



Rotary Club of Bullhead City eBulletin

Tuesday, October 02, 2007

 [Club Web Site](#)

Editor: Art Harrington
If you have any comments or questions, email the editor.

Upcoming Events

RCBC Board of Directors
Oct 2 2007

Club Christmas Party
Dec 7 2007

News

Quote of the Week - Who Said It?

Thought for the Week - Who Said It?

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Back from the Institute
by Art Harrington

Back from the Austin Rotary Institute

My apologies to the club for the lack of a club bulletin last week. By the time I finally surfaced from my training responsibilities in Austin, I realized it was already past the time to e-mail a bulletin to the club.

Rotary's Structure 101

What is a Rotary Institute? Let me use this opportunity, though, to familiarize our newer Rotarians with a quick summary of how Rotary is structured. The 1.2 million Rotarians worldwide in over 30,000 Rotary clubs are organized into 530 districts and 34 zones. Our Bullhead City club is located in District 5490 in Zone 25.

The Rotary zones are paired - our Rotary Zone 25 is paired with Zone 26. These two zones select a Director who will serve on the Rotary International Board of Directors for two years. Consequently, that board consists of 17 directors, plus the President and President-Elect of RI. Since the terms for the Directors are staggered, half of the board's members will be new each year.

Each of these paired zones convenes a Rotary Institute each year for the purpose of training the District Governors-Elect (DGEs) and District Governors-Nominee (DGNs) and their spouses for the districts represented in those zones. Also included in the week-long schedule are sessions for updating sitting District Governors and Past District Governors. Other district officers are also welcome to participate. Then there is an International Assembly held annually in San Diego, where the DGEs and their spouses, from the 530 districts around the world, are brought together for their final intensive week of training.

The Austin Rotary Institute last week provided the initial training for the 27 Rotary districts, in 17 states, comprising Zones 25 & 26. I was serving as the lead trainer for the Governors-Elect, and Sharon - as she has for a number of years - headed up the Institute Office, providing the extensive support needed.

Borrowing this week

Since Sharon and I have just rolled back into town from our Austin trip (late Tues. afternoon), I am passing along in this issue some of the important articles my friend John Fearing has included in this month's D5490 newsletter. Be enlightened and enjoy!

Board meeting reminder



BOARD MEETING REMINDER

President Laura Grasse reminds everyone that the monthly Club Board Meeting will be held this Wednesday at 5:30 p.m. at the News West Publishing conference room (2nd floor).

RYLA Applications

RYLA app now on line

The all-new online application system for the 2008 Rotary Youth Leadership Award is now available. All delegate applicants, prospective Junior Counselors, and each Rotarian that wants to attend RYLA 2008 must complete the online application process.

Please take a moment right now to go to www.RYLA5490.org and complete the application for yourself. Each club in our district is asked to send at least one Rotarian to RYLA as a volunteer, especially Rotarians that have never attended a RYLA Conference. Chairman Kevin Beamon said, "I assure you that you will not be disappointed. It is a wonderful weekend for everyone."

Tell teachers, interact clubs, and others to meet high school sophomore and junior students as now is the time for them to apply for this prestigious award.

For more information, consult the website www.RYLA5490.org. You may also send email to Kevin Beamon, BigDog@RYLA5490.org.

RYLA 2008 is now in your hands! It will take an effort to find the best and brightest leaders in our high schools, and then to mentor them at the conference to be even better model leaders in their communities.

GSE leader chosen - team members sought



GSE team leader to Cayman

named

Mark Carpenter of Glendale Kachina Rotary Club has been selected as the outbound team leader for the exchange to the Grand Cayman Islands, which is scheduled to depart May 1, 2008 and return May 29, 2008.

Craig Wilson of Phoenix 100 Rotary Club has been selected as the Alternate Team Leader.

Team Member interviews are scheduled for Sunday, October 21, 2007. To qualify as a team member, young professionals need to be between the ages of 25 and 40, active in their current profession two years or longer, and NOT be related to a current Rotarian.

We urge all Rotarians in District 5490 to get applications into the hands of young professionals in their circle of influence. Participating in a Group Study Exchange is a personal growth experience of a lifetime. If you employ a qualifying young person, encourage them to apply.

The inbound team from the Grand Caymans is scheduled to arrive May 15, 2008 and depart June 12. The district is seeking a Rotarian with a passion for Group Study Exchange to be the inbound coordinator for this exchange.

Contact District GSE Chair, Jeanie Morgan, if you have any questions. She can be reached at (928) 453-9328 or via e-mail at ryla5490@citlink.net. Downloadable applications are available through the Group Study Exchange link on the www.rotary5490.org webpage.

Rotary recycles computers

Old computers see new life

Phoenix Rotary 100 has provided more than 1,000 computer systems to non-profit organizations in Arizona and 50 systems, so far, to schools in Mexico.



"We would like to see more clubs take up this effort," said Jim Soudriette, long-time Rotary 100 member. " We are willing to help other clubs get started. They also could ask our club for systems for specific non-profit requirements they have uncovered and are now seeking to fill."

The systems are older computers donated to Rotary and are refurbished by club members. There is potential to do more with Mexican schools when Spanish Microsoft software licenses have been obtained, Soudriette said. It is amazing how many Arizona schools are without computers and lack teachers with sufficient computer skills to feel comfortable employing them in the classroom, he added.

Overall, the primary use of the donated computers is for Internet access; second is to pull down school assignments and to send homework back to instructors. You can reach Soudriette at (602) 955-8877 or by email to jim@ucs.com.

Literacy project in Guatemala



Clubs, Rotarians increase literacy in Guatemala

The Guatemala Literacy Project (GLP) is a partnership between North American and Guatemalan Rotary clubs and the non-profit organization, Cooperative for Education. This initiative provides badly needed textbooks, library materials, and computer centers to underprivileged children in Guatemala.

Since 1996, the textbook program has been brought to many impoverished rural communities. There are more than 27,464 students using textbooks at 155 schools. The GLP also has founded 21 self-funding computer centers and 18 school libraries. The project already serves 10% of the country's neediest secondary schools and is working with the goal of ensuring that no child in Guatemala grows up without the gift of both traditional and technological literacy.

The project has been supported by more than 300 Rotary Clubs, including many clubs in District 5490. Already this year, three clubs from District 5490 are on board, including Peoria North, Sedona Red Rocks, and Sun City West.

Many District 5490 Rotarians have volunteered for the GLP Delivery Tours to Guatemala. This past February alone there were eight. All are welcome to volunteer and take the tour. One of the main reasons the GLP has made such a positive impact on literacy for these underprivileged youth is through Rotary Matching Grants. Peoria North Rotary Club will be coordinating a Matching Grant for the GLP this year. Will you help? There still is time for other clubs to partner in this proven, 11-year effort to address illiteracy in Guatemala.

Please consider joining other Rotarians on a Delivery Delegation to Guatemala. Help deliver badly-needed textbooks and inaugurate brand new computer centers at impoverished Guatemalan schools in February. While the Feb. 1-10 tour is sold out, there still are seats on the Feb. 15-24, Rotary/Non-Rotary Tour.