

## **A Proud History of Redding East Rotary**

The Rotary Club of Redding East was established in 1970 under the sponsorship of the Rotary Club of Redding. An organizational meeting of the twenty six potential charter members was held on April 29, 1970. The Charter Officers of the new club were: Ernest Stump, President; Jim Simpson, Vice President; Ralph Olson, Secretary; and Robert Anderson, Treasurer. Directors were: Jack Alward, William Clabaugh, Fred Haynes, Hutch Hutchinson, Alfred Wilkinson and Jess Underwood. Redding East then was considered to be a provisional club and met regularly thereafter, pending issuance of its Charter, which was dated May 15, 1970, but which was not received until its official presentation by District Governor Dick Moor during the Charter Night Banquet at the Civic Auditorium on June 26, 1970.

### **CHARTER MEMBERS:**

Jack Alward	Ralph Olson
Robert Anderson	L. E. Pasley
Robert Bertoldi	Kelley Pierce
Robert Burt	Tommy Reed
Clair Carter	William Simmons
William Clabaugh	E. J. Simpson
Hal Cleland	George Sisterhenm*
David Craft	Arthur Stauber
Joseph DeWitte	Philip Stevenson
Fred Haynes	Ernest Stump
Alton "Hutch" Hutchinson	Jess Underwood
John Malone	Don Van Doren
Larry Manahan	Alfred Wilkinson

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### **PAST PRESIDENTS MESSAGES:**

#### **Howard Taylor (1976-1977)**

The most memorable event for my year was my demotion. They carried me out in a coffin draped with a Japanese flag. High points during my year were seeing Fred Haynes serving as District Governor, having the District Conference in Fairfield and remembering all the wonderful fellowship our club shared that year.

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#### **Warren Lane (1977-1978)**

The biggest event I can remember was when our club pledged to get new band uniforms for Enterprise High School. One of the ways we did it was to stage a marathon Christmas Concert during Christmas vacation. Our club was actively responsible, through member pledges and other events, for raising about 70% of the \$10,000+. As for fellowship, ask some of the "old timers" about "Senator Hazeleur."

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#### **Bill Hazeleur (1979-1980)**

During my term the Hawn Avenue Park Project was started with the help of a lot of hands-on work by club members. The Weekly Bulletin was revived and sent to members on a regular basis thanks to Dr. Brooks. The club membership made a serious effort and increased financial contributions and participation to Rotary International. Club members totaled 55. Thanks to the involvement of members' wives in the planning, the club had many social functions.

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**Don Brooks (1980-1981)**

Two events during my year were gratifying, finishing the Hawn Avenue Park project (erecting playground equipment) and raising enough money to give the Shasta Blood Bank a much needed centrifuge. A funny moment happened on Secretary's Day. Without any warning, secretaries of some of the members and other women took over my meeting.

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**Charlie Clinkenbeard (1983-1984)**

During my term, Redding East was involved in many service projects. Our club built a handicap-accessible riding arena on some property on Old Alturas Road. For International Service, Redding East, with the other Redding (Rotary) clubs, continued working in Mulege, Mexico to build a school and veterinary, dental and optometry clinics. One of my funniest memories was during my demotion when they brought me into the meeting blindfolded and riding backwards on a mule.

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**Larry Wakefield (1985-1986)**

The Mulege project was still progressing during my term...this time we brought down truckloads of medical supplies for the optometry clinic. Also during my year, I hosted the Rotary International President in my home.

My funniest memory of my year was when I came 'flyin' into office (as part of my nomination speech) on Boss Harley Wheels and left office in a coffin (demotion) dressed in a damp newspaper suit.

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**Chris Corrigan (1986-1987)**

During my year, Redding East hosted a very successful District Conference. The apron gimmick we use now in order to start a Paul Harris Sustaining Membership was begun during my term. A fun time...before my campaign speech, I entered the meeting riding in a Redding police car complete with lights and siren going.

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**Don Free (1987-1988)**

The most memorable accomplishment of my year was raising \$32,000 for R.I.'s Polio Plus Project. Jim Salini was the director for Redding East and he figured we needed to raise about \$360 from each member to hit the mark. Through the members' generosity, we raised over \$42,000 for Polio Plus. Something I'll always remember was everyone pitching in with their individual talents and being always ready to help. I've always found speaking (in front of groups) tough but our members made it a lot easier.

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**Jim Salini (1988-1989)**

My year had a lot of memorable events starting with the restroom project along the Sacramento River Trail. It was a good club effort with great participation by many members. Two meetings during my year stand out. One meeting we recognized our Charter members (both active and inactive) and another meeting was designated "Past President's Day" where we invited all the past presidents of Redding East to attend and be recognized.

