First City Rotary

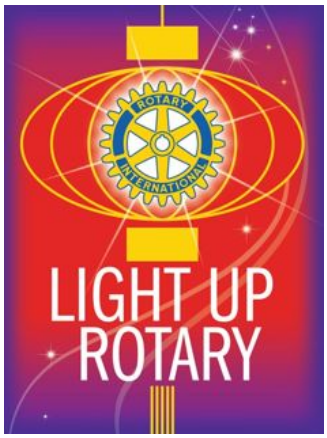
Vocational Month

Editor: rosie.roppel@gmail.com

Oct. 2014

Chartered 1988, District 5010
2014-15 District Remembering District Governor:
Dick Sutliff

President Chris Baca (President 2014-15)



Upcoming Events and Speakers
10-30 Ken Montero: "Hasmat"
Foundation Month
11-05 Board Meeting 7 the Point
11-6 Erin Reeve "The Assets of the Foundation"
11-13 Cory Padron "VPSO Saxman"
11-20 Foundation: The Business of Doing Good"
11-25 Pie Auction at the Pioneer Home by the Interact Club 5:30-7 (Makeup)
11-27 Turkey "Gobble" no club
Donate to Annual

New Rotary International President named for 2016-17 John Germ from Chattanooga, Tenn.

Programs/Speakers Chairs:
Oct. Vocational – O'Brien
Nov. Foundation – Dahl
Dec. Family – Bethel
Jan. Rot. Awareness – Clark
Feb. World Understanding – Licha K, Mary
March Literacy – Pasley? Open
April Magazine – Open
May – International conv. Shaffer
June – Rotary Fellowship – Bethel
July – New Year beginnings – Sue Bethel

Board: Pres. Chris Baca; PPres and AGE: Rosie Roppel; PElect: Sue Bethel; Sec: Margaret Custer; Treas: Katherine Tatsuda; Mbs at Large: Steve Rydeen and George Pasley; Foundation: Jim Dahl; Dist. Grants Friendship Exchange and International project chair: Mary Kowalczyk; Membership: Helen Mickel; Sgt Arms and District New Gens: Dave Owings; Social: Kalbaugh and Mike Wilson; Recognition: Rosie Roppel & Becca Valentine; Projects: Steve Rydeen; PRelations:, RRoppel and MO'brien; Interact: Cathy Gucker, YEO: Cynna Gubatayao. DGN: O'Brien, District Leadership Instructors: Bethel and Roppel.

District Governor Visited all aspects of the club: New Gens: RYLA, Interact of Kayhi and Youth Exchange

Upper: Kayhi Interact, below left: Pres. Baca, Lita (Indonesian inbound), Sarah Gucker (Thailand rebound), Page Spencer and DG Dick Sutliff.

Kayhi Interact officers, Youth Exchange, Pres. and DG and Page Spencer (DG wife).

Vocational Month Awards
First City Rotary partnered with Chamber of Commerce and Rotary 2000

Rotary Vocational Awards Winner of Excellence in Customer Satisfaction - Alaska Sport Fishing Expeditions with Jaylynn Merrill and Michael Briggs. Left to right: DGN Michelle O'Brien, Pres. 1st City Baca, M. Briggs, Merrill, DG Dick Sutliff, and Pres. Rotary 2000 Nancy Tieje.

Rotary Vocational Awards Winner of Excellence in Customer Satisfaction – Dianna Jaynes of Tongass Trading Co.'s Marine Store.

Excellence in Entrepreneurship winners go to Liquid Stone Designs, LLC. Lori Linville and Jason Shoemaker.

Excellence in Entrepreneurship winners go to the Assylum and its owners, Carols and Danielle Sepulveda.

On behalf of First City Rotary, President Baca presents a Canadian Native Design by Mervin Windsor, a picture of the Four-Way test to DG Dick Sutliff. Jim Dahl found this Rotary picture in Kitamat.

The 4-Way test. The quadrants of this artwork depict the 4-way Test of what we think, say or do in Rotary, using symbolic form. They are Haisla pictorial symbols in the culture of British Columbia's West Coast First Nations tradition, which has no written language. Each quadrant has symbols of the four clans in the Haisla Natin; the Eagle Clan, the Beaver Clan, the Raven Clan and the Fish Clan. They embrace the Rotary wheel, that is itself symbolic of the works performed by Rotary International throughout the nations of the world. The symbolism begins with the Eagle Clan and progresses around the Rotary wheel in a clockwise direction.

