

## **ANNUAL REPORT 2008-2009**

The following is a summary of what each standing committee accomplished this past year, with the first being the President's goal.

### **PRESIDENT'S GOAL Arnie Ness**

**To help a great Rotary Club become even better**

Pathways to achieving this goal are:

1. Support District Governor Jesse Tam in every way
  - Attended every function but one in which he and our club were both involved
2. Begin a long-range planning process
  - A four-hour session was conducted January 17, 2009
3. Increase member involvement in club projects
  - As of April 30, 2009, 80% of members participated in a "hands-on" activity
  - As of April 30, 2009, 93% of members contributed their time and effort to some activity of the club
4. Do more club social activities
  - Two functions occurred – July 19, 2009, a social at Kathleen's place, and November 23, 2009, a social at Jesse's place
5. Improve communication with and among club members
  - A weekly report was sent to all members
  - All members were on at least one club committee
6. Increase member contributions to the RI Foundation
  - Club participation as of June 25, 2009, was 76%
  - Funds raised for the RI Foundation = \$9,090, a 46% increase over last year
  - Average amount per member increased by 19% over last year.
7. Increase membership by 10% (net)
  - Membership increased by 29% (net)

### **CLUB SERVICE Ray Connell, chair**

- Organized the club's participation in the Seafair-International District parade last July (thanks, Dennis Su).
- Two social events were planned – July 19 at Kathleen's place and November 23 at Jesse's place, a joint event with the Foundation committee.

- Another social gathering took place October 21 at Sun-Ya for the purpose of informing the club of the history of women in the club (thanks, Hwa-Tsun Feng).
- A schedule was maintained for the setting up and tearing down of banners and other items for all club meetings.
- Weekly programs were provided for the club (thanks, Steve Mayeda).
- The website was maintained (thanks, Bill Nagel). (Check it out!)
- A location study was completed to determine the best place for club meetings (thanks, Jean Donohue).
- A booth at the Chinatown/International District Annual festival has been planned for July 11 and 12.

Committee members were: Novelett Cotter, Barb Gregg, Bob McKay, Steve Mayeda, Win Mitchell, Kathleen O'Connor, Vijya Patel, and Romy Protacio.

### **COMMUNITY SERVICE** **Julie Hungar, Chair**

The following Community Service projects were supported during this year:

#### **Bailey Gatzert Elementary School Teacher Projects**

- Kindergarten field trip to Seward Park: \$369. Bus to the Talking Tree Program, part of Kindergarten science unit on wood.
- Third Grade field trip: \$260.
- Third grade dictionaries: \$413 for 50 dictionaries. Six club members participated in the presentation.
- School Spirit T-shirts for all students for the fall: \$400. Hands-on opportunity for club members: attend the assembly where the T-shirts are given out.
- Summer Bookmobile books: \$600. Hands-on opportunity; assist on the Bookmobile.
- Wild Waves: \$500. End-of-year excursion for the Conflict Managers group, students who are trained to defuse conflict on the playground and in the halls.
- \$7,000 was set aside for a Rain Garden to be constructed at the school - \$3,500 from the club and a matching grant of \$3,500 from District 5030 (thanks, Susan Carpenter). This project is not yet completed. The District match of \$3500 will be used in the fall (thanks, Susan Carpenter).

#### **Adopt-a-Family at Washington Middle School**

- \$500 for Christmas gift certificates for two families chosen by the counselor

at Washington Middle School. In previous years this project has consisted entirely of gifts brought in or paid for by members. A late start and bad weather interfered, so gift certificates to Safeway, Target and Old Navy were given.

#### **Chinatown/ID cleanup**

- \$500 was contributed for this project and nine members of the club participated in the Saturday event.

#### **Friends of CASA**

- \$500 was given to this organization, which supports guardians ad litem, dealing with children who are involved in the courts.

#### **Great Composers**

- Two club members presented seven monthly programs on classical composers to ten classes at Bailey Gatzert.

#### **Legacy House**

- \$600 was given to Legacy House for Christmas gifts and 10 club members participated in the Christmas party and gift presentation.

#### **Naturalization Ceremony**

- \$1000 was given to the Ethnic Heritage Council to support the Independence Day ceremony; Jim Kern will represent the club at this event.

#### **Nurse Family Partnership**

- Club members purchased or paid for over 150 books to be given to the parents called on by the partnership; we also contributed \$300.

#### **Rotary First Harvest**

- \$500 was given and 5-6 club members participated in each of three work parties to package food for food banks.