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**Francis Remedios (1989-1990)**

It was during my term that the club finished the River Trail Project. Jim Salini and I were presented with our portraits framed inside toilet seats to commemorate the occasion. This was the first time the club officially sponsored the Russian exchange visit. Art Capriotti had unofficially begun the exchange earlier, but it was during my year the exchange was officially approved. Also, I can remember Jim Salini first

proposed that the club sponsor a major fundraising event that he had seen in Oregon, a Duck Derby. The race itself was formulated then and was run during Bill Hall's year.

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### **Neal Sternberg (1991-1992)**

I was fortunate to have many events that I feel were noteworthy, but the ones that stand out were the Senior Lunches and, of course, the Ducky Derby. The Senior Lunches were a tremendous opportunity to provide Seniors with a special day of recognition. Seniors are often forgotten in our society and we need to bring back the traditional values of family. And of course, the largest single fundraising event in the Rotary world, the Ducky Derby.

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### **Ed Harrison (1992-1993)**

A few noteworthy stand-outs during my term as President; my great Board of Directors who put up with my long, long weekly meetings; the club's increasing support of Enterprise High School through scholarships, Camp Royal leadership camp, sponsoring a student to the World Affairs Seminar and the Job Shadowing Program; the delight of sponsoring a long-term exchange student, Anna Sjostrom from Sweden, and sponsoring my daughter, Nikki, on a 6-week exchange to Austria. I'm most proud of organizing and completing two international projects; sending a Redding student/adult group to the Altai Mountains in Siberia and getting 15 adults to go on a three-week exchange to St. Petersburg, Moscow, and Novosibirsk, Siberia.

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### **Bill Evanhoe (1993-1994)**

Being the President of Redding East Rotary has been a little of a surprise to me. I have found that I became somewhat removed from the members of the club; at every meeting, I would be in front of the group rather than a part of it and I would be always delegating the jobs rather than participating. For this reason, I am looking forward to "returning to the ranks." On the other hand, being President has given me an opportunity to observe the tremendous output by the members of the club and to participate firsthand in the operations of Rotary outside of the local area. There is no question that I would not have had a successful year without the work of the Board of Directors and all of their committees. I also enjoyed participating in District operations and became more aware of the international aspect of Rotary.

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### **Jim Murphy (1994-1995)**

My year as president of Redding East Rotary was one of the most rewarding experiences of my life. It has shown me one of the most important things Rotary does. Rotary brings together a divergent group of people of different political affiliations, religions and professions. These people ignore their differences, become friends and come together to work on common goals for the community and the world. The highlights from this year, for me, are too numerous to mention. The most rewarding thing was to see members' efforts in every project we tackled and the successful completion of each project.

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### **Howard Kirkpatrick (1995-1996)**

Redding East Rotary started its second quarter century and it has been a pleasure to serve as President. Early in the year, I became known as the "Phantom President" but the Board of Directors and club members covered for me when I needed the help.

Most of our members and families took advantage of the CPR classes as our major project. A new program this year was the First Annual Scholarship Auction which raised over \$5,000. Great job, Redding East! The continued support for the Youth Exchange Program, Camp Royal, Student of the Month,

scholarships, Sober Grad Night, Senior Projects, and many more projects was appreciated as well. Our work project was the landscaping of the YMCA pool and was a great success because each member stepped forward in the true spirit of Rotary and accepted individual responsibility. "Individual Responsibility- Take It and Teach It"

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### **Bill Wright (1996-1997)**

During my year as President of Redding East Rotary, I truly enjoyed my membership and participation in Rotary. I appreciated working with the Board of Directors and the chairmen of more than 55 committees that constitute our Rotary Club.

Major highlights of my year include the Ambassadorial Scholarship Program, the Scholarship Funds Investment Committee, and the Youth Exchange Program. The Ambassadorial Scholarship Committee selected an outstanding young lady who was chosen by District 5160 to represent Rotary on an ambassadorial exchange to Costa Rica. Our representative truly advocated "Service Above Self" with her initiation of the wheelchair donation program.

This year our club organized the Scholarship Funds Investment Committee to develop and implement policies and procedures for our three scholarship funds. In 1996-1997, Redding East Rotary raised over \$7,000, increasing the scholarship funds to approximately \$80,000. We now have a plan in place for our club to build on for the future.

The Youth Exchange program was very special this year as my son Eric, went on a short-term exchange to France. Eric was "born" into RER 16 years ago when I was a new Rotarian and my wife and I looked forward to the day when our children could be participants in this wonderful program.

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### **Jerry Peters (1997-1998)**

From the International Conference in Scotland to my demotion, there is no way a Rotary year could be more rewarding or fun. I had a great time all the time!!! I hope you all did too. Just how much fun did you have??? I have always been impressed with all that Redding East Rotary does.

Too many things to list, but one special thing this year was adopting the Special Olympics athletes: buying their medals and baseball uniforms, and feeding them at their swim meet, bowling and basketball tournaments. I will never forget putting a medal around the neck of a little girl at the swim meet and getting a huge hug. Another highlight was participating in a district-wide literacy program that put a dictionary in the hands of every third grader in the district (28,000). Our club personally handed out 640 dictionaries to our local third graders.

