

ROTARY INTERNATIONAL

DISTRICT 5840

2005/2006



DISTRICT

GOVERNOR

DOUG WHINNERY (Sue) Rotary Club of Kerrville

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From Governor Doug's Desk

December 2005

The Holiday season is upon us. Each of us will be spending some special time with family and friends. Maybe you have a favorite holiday family tradition that you will continue to follow. Maybe some of you will take a family vacation. The holiday season is a time to share and celebrate with our families.

December is Family Month in Rotary. I don't think that is a coincidence. Our personal family and our family of Rotary are very important in our lives. As we celebrate be sure to remember those Rotarians who may need some extra encouragement at this time of the year. Remember our exchange students, both here and abroad, who are celebrating in a foreign culture. Remember our Ambassadorial Scholars who are studying far from home. Our Rotary family is large and is living around the world as well as around the corner from us.

Every month should be Family Month. Clubs should be keeping track of their Rotarians who are away from club activities because of illness. We should be contacting Rotarians who missed meetings and let them know they were missed. We should be inviting the spouses of deceased members to participate in club activities. In short we should be taking care of one another all year long not just in December.

Upcoming dates to remember:

February 25th, 2006: District Birthday Ball to be held at Ye Kendall Inn in Boerne. Come and celebrate Rotary's 101st birthday. Guest speaker will be Brigadier General Walter Schellhase, U.S. Army (retired).

March 23-26, 2006: Lone Star P.E.T.S. at the DFW Hyatt Hotel in Dallas. All incoming club presidents need to attend.
May 19-21, 2006: District Conference in Kerrville at the Inn of the Hills. Come to have fun, learn about Rotary and "Kick Back in Kerrville."

Article: Donor Advised Fund Update

During the Rotary Year 2001-2002 District 5840 established a Donor Advised Fund which is managed by the Rotary Foundation.

On the District's webpage is a brief statement about this historical moment. The webpage reads:

The 2001 Rotary International Convention was held in San Antonio, Texas. The 2001 Rotary International Convention Host Organizing Committee (HOC) planned, organized and hosted the International Convention. The 2001 Host Organizing Committee was chaired by Jim Berg. PDG Duncan Wimpress was the Vice Chairman.

After the International Convention there was \$320,000 remaining in the account of the Host Organizing Committee. The 2001 Rotary International Convention Host Organizing Committee (HOC) determined it would offer an irrevocable gift of the remaining funds to District 5840 to establish a fund, the proceeds of which would benefit the District in the future.

Jim Berg, Chair of the HOC, and District Governor Dick Baggett worked with the Rotary Foundation to establish Rotary Foundation's first-ever Donor Advised Fund account. Governor Baggett and HOC Chair Jim Berg announced the formation of the DAF account at the 2001-2002 District Conference in Kerrville, Texas.

The purpose of this fund is to provide matching grants to recognized entities within District 5840 for humanitarian purposes. The document establishing the Donor Advised Funds specifically states:

"...geographic area for the advisory committee's grant recommendations shall be to qualified charitable organizations which serve the counties in Texas comprising

Rotary District 5840 as exists in 2002, being 44 counties, or other areas outside of District 5840 that may include Mexico as deemed appropriate by the advice and consent of the District Governor or his advisory committee."

District 5840 entities, in accordance with tax laws, must either be themselves a 501(c)(3) organization, or have such an organization as a partner for receiving and disbursing the grant funds.

The matching grants can be up to \$ 5,000 which means there exists a corresponding match of equal or more funds, creating a minimum of \$ 10,000 for the humanitarian project.

The first matching grant was released in May, 2004, to the Oak Hills Rotary Foundation, Inc., in the amount of \$ 5,000. This first matching grant was to achieve, among other goals, the construction of a children's park in Mexico.

Since May, 2004, the Donor Advised Fund Committee has approved or distributed to date a total of \$ 43,913. These funds come from the growth of the original corpus of \$ 320,000.

These matching grants have gone to the following clubs: Rotary Club of Boerne, Mission Trails Rotary Club, San Antonio Rotary Club, Downtown Rotary Club of New Braunfels, Wimberley Rotary Club, Fredericksburg Rotary Club, Eagle Pass Rotary Club, Seguin Sunrise Rotary Club and the Seguin Rotary Club.

The matching grant donation have gone to the following types of projects: Carver School, Hill Country Mission for Health, Texas Parent-to-Parent Program, Dream Scholarship Program, Communities in Schools, community-school youth theater program, CASA, dental clinic equipment and aid to Hurricanes Katrina/Rita victims.

Thus far \$ 10,700 matching grant funds have gone toward relief efforts for hurricane victims. Of this amount \$ 7,200 has gone to the District 6200 Foundation. District 6200 encompasses the New Orleans area of Louisiana. The DAF Committee has been informed that there is a possibility of another request forthcoming for \$ 4,300 more to be spent of hurricane victim relief. This means that, as a minimum, District 5840 would have provided \$ 30,000 toward hurricane relief.

