

LAKE PLACID NEWS

ROTARY CLUB NEWS: Lake Placid Rotary Club member lists a year of activities



Lake Placid Rotary Club members served seniors at the “Winter Wonderland” party at Elderwood of Uihlein at Lake Placid earlier this month. (Provided photo)

The Rotary Club of Lake Placid participates in quite a few community and volunteer projects.

One such volunteer (among the 46 members of the club) is Don Woodlief, who has been a Rotarian since 2008, originally sponsored by Ron Butler of Howard Johnson's fame. Don kept track of his volunteer projects this past year. He says, "Rotary is a joy! People may not realize how much it helps the town." Below are some of the Rotary Club's projects in the past year from Don's list.

– March 2018: Highway cleanup. Steve Detwiler organizes these twice a year. Rotarians clean both sides of the highway for 1.5 mile on state Route 73 near the entrance to the Mount Van Hoevenberg complex. We have been doing it for 25 years.

– May 2018: Spring Trivia Night. Mary Liz Alexander is the leader of our twice-yearly Trivia Night, which raises money for Literacy Volunteers and other local literacy projects such as reading in the elementary schools. At Trivia Night itself, Don is the director of traffic to the two check-in tables: "pre-registered" or "not pre-registered." Say hi next time you see him.

– June 2018: Dam Duck Race. Debbie McLean, Tina Leonard and a host of other volunteers put on this extravaganza at Lisa G's restaurant that raises funds for local projects. About 1,500 rubber ducks race over the dam at Mill Pond. Lisa G herself hosts a great party featuring homemade barbecue. Activities include a bull ride, karaoke and face-painting. This is a fundraising event for Lake Placid area community projects such as new bus shelters, the Shipman Youth Center and the Ecumenical Food Pantry of Lake Placid. Don is part of the team responsible for going down to the Chubb River below Lamb Lumber, capturing those same 1,500 ducks and bringing them back so we can use them again the following year.

– July 2018: Visiting Rotarian couples from Bhopal, India. Don remarked, "I loved it because the people were fascinating to talk to. I drove one couple from just across the border in Canada to their host family in Lake Placid. It was perfectly wonderful to do all the activities with them like breakfast at

the horse show grounds. They sang a little song of greeting and happiness and being part of Rotary. I was touched by that.”

– September 2018: Teddy Bear Picnic. Originally started by the Kiwanis Club of Lake Placid, it is now run by Rotarians Cindy DeMars and Martha Spear. This fun free event is for teddy bear lovers of all ages. See the Northwood Husky, buy toys with “bear bucks,” walk in a parade and win prizes for best costume, best decorated stroller, etc. The Kiwanis Club disbanded in 2017.

– October 2018: Autumn Trivia Night. Again, we raised funds for literacy projects.

– November 2018: Highway cleanup. Again, we cleaned up the shoulders of state Route 73 near the Mount Van Hoevenberg entrance.

– December 2018: Holiday Village Stroll. We handed out hot chocolate at the ice skating party.

– February 2019: Valentine’s Day party. Another project started by the Kiwanis Club of Lake Placid, the Rotary Club held a Valentine’s Day party for the residents at Greenwood Apartments for the second year in a row.

– March 2019: Elderwood. We served seniors at the “Winter Wonderland” party at Elderwood of Uihlein at Lake Placid.

An acoustic concert to raise money for the Rotary Foundation is coming up on Saturday, March 23, featuring Ray and Zane Agnew and Josh Morris. Additionally, we have volunteer projects and work-bees all the time. Next up is from 10 a.m. to noon on Saturday, April 13, cleaning up the outside of the Shipman Youth Center as part of the United Way Day of Caring, followed by lunch at the Big Slide Brewery. All are welcome, bring your own tools and gloves.

If you like helping other people and are curious about Rotary, stop on by a Rotary meeting any Thursday at 7:20 a.m. at the Courtyard by Marriott, or find us on Facebook or at our website, www.rotarylakeplacid.com. For more info please email rotarylakeplacid@gmail.com.