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### **Virgil Weld (1998-1999)**

I would like to thank all of the members of Redding East Rotary for allowing me to be their President. I have been President of several other organizations over the years, but this one has to be the most rewarding in my life. Every member of our club should aspire to the office; they should not wait, but rather should volunteer to serve on the Board of Directors and ultimately to serve as President. The training that you obtain at the President-Elects Training Seminar (PETS) and the District Assembly and other seminars is truly a rewarding and educational experience. The International Conference is truly an eye-opening experience that makes you so acutely aware of how truly international we really are. I would highly recommend that any Rotarian plan to attend this wonderful event. We kicked off the year with a great Fourth of July fireworks party and followed it up with a family picnic in Viola. This was followed by a fantastic holiday party at the Howard and Donna Taylor residence. How can I ever thank the members

for their participation in the fence building project at The Treehouse Senior Citizens Center? In the eighteen years of my membership in Rotary, I have never seen such a great turnout of member participation. All indications were that nearly 70 percent of our members participated in the worthwhile project. The seniors who benefited were so gracious and felt so comforted that they decided to forego other security projects that they were considering.

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### **Mike Wells (1999-2000)**

After being a member of Redding East Rotary for 25 years with perfect attendance, I was finally convinced to take on the challenge of being the President. I already knew that it was a big job and would take a lot of time and effort to do it well. My attendance at the International Conference in Singapore was fun, educational and inspiring. It really showed me what a great organization Rotary is in the world and how much it truly promotes World Peace through the interaction and communication between the "ordinary" members of local Rotary clubs, who share the same basic values and follow the principles of Rotary. I arrived home eager to be the best President our club ever had. Then the reality of all of the things you need to do and stay on top of as President started to hit home. Fortunately because of a great Board of Directors and good committee chairman, all of our normal club activities occurred. Our big work project, to paint the multi-purpose room at Enterprise High School, did ultimately get done, in Marge Beck's year. Just as I was really getting the hang of being President and about to blossom into greatness in the middle of my year, I was diagnosed with prostate cancer, which sort of distracted me and then to help matters I had to have a two way bypass in order to have my prostate surgery. Needless to say my charge to greatness as President waned, but probably the best part of my Rotary Presidency was going to occur. First, most members were willing to accept my Presidency without it being the greatest, secondly, all of the members pitched in to make my year great anyhow, and thirdly, Marge Beck, President Elect, stepped up and became de-facto President for a good portion of my year.

The help and support I received from the members and especially Marge made my year very successful and one I can be very proud of, even if it didn't meet all of my expectations. It is that outpouring of help and support and how it made me feel during some tough times that will make it one of the greatest years of my life. Thank you for that opportunity.

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### **Margaret Beck (2000-2001)**

Jerry Peters was right; this was my most fun Rotary year! I had a great time, mostly due to the fact that our members are so supportive. You put up with my little dress up pranks (Mack the Knife, Estelle Prudebottom & Palm Springs Honey). While you weren't too keen on singing, I noticed we could set the tone of the meeting by the music we played (and you did sing to my granddaughter)!

The International conference was in Buenos Aires. I was awestruck by the magnitude of our organization. It was truly an inspiring and exciting experience. It made me that much more proud of our 100% Rotary Foundation participation.

RER had a record year in Ducky Derby ticket sales and became the official host of the race. The donation of the car was a very proud moment. We maintained our classic projects: Special Olympics, Holiday Baskets, Camp Royal, I-House Students, Sober grad, Guess Dinner and of course our lovely inbound Finnish student, Annie Salmi, perennial raffle winner. Our outbound student, Jennifer Larson took a big step in opening up an exchange with Thailand. Our Relay for Life team had a blast, especially since it followed Sober Grad night. Sprig was jam-packed! Mary Burger & Don Brooks did an outstanding job producing our very entertaining bulletin, weekly.

The death of Bill Thomas, our door chairman for over 20 years was a real loss to our club. A fabulous auction and solid investment performance grew the scholarship fund to allow us to grant six \$1000 awards. We incorporated the Redding East Rotary Foundation, a 501(c) 3 organizations to expand the tax benefits to club members and the community service projects. We spent \$32,536 on community service. The EHS snack bar is the most visible project. I want to be in that building in an earthquake! We funded many long-term projects that will benefit great numbers of people Shasta Community Health Center, Cascade Theater, Library, Plunge Sand Volleyball Court, NVCSS transition loan program and more). We funded a matching grant for Sao Paulo Hospital the home club of one of our former YES students in Brazil and helped little Adonis when he was here from Mexico for surgery.

Finally, the demotion proved this club knows how to have fun! I'm not sure what I liked best, Lady Godiva's horse, the Village People, the coronation, the slide show or the political spoof. I will never forget it. What talent!

