



CAMP, JACKSON NAMED 2020-21 ROTARIANS OF YEAR



Outgoing president Frank Nance, center, presents Lisa Camp, left, and Dr. Walter Jackson as the Rotarians of the Year at the June 24 installation banquet at the Houston Yacht Club. Camp is the chief of emergency medical services for the City of La Porte, and Jackson is the superintendent of La Porte ISD.

Rotarians Lisa Camp and Dr. Walter Jackson were named Rotarians of the Year at the Rotary Club of La Porte's annual installation banquet on June 24 at the Houston Yacht Club.

Frank Nance, 2020-21 president of the club, presented the awards. Nance also announced that Donna O'Conner is the Non-Rotarian Citizen of the Year, selected from nominations made by members of the club, and Mason Peres is Rookie of the Year as the outstanding first-year Rotarian.

In addition, Nance recognized Emily Helton, daughter of Rotarian Rick Helton, as the Rotary Family Member of the Year, and Rotarian Clark Askins as a Paul Harris Fellow.

As guests enjoyed a fiesta-themed dinner, Nance also thanked the 2020-21 Board of Directors and introduced Jason Weeks as the 2021-22 president of the club. In addition to Nance and Weeks, who served as president-elect, the outgoing officers include Rick Helton, vice president; Jeff Martin, past president; Crystal Redden, secretary; Brian Kinkopf, treasurer; Jayo Washington, sergeant at arms; Lisa Camp, director of community service; Derick Meadows, director of vocational service; Terri Cook, director of club service; and Sonja Baumgardner, membership chair.



Donna O'Conner, left, is named the Non-Rotarian Citizen of the Year at the banquet. Frank Nance presents her with the award in recognition of her involvement in a wide variety of volunteer projects benefitting the La Porte community. O'Conner is a former La Porte police officer who retired as the chief of police in Garden Ridge, Texas.

Mason Peres, left, receives the Rookie of the Year Award as the outstanding first-year Rotarian from Frank Nance, outgoing president of the Rotary Club of La Porte.



Weeks announced the new Rotary International theme, "Serve to Change Lives," and introduced members of the 2021-22 Rotary Club of La Porte Board of Directors. Beckie Stockstill-Cobb, Rotary District 5890 assistant governor, swore in Weeks as president; Nance as past president; Mason Peres, vice president; Crystal Redden, secretary; Rick Helton, treasurer; Jayo Washington, sergeant at arms; Lisa Camp, director of community service; Derick Meadows, director of vocational service; Terri Cook, director of club service; and Sonja Baumgardner, membership chair. Brian Kinkopf, who will serve as president-elect, was unable to attend the event.

Upcoming Programs and Events

July 2—No Meeting

July 3—Rotary Independence Day Parade, 10 a.m.

July 9—Veronica Perez and Robert Davenport, Amegy Bank Banking Fraud and Prevention

July 16—Scott Jones, Galveston Bay Foundation

July 23—Gina Manlove, Texas Illumination at San Jacinto

July 24—Summer Party on Main Street/Rotary Beer Booths, 5 to 10 p.m.

July 28—Joint Meeting with Deer Park Rotary Club, District Governor Michelle Bohrer, Noon, Battleground Golf Course

July 30—No Meeting

ROTARY RECOGNIZES LPISD SCHOLARSHIP RECIPIENTS

The Rotary Club of La Porte recently awarded \$29,250 in scholarships to 15 deserving La Porte ISD 2021 graduates.

“In a year in which we were unable to conduct our major fund raiser due to the pandemic, we are grateful to the many businesses and individuals who donated to our scholarship fund,” said Frank Nance, Rotary Club of La Porte president. “Their sponsorship of scholarships gave us the opportunity to increase our funding at a time when even more students could use monetary assistance in pursuing their college education. We extend our heartfelt gratitude to these sponsors.”

Matthew McFarland was awarded the \$10,000 Bart Latimer Memorial Grant funded by Doug Latimer and Rotary District 5890. LPHS graduate Matthew Castro was the recipient of the \$5,000 Rotary Achievement Grant funded by Rotarian Dr. Ruede Wheeler.

