, our Club donated to the Rotary Club of Pensacola Foundation \$9,500, all in one hour. That was enough for almost 10 shelter boxes. After that meeting, another \$1,500 was contributed, for a total of \$11,000. At its Board meeting on January 28, the Board voted to contribute Club funds in the amount of \$2,000. As a result, a check for \$13,000 was sent to ShelterBox. Since each tent in the shelter box holds 10 persons, we have provided shelter and basic supplies for 130 Haitians.

### **Sergeant-at-Arms**

Our Sergeant-at Arms is Tim Kane, who faithfully serves our Club. You see Tim at the welcome desk assisting where needed, including collecting fines from members who scoot early. His assistance is another element that helps our Club run smoothly.

### **Executive Secretary**

Our Club is very lucky to have the services of an Executive Secretary who assists the Secretary in the Secretary's duties. Without Krista Murzin, this President could not have served the Club to the extent I was able to do so. Rotary is a huge international organization with Bylaws, rules, and a bureaucracy. We are a very large Club on top of that. Krista not only serves efficiently, but with grace and charm.

### **Conclusion**

This has been a fantastic Rotary year, with more members wearing their Rotary pins proudly, and avoiding a fine for failing to wear the pin on June 15. It is a strong Club, with a proven commitment to Rotary, manifesting Service above Self and monetary support of the current Rotary International initiatives involving advancement of literacy, access to clean water and basic sanitation facilities, improvement of health and elimination of hunger, and contributing to world peace.

The Club was awarded the President's Citation and the Governor's Citation for achieving Rotary goals.

None of this would have been possible without the Board which was committed and dedicated to Rotary, as were Committee Chairs and Committee members.

And please remember, it is never too late to join a Committee and support Rotary under your new President, Ray. Much work has been done, but much remains. Being a Rotarian in **THE** Rotary Club of Pensacola is fun and satisfying.

“The Future of Rotary is in your Hands” was the Rotary theme for 2009-2010. And this Club has proudly demonstrated that the future of Rotary is robust in this community and worldwide through our Club members’ efforts and contributions furthering the goals of Rotary.

Thank you for the opportunity to serve Rotary and this Club.

Yours in Rotary Service,  
Margaret Stopp  
President 2009-2010