#### **YouthCare**

- Ten club members and three significant others provided dinner for the youth at the Orion Center.

Committee members were: Barb Andersen, Allan Boyce, Susan Carpenter, Novelett Cotter, David Della, Adam Droker, Jiudy Ginn, Sharon Lee, Paul Mar, Nathan

**INTERNATIONAL SERVICE**  
**Jenny Lui, Bill Nagel, Co-chairs**

**Steve Morris Literacy Project**

- This project was submitted last year by James Woodcock, and approved for \$2,000. The committee this year merely affirmed last years approval for the money to be spent from last year's budget.
- This project runs literacy classes in the Republic of South Africa for refugees, mostly from Zimbabwe, the Democratic Republic of Congo, Rwanda, and Burundi. The Project runs 2 or 3 literacy classes daily, 5 days a week. The weekly classes cover 3 levels of reading and writing English (from basic), English conversation and teaching isiZulu. A survey in July 2007, showed an attendance of 121 students.

**Support for Orphans & Children with Special Needs**

- This project was submitted by Stephanie Ko. The committee approved funding of \$2,000 for 2008/2009.
- This is an on going humanitarian project. Based on the changing needs in the local areas, donations to orphanages are made throughout the year. Due to availability of local contacts and volunteers, we focus our effort to support three orphanages in two countries at this time; namely Vietnam and Macau, China. With care, love and support to orphans, we can make a difference in their life. We help orphans and children with special needs to recognize that not everyone considered them as second-class citizens. We help them to live with dignity and self-confidence. For those orphans who are able to attend schools, they can help other orphans and contribute to the society when they grow up. In the past five years, we have made in-kind donations such as socks, shoes, school supplies, books, educational materials, diapers, rice, fruits, vegetables and other grocery items.

**Uganda Water Project**

- This project was submitted by Oly Wise of the Ballard Club, and has previously

involved participation by Bob McKay and Ray Connell. The committee approved funding of \$1,000 for 2008/2009.

- This is a project to provide clean drinking water to villages in the Gulu area of Uganda by rehabilitating existing nonfunctioning borehole water-wells into a sustainable condition. It will involve participation by 5-6 rotary clubs, ultimately resulting (with matching grants) in a total of \$56,000 for the project. The project will be monitored long-term by oversight committees established by the Gulu Rotary club and Gulu Rotaract club, as well as the water committee associated with World Vision in Gulu.

### **Barbara's Kids**

- This project was submitted by Barb Gregg, and was approved funding of \$2,000 by the committee. It will also receive 1 month of Sergeant-at-Arms money.
- The purpose of this project is to provide aid to children at the Nga Center for Poor and Disabled in Vietnam. Specifically, the approved monies will be used to help fund a change of life medical surgery to remove a huge Osteochondroma (tumor) from a youth's arm. The surgery will allow him to return and live in his home. It will also allow him to find employment and will remove him from the group considered "untouchables" in his society.

### **Make Dreams Real**

- This project was submitted by Susan McIntyre, and was approved funding of \$2,000 by the committee. It will also receive 1 month of Sergeant-at-Arms money.
- The purpose of the project is to reduce the child mortality in the rural villages of Vientiane Province in the country of Laos. Education is the key. Through education, HLI can strengthen the manpower capacity of the Ministry of Public Health in more remote Lao villages and thereby address the training needs of village health workers and birth attendants in the province. At this training all students will receive their own personal translated volumes of two health reference guides to assist them in improving sanitation and health of children, mothers and families. At this training, village healthcare workers and birth attendants can use low cost solutions, bed nets, vitamins, de-worming and rehydration medicine to save village children's lives.

### **Ethiopia Reads**

- This project was submitted by Judy Ginn, and was approved funding of \$1,000 by the committee.

- The mission of Ethiopia reads is to develop a reading culture in Ethiopia by connecting children with books. This project is to plant twelve children's libraries in needy schools in Ethiopia. Books are donated in the US but must be shipped to Ethiopia. The \$1,000 requested will be part of the funds needed to ship the books to Ethiopia.

### **Nepal**

- This project was submitted by Judy Ginn, and was approved funding of \$1,000 by the committee. It will also receive 1 month of Sergeant-at-Arms money.
- Nepal is struggling with manmade disaster due to the political conflict since 1996. Several political forces were fighting each other consequently many innocent Nepali people were victims from conflicts. Many people were lost their life and many people were disabled due to armed fighting and landmine. Many people were living with disability and there is very limited access to reach disability centers due to the remoteness and lack of knowledge.

