The Aberdeen Rotary Club was organized in 1920 and is part of District #5020 which encompasses Vancouver Island, BC, and Western Washington from Pierce County south to Woodland and the Olympic Peninsula.

Alex W. Rosenkrantz owned and operated, with his brother Oscar, the Aberdeen-based steel company Western Steel & Supply founded about 1905 by their father William Rosenkrantz.

An Aberdeen native, Rosenkrantz served as an officer in the Air Corps in Europe and North Africa from 1942 to 1945. In 1950, during the Korean War, Alex was recalled by the Air Force and served in France. While there he learned French from a young teacher by the name of Suzanne Sands, a graduate of the University of Paris – Sorbonne. Suzanne possessed an extraordinary intellect, passion for life and delightful wit.

They married and returned to Aberdeen in 1953. They enjoyed travel and collected Asian art, which included porcelains and carpets, and bequeathed the collection to the Portland Art Museum.

Alex was a long time member of Rotary and Suzanne was an Honorary Rotarian. Their estate included a bequest to benefit those with visual and hearing impairments.

"I strongly desire to assist blind youth, deaf youth and deaf-blind youth in higher education, vocational training, education in Braille, and computer based education".

- Suzanne Rosenkrantz

The Alex & Suzanne Rosenkrantz Scholarship Fund

"...for the education and training of blind youth, deaf youth and deaf-blind youth".

Suzanne Rosenkrantz
The Alex and Suzanne Rosenkrantz Scholarship Fund

The Alex and Suzanne Rosenkrantz Scholarship Fund was established with the proceeds of a bequest to assist youth who are blind, deaf and deaf-blind in becoming self-sufficient through higher education, vocational training, or other appropriate schooling.

Although the bequest prioritizes higher education, scholarships will not be limited to higher education. Vocational training, education in Braille, and computer-based education for the blind, deaf and deaf-blind will also be funded.

The fund is administered by the Aberdeen Rotary Club. The number and amount of the awards are subject to change from year to year. Priority is given to Grays Harbor residents; then residents of Pacific, Thurston and Mason Counties; then residents of other counties in Washington State.

Organizations may apply for grants that support the goals of the Fund.

How to apply for a Scholarship or Grant

To be considered complete, your scholarship application packet must include the following documents in the order given below:

Incomplete applications will not be considered.

- A completed and signed scholarship application form which can be downloaded at www.facebook.com/AberdeenRotary56.
- Completion of the confirmation of legal blindness, deafness, or deaf blindness.
- An official copy of your current academic transcript including grades for your most recent term. If you have earned or are in the process of earning a GED, you must submit a copy of your most current test results.
- A one page typed personal statement describing your background and reasons you feel you deserve a scholarship. Please tell us about your family and personal background, extracurricular activities, work experience, goals and plans for the future. Be sure to describe financial need and any struggles or hardships you have experienced and how they were overcome.
- Two letters of recommendation, on letterhead, from professional references (instructors, academic counselors, employers, volunteer supervisors) who can describe your academic ability, personal qualities, etc. We suggest that at least one letter be from one of your recent instructors.
- Two photocopies of the original application packet. This means that you will need three complete application packets containing the documents listed above.

Application forms for scholarships may be downloaded at:

www.facebook.com/AberdeenRotary56

Applications are accepted year round. Those that are postmarked by July 15th will be considered during the annual August review period.

Submit completed packets to:

Aberdeen Rotary Club
Rosenkrantz Scholarship Fund Committee
P.O. Box 836
Aberdeen, WA 98520