I know this is long, but these seem to have evolved into our club history, so it's probably good to get it all down. Most of all, I want to say "Thank You" for the opportunity to be a member of this club. I can say unequivocally that I have met some of the finest persons here. I consider it a privilege to be a member of Redding East Rotary.

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### **Frank Lehmann (2001-2002)**

First off, I want to thank each and every member of RER for letting me get to know them better during my year. The friendship and cooperation one shares with the membership is by and away more than worth the commitment one makes by being President. As Jerry Peters told me during the conversation in which I was asked to run, you will have more fun during your term than any other year as a member. How True!

The Bleachers at Juniper Academy were one of many of the "hands on projects." This major project was accomplished through the purchase of quality materials, and even more quality in labor provided by RER members. We have received many accolades from Redding West Little League and Juniper Academy for the fine addition to their facilities.

Among other hands on projects were: Preparing meals for the Special Olympics, giving blood during the 9-11-01 crisis and beyond, buying and assembling Christmas baskets for the needy, purchasing gifts for the Angel Tree Project, taking on the responsibility for running the Ducky Derby the most successful fundraiser in the Rotary World, as well as assisting Enterprise High School in its Senior projects, Camp Royal, and Sober graduation projects and to not forget, sponsoring Exchange Students overseas, as well as assisting in the sponsoring of Rotary's Rotaplast surgical outreach program. Whew! What a year. We were attacked as a Nation, lost some great fellows as a club, yet we still keep going strong.

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### **Parrish Malson (2002-2003)**

Rotary is a reflection of the members and the interests of those spearheading an effort to better our community, nation and world. Fostering a sense of fellowship and fun has been a key theme underlying this year. Our picnic, Cinco de Mayo party and Golf tournament were all instrumental in forging an alliance of friendship and then fellowship.

Our world was made better by members generous funding for our last push to eradicate Polio and support of Rotary International. Locally, we spearheaded the effort to establish a new children's

playground in Caldwell Park. We demonstrated commitment to fine Redding East Rotary traditions by recognizing achievement through The Redding East Rotary Scholarship Funds, Student of the Month for Enterprise High School, and Camp Royal. Our club was saddened by the loss of an outstanding Rotarian and Past President, Francis Remedios.

Forging links intercultural, we sponsored Dominika Mackowiak, our exchange student from Poland. Persistence and hard work were the order of the day with the successful completion of the 13dl Ducky Derby. When our nation went to war, we supported our troops by partnering with the Red Cross to transport care packages to our soldiers. In Barcelona, Spain, for the Rotary International accomplish, not only can it happen but it will happen!

Thanks go to a myriad of members for their sometimes tireless efforts to inspire Service Above Self. It was a true pleasure to serve this past year as your President.

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### **Don Selke (2003-2004)**

I want to express my appreciation to all of the members of Redding East Rotary and their families for making this a fantastic year. As usual, the Ducky Derby was successful raising approximately \$128,000 for Redding area schools. The annual Scholarship Auction raised an extraordinary amount of approximately \$55,000 consisting of about \$30,000 raised by the members together with a gift from an anonymous benefactor who was secured by Geoff Ball. Redding East Rotary awarded eight \$1,250 scholarships to Enterprise High School graduates this year.

The Club designated the playground at Caldwell Park as its Rotary Centennial Project. This project commenced during Parrish Malson's Rotary year and will continue into Pat Wallner's Rotary year because of its magnitude. Another exciting undertaking was our commitment along with the Rotary Club of Redding Sunrise to host Russian delegates for the Productivity Enhancement Program. The delegates will be in Redding 24 days during October and November 2004 to learn about the construction industry. Other Redding area Rotary clubs are participating in planning and carrying out this program. Some other highlights of the year were adding a student of the month award for Liberty Christian High School, a teacher of the year award for Enterprise High School, hosting Amparo Ouvina as the English-Spanish intern from the University of Mexico City, and hosting Mario Mendes as our exchange student from Brazil.

At the District Conference, Redding East Rotary received recognition in all four avenues of service for large urban clubs: second place community service, second place vocational service, third place international service, and third place club service. What a year!

It was an honor and certainly a pleasure to serve as President of Redding East Rotary.

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### **Patrick Wallner (2004-2005)**

What a great year for Redding East Rotary. Our primary focus was directed to the administrative procedures of the club. Steve Pitman and Keith Ritter made outstanding contributions to this effort. Not only did they get the "House" in order, they accomplished it in record time. From accurate and understandable financial reports to setting up and maintaining the Club Admin Software, these two Rotarians did a first class job.

We finalized moving the duties and responsibilities of the Foundation Against Substance Abuse board of directors to our club this year. Members of Redding East Rotary Club now make up the entire board for foundation. Marge Remedios is the President Myron Tisdell is the Vice President.