Many disabled persons in Nepal are still highly disadvantaged by poverty, remoteness from rehabilitation services, lack of vocational skills and awareness of opportunities and choices. Considering all these facts and necessity Rotary Club of Dhulikhel has established Rotary Disability Resource Center and established link with Rotary Clubs in New Zealand. Now the project is phasing out and their club would like to continue with disability management as many of physically challenged person were visiting the resource center and getting services, and is therefore applying to Rotary District 5030 for help.

### **Great Baikal Trail**

- This project was submitted by Stan Miner, and was approved funding of \$1,000 by the committee. It will also receive 1 month of Sergeant-at-Arms money.
- The goal of this project is to provide an educational experience for thirty adolescents from three villages in the Baikal region of Irkutsk Oblast, in Siberia, Russia. This educational experience will focus on many environmental issues affecting the three targeted villages, the sustainable use of local resources, choosing healthy lifestyles, and overall leadership training.

Committee members were: Nancy Bennett Evans, Robert Ha , Hillary Hamilton, Jim Kern, Susan McIntyre, Larry Mar, Stan Miner, Charles Moure, Bill Oung, Tim Rogge, Harry Rutstein, and Donna Wolter .

## **VOCATIONAL SERVICE**

**David Clees, chair**

This has been a year of beginning to broaden the mission of our committee. Traditionally we have focused almost exclusively on funding college scholarships for outstanding college-bound high school seniors from Seattle schools (public & private). This year we have taken the first steps to embrace a District 5030 project called Partners for Work (detailed below), contributed to training faculty for the first social work school in Cambodia (a joint venture with the University of Washington), and provided a “home committee” for an upcoming financial literacy project in Seattle schools, spearheaded by Adam Droker, whose professional life in the financial services industry both qualifies him and has (in light of recent real and potential financial meltdowns) lately taken his time away from this committee focus.

### **Scholarships**

This year we included language in our letter to high school counselors encouraging them to broaden their focus to include outstanding students who had decided on a vocational education (as contrasted with a four-year college education). We did not receive any applications from such students. Perhaps we need to more pointedly direct the attention of the counselors to this broadened focus. We received a large number of applications, and most of the members had to do some agonizing selection (and “rejection”) work. The committee was finally able to agree on seven recipients of \$1500 scholarships, for an expenditure of \$10,500. The scholarship endowment received an anonymous donation of \$1000, as well as \$500 designated from Sergeant-at-Arms proceeds.

### **Partners for Work**

Building on the initiative of Stephanie Ko, our committee has become a participant in the District’s Partners for Work project, headed by West Seattle Rotarian Jon Hankins. This is a project that finds employment for developmentally disabled young adults with the direct involvement of Rotarians’ businesses. We have hosted “mock interviews” at a club meeting, involving club members, young adults, and job counselors. We also honored three employers, at a recent club meeting, for their outstanding commitment to hiring, guiding, and supporting these young people. We are trying to nudge club members to take similar actions. We have spent \$184.41 on this project---for the plaques honoring the aforementioned businesses.

**Royal University of Phnom Penh (Cambodia)/University of Washington School of Social Work Partnership**

Our club has supported the training of faculty members who are making up the first (badly needed) School of Social Work in Cambodia. Social workers will be trained to work in a country that is still suffering from the ravages of recent decades of war. We received a late request for funding this year, and the committee (which has not been involved with this project in the past) voted to allocate \$500 from our budget and to supplement that with \$500 from Sgt at Arms proceeds. We are hoping for a visit from the project's Tracy Harachi in the near future.

### **Financial Literacy in the Seattle Schools**

Adam Droker has expressed a strong interest in organizing a program (possibly with the help of other Rotary clubs and /or other service clubs) to teach young people the ins and outs of earning, balancing, lending, borrowing, etc. Adam's involvement in the financial services sector has, ironically (but understandably) taken his attention away from this pursuit for the time being. No funds have been spent for this project.

A Student-of-the-Quarter program was begun, and two high school students were recognized (thanks, Tish Johnson).

Committee members were: Paul Mar, Stephanie Ko, Jim Johnson, Phil Ginsberg, Jean Donohue, Sallie Neillie, Nathan Palmer, and Adam Droker.

## **MEMBERSHIP**

**Susan Carpenter, Chair**

### **Growth**

Our club has achieved significant growth this year. Though the stated District 5030 growth goal was 10%, we set a club goal of 25%, which we have exceeded. On July 1, 2008, we had 48 active members. A 25% increase in members, taking into account projected resignations, would be a net increase of 12 people, for a total of 60 active members. On June 30, 2009, we have 62 members.