District Governor Dick Baggett promised, in his address to the 2002 District Conference attendees, as he announced the creation of the Donor Advised Fund: "This fund shall be available to all the Clubs in District 5840...large or small...east or west...north or south...rural or urban."

Rotary's float in the 2006 Rose Parade survived the California rains over New Year's weekend to bring the "Magic of Caring" message to millions of television viewers around the world.

Since 1980, Rotary has entered a float in the famous Tournament of Roses parade as a way to raise awareness and promote the organization. Every year, the float is entirely funded by Rotarian donations and decorated by volunteers who are a part of the worldwide Rotary family, including Interactors, Rotaractors, and scholarship recipients.

This year, we had 1,400 volunteers decorating the float in prearranged sessions," says Rotarian Jim Miceli, chair of the Rotary Rose Parade Float Committee. He explained that the float's theme, the Magic of Caring, was designed to appeal to children and adults alike and spread awareness of Rotary's commitment to eradicating polio while matching the overall parade theme "It's Magical." Although Miceli is a member of the Rotary Club of Universal City-Sunrise, California, he is careful to point out that the float is not a club- or RI-sponsored project. "The float is a separate entity," he notes, "though we do have the blessing of Rotary International." To express Rotary's approval, RI Directors David Hossler and Ken Morgan braved the downpour to join nearly 100 other Rotarians cheering from the curbs of Colorado Boulevard, where more than a million onlookers traditionally line up to watch the parade. "Hundreds of thousands of people pay \$5 to get into the float-building areas," explains Hossler. "It seemed to me that I had something to talk about with everyone - they're either a Rotarian, were a Rotarian, or interested in being a Rotarian, or they had suffered from polio."

As you can see, in the past 18 months since the first request for funds, already to the sum of almost \$ 44,000, this promise has been kept by the Donor Advised Fund Committee.

From Frank Devlyn past RI President

The Advisory Committee on Polio Eradication, the independent, technical oversight body of the Global Polio Eradication Initiative, announced after its recent meeting that polio could be wiped out in every country but Nigeria within the next six months provided that the highest quality National Immunization Days (NIDs) are conducted.

The group concluded that at least a further 12 months were needed to finish the job in Nigeria. This will require the full capacity and capabilities of each of the spearheading organizations to ensure that the promise we have made to children everywhere is fulfilled. Our progress has been outstanding. In 1988, more than 1000 polio cases per day were reported in more than 125 countries; in 2005, just over 1600 cases were reported in 16 countries, 5 of which were considered endemic. Realizing the goal of a polio-free world will be an extraordinary and historic achievement for Rotary International and its Foundation, and our partner organizations. I believe that the "plus" in PolioPlus is also every Rotarian who has ever given of his or her time, effort, and/or financial support, for there is no PolioPlus without individual committed Rotarians. Victory over this crippling and sometimes fatal disease is near and now, more than ever, PolioPlus requires the full attention of our organization.

Your Amigo in Mexico City,
Frank Devlyn
Rotary Foundation Trustee Chair, 2005-06

The Rotary Foundation Grants

The Rotary Club of San Antonio had a few Rotary Foundation grants funded this year.

Here are the details:

1. Community Center in Tlautla, Mexico
Total grant - \$24,600, \$10,300 received from TRF

Community center will provide adult education (older than 15) to the area to make residents employable. Center will teach reading, writing, and basic computer skills.

2. Purchase 400 glucometers for detection of diabetes in Mexico City and surrounding areas

Total grant - \$20,472, \$9,581 received from TRF

3. Honduras Water Project

Total grant - \$21,000, \$8,500 received from TRF

Dig wells in areas of Honduras where no clean water is available. Residents are sometimes forced to walk miles to obtain water.

4. Juarez Community Center

Total grant - \$24,850, received \$10,950 from TRF

Center was established in an area where there is no schools for anyone over the age of 15. The center will provide education and job training.

Another Grant involved the Del Rio Rotary Club, Acuna, Mexico, and a different San Antonio Club. A medical group donated several Dialysis Machines to Rotary. Northern Mexico adjoining Texas are in dire need of this service. The three clubs each put up \$3,333.00 for a total of \$10,000.00. TRF matched this amount 50%, \$5,000.00. District 5840 matched the amount of the three clubs and TRF matched this amount 100%. Clubs, \$10,000.00, District \$10,000.00 TRF \$15,000.00. Total amount, \$35,000.00. This is being used to build a sanitary water system for use in dialysis treatments.

We should all be aware that TRF puts a lot of money back in our area.

Any clubs who have received grants from TRF, let the editor know and we can get the word out.

If your club has not received matching grants, WHY NOT?