Is it the truth - To the First Nation, the eagle feather is symbolic of the truth.

Is it fair to all concerned - To the Haisla, fairness is the same as sharing. The potlatch, where people gather to share food, is symbol of fairness with other clans, or villages.

Will it build goodwill and better friendships - It was a tradition among First Nations when tribes traveled to other villages, the chief would perform a welcome dance. Down feathers falling from his hat, or headdress symbolized goodwill towards the visitors. The people on the shore would form a welcoming arch of crossed paddles for the visitors to walk through as they stepped from their canoes.

Will it be beneficial to all concerned – Villages were located on rivers near the sea which were the source of water, fish, plants and berries. These waterways were also the transportation system, which aided trading between tribes.

Project Tours with the District Governor

Rotary Beach Stairs

Sutliff on stairs

Rendezvous Inspection

UAS SCHOLARSHIP ENDOWMENT

President of First City Rotary Chris Baca awards the first check of $5000.00 to the University of Alaska Southeast to endow our First City Vocational scholarship. At the end of five years donations will total $25,000. Left to right: Baca, Karen Ramsey, Gail Klein, Tellisha Frankhouser and DG Sutliff

Airport Garden in process

Welcome New Members

Dr. Monica Mangis with Sponsor O'Brien

Scott Edwards with Sponsor Mickel

Sophia Smith with Sponsor Jim Dahl

And greeting these fine folks are Mike Wilson and Cathy Gucker

DG All Club Party – Bruce/Kotrc HomeGathering

Cathy Gucker, the Chief Rydeen, Marc Guevarra.

1st City Rotary Past Pres. give the Rotary parade wave… Michelle O'Brien, Sue Bethel, Rosie Roppel, Christa Bruce…

Past Pres. Marc Guevarra R2000 and 1st City Rotary Margaret Custer sing:

Christa and Ron throw an EPIC Rotary party!

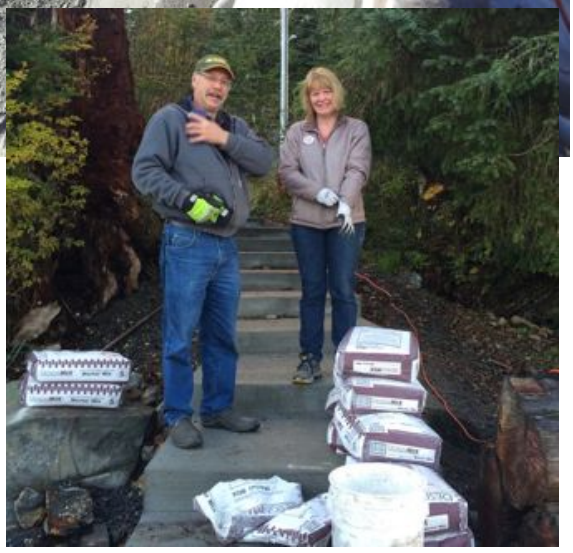
Page Spenser and Mr. Duley

DG meets with club members Dahl, Custer, and Baca

*If you would like one of our vests, we will be ordering again. The vests will cost you approximately $47…all inclusive. I am going to see if there are fleece shirts that one might like later on! Thank you all to Marsha Erichsen "Top Stitch Embroidery" for helping us with our vest project. Ben would like one and who else? Email me: Rosie.roppel@gmail.com

Rotary Beach Fixem up!

Water was undermining the stairs! Fixed! Golden Hammer Miller and crew got right on it Sat. a.m. Thank you Cathy Gucker for the pics. And thank you First City for the short notice!!!



Thank you, Sis, for your great contributions to our club!

Below: Get well Alex MacDonald!!! We are with you!

First City Rotary has a new Youth Exchange New Outbound

Lily Foster – Where will she go?

Left to right: President Chris Baca, YEO Cynna Gubatayao, Outbound Lily Foster, DG Sutliff. Below: New Gens call Lily to tell her (at Bruce's soiree). Cathy Gucker the Rotary Interact of Kayhi makes the call. Next to her is Carly Royer, Inbound Thailand: Sarah Gucker, Karly Blair, and Inbound Lita.

More District Governor Fun with President String at Roppel/Ward's house.

DGN Michelle O'Brien, DG Dick Sutliff, and Future AG Rosie Roppel at crab, shrimp, salmon feed.