My hat is off to John Oakes, Keith Ritter, Murray Salisbury, the members of our club, the Redding Sunrise Rotary and Redding Rotary for their help in hosting the Russian PEP delegation. Their visit was focused on the construction industry with trips to local manufacturers and companies that provide materials and resources to the building trades. What a cultural experience that was!

Our club's Centennial project was completed at Caldwell Park. The project known as Jump River was a multi-term effort led by Larry Hopson. Almost every Rotarian in our club participated on some level, whether donating materials or getting their hands dirty, we should be proud of our accomplishment. This first phase of Jump River was valued at over \$250,000. We should all be proud that we have made a difference that will last for generations.

The Swaziland Project led by Dr. Dennis Mihalka was a matching grant program through Rotary International that raised a total of \$67,000. Our club contributed over \$11,000 to the effort through donations and Paul Harris contributions. This money was matched by our District and RI. This project will build homes for orphans that live in Swaziland. AIDS has taken its toll on the adult population leaving an extraordinary number of orphans in the country.

Our Exchange Student Mady Beduneau from Orvault France was another highlight of our Rotary year. Mady was so shy when she first arrived here and in just a few short months we had her leading the club in a Happy Birthday song each month, she did not want to go home at the end of the year and she came back to Redding to spend her vacation. That's what I call bonding.

And finally, congratulations to John Oakes as Rotarian of the Year in 2005. John was the chair of International Service and headed up the Russian PEP visit. Through his leadership we not only succeeded in accomplishing our goals but our club was asked to consider hosting the event again because of the innovative ways that we managed the project.

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### **Connie Regnell (2005-2006)**

First and foremost, I would like to thank all the members of Redding East Rotary for giving me the opportunity to serve as President during Rotary's centennial year. During the past year we continued with all of our wonderful community activities. Ducky Derby was once again a huge success. Special Olympics, Sober Grad, Holiday Baskets and Camp Royal continue to be high on the priority list for Redding East Rotary members.

Service above Self crossed club boundaries this year with the cooperation of Redding East, Redding West and Redding Rotary clubs building a Habitat For Humanity house in Redding. Through the coordination of John Oakes and his personal contacts, we adopted 10 teachers, along the Mississippi coastal area, to help them rebuild their classrooms after the devastation caused by Katrina.

The youth in our community continue to be our most valuable resource. We supported our youth with contributions to the Youth Violence Leadership Camp; Plus One Mentors' camp program; Women's Refuse for playground equipment; and security cameras at Kids Kingdom.

Lastly, my personal thank you to Hutch Hutchinson, for taking care of the front table every week; Roxanne Burke and Darcie Gore, for arranging our programs; Denise Yergenson, for the newsletter; all

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of the Board members and committee chairs; and Diane Guhy, Rotarian of The Year, for being a living example of "Service Above Self".

### **Myron Tisdel (2006-2007)**

It is an honor and a privilege to serve as president of Redding East Rotary. "Lead the Way," this year's theme of Rotary International, reflected the power of Rotarians to change the world and our community. My goal was to increase our club resources for the betterment of Redding through the spirit of volunteerism and service while making fun a part of all of our activities.

Thanks to Bill Haedrich and the Membership Committee we inducted eight new Rotarians and have a club comprised of community minded individuals who support the principles of our organization. Rotarians who believe in Service Above Self. Rotarians who realize that of the things we think, say or do to succeed it must first be true, second it must be fair, third it must build good will and better friendship, and fourth it must be beneficial to all concerned.

Some of the most satisfying Rotary experiences occurred on community projects. Terry Hansen, Larry Hopson and Jerry Peters found us a good one in the Sundial Informational Kiosks and Turtle Bay Trail Interpretative Signage project! This year we continued our long standing commitment to our community by distributing over 100 Christmas Baskets, helped at the Woman's Refuge Crab Feed and made sandwiches for the Special Olympics Basketball Tournament. We gave to the community Angel Tree project, gave blood and gave money to the Enterprise Lions Club Flag Endowment.

More important than community projects to our club are those activities involving the development of our communities youth. We have a long history in supporting our young citizens. For the first time, we offered scholarships to both Enterprise and Liberty Christian High Schools. We recognized outstanding students from both of the high schools we sponsor. We sponsored inbound and an outbound Exchange Students, supported Camp Royale students and two Interact clubs as well as Enterprise Senior Projects, a Mock Trial Team and EHS Sober Graduation.

Our Ducky Derby is the premiere club community project in all of Rotary International. This year we raised \$200,910 to go for the prevention of substance abuse and our youth in our community. Marge Beck was recognized as "Rotarian of the Year" for her leadership role in this event.

We contributed to Rotary International to help meet the goal of eradicating polio worldwide and supported the Rotary District 5160 LN-4 Hand project.

Our summer party, our winter Bunko Festival and the Tres de Mayo party were great fun. The "Moonlight on the River" gala dinner and dance was a terrific culmination of a wonderful year.