Twelve \$1,000 scholarships were also awarded to members of the LPHS Class of 2021. Recipients and their scholarships/sponsors include Bailee Baquet, Rotary Dr. W.R. Davison Memorial San Jacinto College Nursing Grant, funded by Rotarian Sonja Baumgardner; Angelica Ricks, Rotary Frank Pierson Achievement Grant, funded by Rotarian Kent Rimmel; Taylor Olivia Hayes, Rotary Lawrence W. Maher, Jr., D.D.S Memorial Grant, funded by Amegy Bank; Brianna Jocelyn Herrera, Rotary Russell Shepherd Memorial Grant, funded by Rotarian Fred Gintert Allstate; Alexis Noelle Holley, Rotary John Parker Memorial Grant, funded by Rotarian Al Ward; and Abigail O’Neal, Rotary Jim Zoller Memorial Grant, funded by LyondellBasell.

LPHS scholarship recipients also include Jaxson Melton, Rotary Helen Crowder Memorial Grant, funded by DuPont Bayport; Kaydeun Monece Wooley, Rotary Janis Edwards Memorial Grant, funded by Rotary Club of La Porte; Charlyca (Charlee) Hall, Rotary Joan Higham Memorial Grant, funded by Nick Higham; Anthony Sommer, Rotary Martha Love Memorial Grant, funded by Rotarian Lou Ann Martin of Main Properties; Kayla Sonka, Rotary EMT Grant, funded by Pfeiffer and Sons, LTD; Alexander Joshua Martinez Melendez, Rotary Engineering Grant, funded by Noltex; and Ricky Miller, Rotary Engineering Grant, funded by Altivia.

For the first time this year, the Rotary Club of La Porte also awarded a scholarship to a graduating student at the La Porte ISD Academy at Viola DeWalt High School. Kymberlyn Stepro was the recipient of a \$1,250 grant funded by Robert and Nancy Ojeda.

WHEELER NAMED HONORARY PAUL HARRIS FELLOW FOR LIFETIME DEVOTION TO COMMUNITY SERVICE



La Porte’s beloved Charlyca Wheeler was recognized as an Honorary Paul Harris Fellow on June 18. President Frank Nance recognized her for more than 50 years of volunteerism in the community. With her from left are Rotarians Dr. Walter Jackson; Rick Helton; Dr. Ruede Wheeler, Charlyca’s husband; Jason Weeks; Crystal Redden; Brenda Thompson; Beth Brady; Frank Nance; Jeff Martin; and Terri Cook. Charlyca is a 17-year member of the La Porte ISD Board of Trustees and was previously honored by the La Porte-Bayshore Chamber of Commerce as the recipient of the Gus Groos Humanitarian Award and Volunteer of the Year Award.



Dr. Walter Jackson, left, La Porte ISD superintendent, and Frank Nance, right, Rotary 2020-21 president, congratulate 2021 scholarship winners, from left, Matthew Castro, Anthony Sommer, Kymberlyn Stepro, Matthew McFarland, Charlee Hall and Abigail O’Neal. Recipients were invited to the June 4 meeting at the Houston Yacht Club.



Frank Nance, left, presents Rotarian Clark Askins with a Paul Harris Fellow award at the June 24 installation banquet held at the Houston Yacht Club.

Rotary Celebrations in July

Member Birthdays

Mason Peres	July 5
Al Ward	July 6
Leonard Hein	July 9
Clarence Anderson	July 17
Knox Askins	July 19

Spouse Birthdays

Lynley Marlar	July 15
Cindy Gintert	July 16
Brandy Peres	July 18

Wedding Anniversaries

Jayo and Taleen Washington	July 7
Jason and Rhonda Weeks	July 7
Victor and Brandy Peres	July 11
Brenda and Ed Thompson	July 11
Corby and Ericka Alexander	July 26

Rotary Anniversaries

Ruede Wheeler	57 years
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