Throughout the year we continued to emphasize the importance of bringing guests who could be good candidates for membership as Rotarians, which was an approach we implemented in the prior year, and followed up with guests who indicated a strong interest in our club. In addition, we:

- Implemented prospective member meetings with the Membership Chair or a Committee Member to discuss the new member's interests, club attendance requirements, and club financial requirements.



- Developed a “Welcome” document for prospective members that describes Rotary’s Avenues of Service, networking potential, professional development opportunities, and the 4-Way Test.
- Updated our application form to incorporate a current description of committee projects and responsibilities.
- Established a requirement that prospective members attend at least three meetings before submitting an application for membership to the Board, to be sure it will be a good fit for the new person and that they will be able to fully participate in the club.
- Developed a Prospective Member page for our website.
- Added “Bring a guest who could be a potential Rotarian” to our Red Ribbon requirements for new members.

### **Diversity**

We continue to recruit and attract people of great diversity in gender, age, ethnic origin and race.

- We currently have 34 men (54.8%) and 28 women (45.2%) in our club. Of the 17 new members, 9 are men and 8 are women.
- Of our 17 new members, eight are Asian American, seven are Caucasian, one is Jamaican, and one is Indian.
- Of our 17 new members, four (23.5%) are under 40 years of age.

### **Retention**

We continue to retain the great majority of our members through our emphasis on full participation, involvement in at least one committee, and a commitment to mentoring our new members. This year we retained 93.8% of the 47 members we had at the beginning of the year, losing only 3 people.

Most of the club’s retention success should be attributed to the Club Leadership and programs lead by other committees. Some of the additional retention strategies initiated by the Membership Committee include:

- Telephone and e-mail survey for all members sponsored by Chris Lavin, and communication of the results to members during the Strategic Planning session and club meetings.

- Development of Mentor Guidelines to assist new mentors in their responsibilities.
- Opportunity for 17 of our members to be mentors to new members, coordinated and led by Lynell Smith.

Committee members were: Hwa-Tsun Feng, Elaine Ko, Chris Lavin , Jim Osborn, Lynell Smith, Jesse Tam, and Andy Yip .

## **ROTARY INTERNATIONAL FOUNDATION**

**Stan Miner, Chair**

- Club participation as of June 25, 2009, was 76%.
- Funds raised for the RI Foundation = \$9,090, a 46% increase over last year.
- Average amount per giving member was \$175, a 19% increase over last year.

Committee members were: Adam Droker and Lloyd Hara.

## **PUBLIC RELATIONS**

**Barb Gregg, Chair**

- Met with Paul Mar, Owner, Assunta and Editor of NW Asian Weekly. Reached an agreement to post weekly meeting speakers and special event notices. Gave information as to website to editor. Not yet being used, however.
- Took in-depth article/picture to editor regarding overseas efforts. Never printed. She indicated she would save it for a "slow day."
- Spoke with District speaker regarding difficulty of getting into print. He sits with Assuma at Tacoma 4 and is going to put in a plug for us.
- Reviewed "short list" indicated from class. Reviewed with committee.
- Arranged to purchase and installation of Rotary plaque in restaurant.
- Had in-depth meeting, with committee, reviewing plans for 2009-2010. Believe 2009-2010 committee will be more active (interest level high).

Committee members were: Bettina Carey, David Della, Ellie Dofredo, Jim Johnson, Jim Osborn, Terry Pickering, Jesse Tam, Tim Wang, and Michelle Yong.

## **OTHER**

We had the honor of our member, Jesse Tam, be District Governor this year. He led a

delegation from our club to Ethiopia to assist in inoculating children against polio (Ray Connell, Ellie Dofredo, Bob McKay, Lilly Tam).

Judy Ginn traveled to Nepal to assist with a District 5030 project in helping uplift people with physical disabilities there. She chaired the District 5030 Dictionary project. She was also our club's representative to this year's Rotary International Convention in Birmingham, UK.

Secretary Barb Andersen maintained the signup sheets for our meetings; she took minutes for the board meetings; she delivered attendance reports to District 5030 and to Rotary International.

Treasurer James Woodcock kept the financial records; made timely reports to the board; did financial work for District 5030.

President-Elect-Elect Jim Kern worked with, and had overall responsibility for, this year's four-club auction.

Sergeant-at-Arms Chris Lavin organized persons to be responsible for raising weekly funds for the three club foundation service areas.

Several of our members were and will continue to be involved at the District 5030 level.