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### **Bev Stupek (2009-2010)**

What a special year to Celebrate Redding East Rotary, our theme during my year as president! It was the 40<sup>th</sup> anniversary year for our club and the 20<sup>th</sup> anniversary of our premier community service fundraiser, the Ducky Derby. I was honored and grateful to serve as your president, especially given the sad and unexpected circumstances under which I assumed the leadership role. This was supposed to be Terry Quibell's year as RER president but he passed away unexpectedly two months before his term would have begun. My ability to lead the club with virtually no preparation time is a testament to the quality of our members and the way they all stepped up in service to RER!

We like to think that in many ways it still was Terry's year. We completed "his" community service project, building a new ticket booth for Enterprise High School in the heat of summer with recordbreaking speed and cost-efficiency. This was due to excellent leadership by Jerry Peters and much generous support in honor of Terry!

In trying to set the anniversary celebration tone, I brought back some of my favorite fun and frolic from past presidencies-for example, Marge (and Steve) Beck provided old time rock & roll music for us to play at the start of each meeting; Keith Ritter kept treating (pelting?!) our guests with the "club candy" he brought to RER (M&Ms); and Jim Salini returned to lead our anniversary programs, our new member inductions and our Paul Harris awards. In all, 24 Paul Harris awards were given to 19 Redding East Rotarians and/or family members, thanks to Chad Thompson's great organization of our International work.

We also instituted **new** fun and frivolity-for example, we named our teams instead of numbering them this year (remember Ed Harrison's Pub Crawl Kings and Les Melburg's Pole Dancers?); a Team Points Competition encouraged major involvement in the club (rewarding everything from team decorations/spirit and socials to blood donations and participation in RER work projects); I gave the club "The Clap" (our own special hand-clap of unity that resulted in a push-up for those who "forgot" to participate); and who can forget our "Marge Doll" rotating spirit trophy (named in honor of ultraactive team captain Marge Remedios) and the Marge Doll video spoof ala "Mr. Bill" that Les and his cohorts were inspired to produce?!

We experienced our best year ever in membership growth, an increase of 13%, thanks to our two membership committees, and historic participation in our quarterly blood drives, thanks to Frank Lehmann. Ducky Derby, led by Ducky Queen Marge Beck, raised \$220,000 for area substance abuse prevention and youth development programs. Jerry Peters and Jim Murphy hosted the first annual "RER Fun Olympics". We installed smoke detectors in hundreds of local homes in need, in partnership with other Redding Rotary clubs. And Charlie Menoher spearheaded our first club strategic planning process, RER Visioning.

Every team had at least one social and some partied together as many as 13 times! That was new for RER. We took a trip down memory lane with a BBQ at the Museum of Historic Rust, courtesy of Pat Wallner. We had our largest turnout ever for the Christmas Party at Howard Taylor's. And our 40<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Party/Scholarship Dinner Auction at The McConnell Foundation raised \$20,000 for the RER Scholarship Fund. Our super-sized activity level and anniversary programs could not have happened without the incomparable Party Guy, Steve Hagenbaugh, and his Social Committee! RER has also really entered the digital age now. Because of club secretary Diane Guhy's work with our database and Denise Yergenson as our webmaster, our website is the tool for all our communication-emails, newsletter, meeting notes and club directory. Because we're all digital now, I get to write a longer presidential recap than in the past; there aren't any printing/space restrictions.

We had too many losses in the club this year. In addition to President-Elect Terry Quibell, charter member Alton "Hutch" Hutchinson also passed away. And several members lost spouses, children and other loved ones. We did them all proud with our usual excellent community service - Holiday Baskets; SCWR Crab Feed; Special Olympics; Students of the Month; Scholarships (7 at \$1700 each); Sober Graduation; the Angel Tree; a growing Interact Club (EHS) and new Rotaract Club (Shasta College); Youth Exchange inbound (Thales Nunes de Assuncao of Brazil) and outbound (Lona Marin to Japan); Camps Royal and Venture!

As everyone says, this truly was my best year ever in Rotary! I loved standing before our members every week wearing the (plastic) tiara they gave me, surrounded by all the trappings they endowed upon their "Queen Bev" or "Queen B", as I was dubbed. We did serious work together with major accomplishments to show for it and, boy, did we have FUN along the way! The District Governor honored our club with many Certificates of Achievement at year end-recognizing our work in Vocational Service, Community Service, Youth Services, Membership Services, with a special award for our Ducky Derby. I was, personally, moved beyond words to receive the District 5160 Governor's Service Above Self Award for 2009-2010!

And best of all was the **privilege** of getting to know every single one of the members of RER so much better this year!! THANK YOU for your service and your support, and yes, even the crazy **RER Prom** you concocted for my demotion. Long Live the 1970's! NO, wait 2009-2010 was even better!!!

