Rotary Club of Squamish

Accomplishments 2009/10

***Local Projects***:

The goal, as set out by the strategic plan, was to increase the number of hands-on-projects by 5. In addition, the club will continue with other hands-on-projects that they have participated in for many years.

**New Local Hands-on Projects**

* Massive community garden work party – moved 15 yards of soil and 5 yards of gravel in wheelbarrows. Planted 400 plants. Participation of almost half the club, community garden members and Interacters. Followed by fellowship barbecue
* Salmon Festival – served homemade cookies and apple cider to participants, led clean up crews and information talks at a local waterway. (Partnered with Squamish Streamkeepers and Estuary Society)
* Moved contents of Squamish Seniors’ Centre to their new location – provided a moving truck and manpower
* 4 Way Test presentation at a burn camp that is held at the North Van Outdoor School in Squamish.
* 2 sessions of Junior Achievement “Economics of Success” program at Howe Sound Secondary. 4 Rotarians took part in each session.
* Arts Council Washroom Renovation – provided materials and labour to renovate the public washroom at this building.
* Clock installation – the old Rotary clock was replaced by a bigger, better model in Squamish’s downtown.
* Started a local Kidsport chapter. This fund will provide financial assistance to local families so their children can participate in organized sports. Rotary is organizing the board, doing presentations to local sports organizations in an effort to build the fund and recruit board members.
* Hosted a barbecue and Kidsport info booth at the post-Olympic athlete recognition community event
* Earth Day festival set up and take down for community celebration.
* 37 people volunteered over 1000 hours during the Olympics, keeping various Olympic venues clean.

**On-Going Local Hands-on Projects**

* Annual Logger Sports Rotary Barbecue – served 3000 beef on a buns over 2 days. A 51-year tradition.
* Helped pack and deliver Christmas hampers to needy families.
* Dry grad casino night – provide games and manpower (long tradition)
* Bike Safety – teach safe biking skills to all area elementary schools (ongoing for more than 30 years)
* Squamish Rotary Community Garden – 53 garden plots have been rented.

**Local Projects Funded:**

* $1000 high school scholarship
* Provided 50 toiletry bags to the local homeless drop-in centre (at their request) at Christmas
* Funded first aid room in the new Seniors’ Centre. Includes defibrillator and specialized first aid chair.
* School Breakfast Program in 6 local elementary schools
* Womens’ Centre – library
* Womens’ Centre – drop in program
* Provided a sit-ski for a local student with spina bifida so he can ski competitively and recreationally
* Covered un-insured medical expenses for many local residents (approx. $12,000/year)
* Hospice
* Archery Program
* Biathlon Bears (teaches the sport of biathlon to local kids)
* Community Christmas Cares
* Food Bank
* Big Brothers/Big Sisters Teen Mentoring program
* Camp for adults with mental disabilities

**Local Youth Programs**

* Continue to sponsor 2 Interact Clubs and do many projects together.
* Helped Pemberton Rotary Club with start up of their Interact Club – 2 Squamish members attended their initial information meeting and their first fundraiser (a dinner to raise funds for Haiti).
* Ongoing work to charter Rotaract Club – sending 3 young people to Montreal Convention and pre-convention Rotaract meeting to inspire and teach them about Rotary.
* 1 current inbound youth exchange student and 1 outbound.
* 2 outbound students for 2010-11 youth exchange
* 7 students going on ROSE program from Squamish in summer 2010
* Adventures in Citizenship
* Paid airfare for Interacter attending Encounters With Canada Program in Ontario
* 2 students to RYLA South
* 4 students to RYLA Lakelse
* Hosted inbound student from Brazil (placed in Prince George) during the Olympics so she could experience the excitement of the Olympics.

**International Projects**

* Member spent 6 weeks in Kenya and Northern Uganda, attended District 9200 District Conference, made Rotary contacts, identified new projects, and visited ongoing projects
* Hosted an international Canada/USA hockey game during the torch celebrations. The US team was made up of Rotaracters from Minnesota. Our Rotary club hosted the US and Squamish teams at our weekly lunch, billeted the US players for 2 nights, promoted the game, provided manpower at the game, and raised money for Kidsport and PolioPlus.
* Joined Rotary World Help Network
* Matching Grant for Emmanuel Boyz Rescue Center (Kenya) paid out – applied for it last Rotary year. In addition, we collect money weekly to pay for school lunch program in Nairobi, administered by EBRC.
* Matching Grant for Katalemwa Cheshire Home (Uganda) – new project – funding materials needed for the manufacture of wheelchairs, crutches and other adaptive appliances at a rehabilitation hospital for children with physical disabilities
* Akek Water Project (Uganda) – new project – bio-sand filters and water containment project
* Miguta Dispensary Renovation – new project - used RWHN to ship 2 computers and medical equipment. Began building partnerships to complete a renovation of an existing building for a maternity ward. Completed a bore hole, rain catchment system, and plumbing. Working on a Global Grant proposal to complete the renovation of the building and construction of a toilet block and kitchen.
* Casa Colibri – Guatemala – raised funds to cover the costs of a medical training mission. Working on a partnership with several other clubs in order to participate in another Global Grant (3 year project)
* Polio Plus – held a screening of the Final Inch at the local university (Quest). Held a Pints for Polio Oktoberfest where we raised $7000. Held collections and gave out information pamphlets about Polio Plus at local grocery stores, liquor stores and home improvement stores.
* Shelter Box - $3000 to Haiti
* Tegulcigalpa Market Kids Project – Honduras – provide tax receipts, handle online donations and donate funds.
* Hosting the GSE team from the Philippines.
* Funded airfare and hosted the director of Emmanuel Boyz Rescue Center on a speaking/fundraising trip to Squamish.

**Foundation**

* 2 new Bequest members
* At least 5 new Benefactors
* 1 new Paul Harris Society Member
* Will achieve fundraising goal for the APF of $10,000
* 100% Every Rotarian Every Year

**Fundraising**

* Established on-line credit card donation capability, with automated tax receipts
* Submitted a gaming grant application and received $15,000
* Annual Club 200 sales - $10,000
* Celebrity Challenge Bike Race (June) – average raised is $12,000
* Pints for Polio - $7000
* Annual Christmas Card sales - $5000
* Olympic Fundraising (Clean Event) – helped keep Olympic venues clean (27 people provided over 1000 hours of volunteer time) - $10,500
* Weekly lunch promotion – collect change to pay for school feeding program in Kenya - $1100
* Individual donations for the Rotary clock and International Projects – approx. $14,000

**PR and Communications**

* Monthly quarter-page ads in the local paper – sponsored by local businesses
* Average monthly articles in the paper
* Community garden was featured on the local cable channel
* Pints for Polio was sponsored by the local radio station, and Rotary was mentioned 3 times per hour for 3 weeks
* Public awareness program for Polio
* Up-to-date website
* Bulletins are emailed to members weekly, and provided at the weekly lunch meeting

**Membership**

* +3 with 3 new members in the wings to be inducted.
* New members meet with membership committee, are invited to a board meeting, and are given tasks asap.

**Leadership Development**

* 6 members attended RLI
* 2 members serve on District committees
* Qualified for Future Vision grants
* 1 member attended North American Youth Exchange conference in Chicago
* 4 members attending Rotary International Convention in Montreal
* 2 members attending District Conference