Firesides

DG Sutliff advocates for clubs to have "Firesides" where each person gets a period of time to tell their story…hence getting to know each other. This is #2 in Ketchikan. He is training us. He is starting with Leadership which will evolve into our awesome Club members of both clubs. You will be invited soon.

Below Jim Dahl tells his story, soon to be followed by the others around the table. Exciting.

More Club Fun!

Rotary Interact of Kayhi, KRBD interview, Jim Dahl and Page Spencer

It's Our Rotary

Thank God, thank Heaven and Earth
I thank every member who inspires me to be
a real Rotarian with true love
Let's cherish every opportunity to contribute
Through one's lifetime, it is rare to make
true partners like Rotarians.
It's our Rotary where elites
of various trades and professions
gather together for common ideals to bring
forth a new spirit of life.
It's our Rotary, we have no fear facing any obstacle,
Road of Rotary,
We'll walk with hope and love!

Exchange student describes Thai coup

By NICK BOWMAN
Daily News Staff Writer

Sarah Gucker returned to Ketchikan on Wednesday after spending one year — and living through a military overthrow of the government — in Thailand.

The 17-year-old Rotary Exchange student was in the Sukhothai Province in northern Thailand, between the borders of Burma and Laos.

Some students struggle with school or learning a new language or living in a strange culture in a foreign country.

Standing in the townside parking lot of the Ketchikan International Airport, Gucker said these aspects of living abroad were challenging, but she took the coup in stride.

"This is not the first time it happened," Gucker said, "so everyone was just kind of calm about it. It cooled down after the first couple of days."

The Thai military instituted a 10 p.m. to 5 a.m. curfew that dissolved in a couple of weeks, she said. Otherwise, the direct effects on her village were few.

"My host family was glued to the TV watching the news all the time," she said. "For the first few days, the TV was blocked. It was only a picture of the government symbol and the Thai national anthem playing over and over again until they had something to report and they would report the news and go back to the picture."

She said stories about Internet censorship in the country were just rumors. She was able to make contact with her mother, Kathy Gucker, via email.

"Honestly, I knew she was with Rotary so that part made me feel better for the time being," her mother said.

However, the coup was near the end of a year spent in the nation and in a village in which no one spoke English.

As the only American in her town, Sarah Gucker was known to most — even those who knew her well — as "The Foreigner." Even so, she said her fellow villagers accepted her.

It was a difficult experience, she said. Her mother asked whether it was her best or worst year so far.

"Yeah," she said — it was both. "If there was a problem nobody spoke English in my village so I had to just figure out everything by myself. So it was challenging, but if it went well that was good.

"If it didn't go well, I was usually being laughed at."

Her year got off to a rough start because she was put into advanced math and physics courses, which Gucker said she didn't think she would understand if taught in English.

In Thai, it wasn't working out. She transitioned to classes focused on culture, including dance.

A major difference between East and West reared its head as well — women's rights.

It was cultural rather than state-enforced, but Gucker said she wasn't allowed to travel without

Above, Rotary Youth Exchange Officer Cynna Gubatayao, left, and Lois Munch hold signs welcoming back Sarah Gucker, right, who stands next to her mother, Cathy Gucker, Wednesday evening at the airport ferry terminal parking lot. At left, Gucker takes in the scene.

Staff photos by Hali Anderson

Rotary's involvement.

"They don't let girls travel," she said, adding that it was a big issue. "In bigger cities it's more accepting, but in my village they said, 'Oh, no. If you were a boy you could do this, but because you're a girl, probably not.'"

"That was hard at the beginning. Really hard," she continued. "But I just kind of ignored it at the end."

But her year wasn't all culture shock and learning curves.

The food was amazing, she said. Beyond the local food, Thailand has a lot of whacky potato chips — the crab curry and seasoned intestines flavors stood out to her.

In her bag she had brought back with her packets of dried mangos that she made with her host mother, she said.

The experience has changed her, Gucker said.

"I'm more patient with things that go on," she said. "I think it's OK to just have time to just sit. Before, I was like 'OK, why aren't people moving? You don't have anything to do right now. Why don't we go shopping? Why don't we go see something that I haven't seen before?'"

"I guess I'll see how much I've changed when I hang out with people that I feel haven't changed," she added.

A little trivia from her trip: Gucker said the only public buildings in her village were the post office and, of all things, the 7-Eleven.

The most people she saw on a motorcycle — the primary mode of personal transportation in Thailand — at one time was a family of six.

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Youth Exchange with YE0 Cynna Gubatayao
Lita (Inbound – Indonesia) is having a great time in Ketchikan.