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### **Charles Mehoher (2010-2011)**

I was told repeatedly (as I prepared to be Rotary President), as president you really get a different perspective of what Rotary is all about. Indeed, I never worked harder as a Rotarian and had more fun, but I also gained a much greater appreciation for what is a great passion for service above self . . . and what a tremendous group of Rotarians comprise Redding East Rotary.

The Rotary International theme for the year - Building Communities, Bridging Continents- provided the basis for the year. Each week we recognized community leaders who gave generously of their time and energy in providing area youth with caring adults, safe places, and productive activities, the foundation of the 40 Developmental Assets. Over the year, over fifty (50) community members were recognized as "Community Builders" for their commitment to area youth. Using the parable of the "starfish", each community member's work in the community was highlighted and each received a starfish pin.

Led by Jerry Peters and his crew of volunteers, the community project was purchasing and installing "Drug Drop Boxes" in three locations across the city. However, due to budget constraints within RPD, the drug collection was never initiated (Sheriff Bosenko was finally moving forward with the concept in early 2014).

An effort was made to bring some variety to weekly meetings: meeting mixers, spirit competitions, and a "Stretch you Investment" competition. In this competition, each team was presented \$100 and had three months to grow their seed money through any number of different activities. The competition raised about \$3,000 for the scholarship fund. On a fun note, Les Melburg gave me a shirt with his company logo on it early in the Rotary year and this resulted in a shirt given to me most weeks by the team in charge. RER also hosted a joint meeting for all Redding clubs with featured Rotary International speaker, Jean Irwin.

2010-2011 was an exciting and rewarding experience for me . . . and an honor indeed to serve as president for such a grand group of Redding East Rotarians.

Thank you!

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### **Allyn Clark (2011-2012)**

During the 2011-12 year Redding East Rotary was recognized as the number one club in District 5160 for Fundraising. This was the result of Ducky Derby in September 2010. We celebrated district 5160's 75<sup>th</sup>

anniversary at the Cascade Theater in Downtown Redding with Cliff Dochterman as our keynote speaker. We increased membership to 94 members, if even for a little while, and for the clubs efforts President Allyn Clark did a flash mob on the Sundial Bridge in a pink tutu.

The club donated funds in support of Redding Rotary International project of a neonatal unit for a hospital in Columbia. And Redding East Rotary Foundation awarded 12 \$1,500 scholarships to Enterprise and Liberty Christian students. President Allyn attended the Rotary International Conference in New Orleans, Louisiana!

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### **Chad Thompson (2012-2013)**

"This next handwriting sample I evaluated was quite interesting" explained our distinguished program presenter Marilyn Keeton, Graphologist and Handwriting Analyst. "The slight slant to the *T*'s, the soft curvy tail at the end of each word and the large swoop on each capital *R* all signify one dominate personality trait in this Rotarian." After a long pause, Marilyn coyly but yet quite confidently said... "Sensuality".

Parrish earning the nick name *Mr. Sensual* (didn't help matters much when he won the end-of-meeting gift, which quite fittingly was a free body waxing) was nothing short of hilarious and our monthly beer tasting meetings were always a blast. I loved our weekly featured "This Rotarian", which were always favorably insightful, and especially enjoyed our incredibly rewarding hands-on projects with the Good News Rescue Mission, One Safe Place and Foxtail Park.

However, all that being said, it all pales in comparison to what it meant to me to be the president of this great club. It provided me the unique opportunity to become closer to each of our club members. To be welcomed into a family that truly cares about our community, our nation and our world. Where "Service-Above-Self" is more than just a slogan. Being president of RER was a true honor and I walked away from my year a better person because of it.

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### **Chris Carter (2013-2014)**

Wow! "Engage Rotary - Change Lives" was the International theme for the year. I believe every Rotarian was engaged and involved in some way in our Club's activities. Thank you all 95 Rotarians for a fabulous year and for engaging Rotary!

Upon returning from the International Convention in Lisbon, Portugal we began the Rotary year with my goals of "Looking to the Future" and "Honoring the Past". Along with the many activities of the Club this year we added a few new ones.

We looked to the future and invested in our youth by helping to purchase new baseball equipment for the Shasta Dam Area Little League Challenger Division and by sponsoring an individual team.

We invested in youth by donating to the Burkina Faso Project to help fund the expansion of school buildings for over 500 children in two villages in Burkina Faso, West Africa.

We invested in youth by donating to Hooves for Harmony, providing therapeutic horse riding for children with diverse abilities.

We invested in youth by creating "The Shasta Dam Bridge Ride" and planned the 1st annual bike ride fundraiser. We created this community fund raising event to continue to grow our 3 Scholarship Funds so we can continue to award meaningful yearly scholarships to north state high school seniors in order to overcome the high cost of college expenses. This year we awarded 10 scholarships of \$1,700.00 each to college bound students.

We honored the past by having a fun activity each meeting called "Who am I", highlighting different Rotarians each week in pictures, deeds and words. We also honored past presidents by letting many of them run some of the meeting throughout the year the way they used to when they were President. We honored the past by reviewing, in pictures, the Rotarians of the 70's, 80's and 90's at the last 3 meetings of the year.

We honored the past by dedicating this Redding East Rotary year to a past charter member of the club, Clair Carter and spouse Ellis Carter, who were my parents.

I loved every minute of this Rotary year as your President.

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### **Dave Ercolano (2014-2015)**

"Light up Rotary" that was our Rotary International Theme for the year. Not only did we light up Rotary during my year, but we set it on fire!

Thanks to all club members for stepping up to the plate. Our club theme during my year was "Put me in coach, I'm ready to play". Everyone got off the bench and contributed in some way to help make so many "fun" memories!

From "Plywood Dave", (thanks Les Melburg), to my Secret Service Team, from Sydney Australia (International conference) to Reno Nevada (District conference), from Duck Derby(thanks Marge Beck and Marge Remedios), to the Shasta Dam Bridge ride (thanks Keith Ritter and Andy Main), from Third Thursday Socials to the multi-club collaborated socials. From the Christmas party (thanks Marge Remedios) to the Cinco De Mayo party (thanks Bob Meissner). From the Bocce Ball Tournament (thanks Theresa Muth and Ed Harrison) to the Poker Tournament (thanks Chris Haedrich and Randall Hempling), from the Special Olympics (thanks Jerry Peters) to park clean-up project (thanks Larry Hopson). From our awesome exchange student, Luisa Garcia (thanks (Cathy Grindsaff) to our I-House students (thanks Les Melburg and all host families).

I could go on and on. This is just the short list..... so many more people to thank for all the events not mentioned. One last thank you to Chris Carter, my mentor, for an awesome demotion party... and to Bev Stupek Assistant District Governor Extraordinaire for the great book of memories.

In closing I just want to say what an honor it was to serve as the President of Redding East Rotary for the 2014-2015 year..... a year I will always remember as one of the most fun and best year of my life.

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### **Eric Woodstrom (2015-2016)**

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### **Andy Main (2016-2017)**

During my year as Rotary President, I got to know better the 89 members of Redding East Rotary and discovered why this club is so important in the Rotary World. Our membership represents the best that Rotary has to offer. It is a mix of young and old, him and her, past and present, left and right, less and more, all coming together to fulfill the Rotary motto of "Service above Self".

During my year as club president, I became a member of "The Perfect 10", a group of 10 North State Rotary club presidents that represent Red Bluff, Redding, Anderson, Hayfork and Weaverville. We met once a month for a year and shared stories and the activities of each of our clubs. I developed good friendships and relationships with other club presidents who, like I, had made the commitment to "Serve a little bit more" than ordinary.

My year started with a trip to Seoul, South Korea in May of 2016 that my wife Nancy I will never forget. 10 days of SOLID ROTARY. The club paid for my air fare and hotel room. We met Rotarians from all over the world. We met Rotary International President K.R. "Ravi" Ravindran, and members of the Rotary International board of directors and Club Presidents and President Elect's from all over the world gathered together in the Spirit of Rotary to celebrate president Ravi Ravindran's annual Rotary theme of "Rotary Serving Humanity". What an inspirational way to start the one-year journey of my presidency. We enjoyed spending time with other North State Rotarians who braved the travel to a foreign country to learn about all the fantastic things we do all over the world. We came home with a great appreciation of the diversity of Rotary and the almost unbounding spirit of a large organization that hold all dreams as possible when we work together. We were inspired by listening to speakers of World renown like the Prime Minister of South Korea and the Prime Minister of the United Nations.

My year as club president started out with setting goals for our club for membership and giving to the Rotary Foundation. I pushed for all members to establish personal goals for the club and for themselves in terms of giving. While I didn't reach all my goals during my year, we did achieve some club milestones in giving that exceeded all prior years. I am forever grateful to the members who stepped up to help make my year a great one.

It also started out with some fun with the Club Bell going missing on several occasions and had a LOT of fun chasing down the bandits and recovering the emblem of our club unity. I used as much technology as possible to prevent the bell from going missing, but it did manage to slip between my fingers for a few meeting and I was grateful for the "Extra" bell I purchased at the beginning of my year to thwart (Somewhat) the bandits efforts.

Highlights of my year including having Club International Zone 26 Coordinator Steven Solomon come to Redding in November and speak to 5 of the 10 clubs in the Perfect 10 about the Rotary Foundation and his personal experience as a Rotary Scholar and the opportunities Rotary provided him to meet and become friends with world leaders, Jane Goodall and Bishop Desmond Tutu. During his visit, we awarded 15+ members with the Paul Harris award. We were awarded a District Grant of \$15,000 dollars towards a Wedding and Music Pavilion for the Palo Cedro Park, a \$38,000 project.

During my year, we continued the tradition of our clubs giving to the community by participating in 2 Special Olympic Events, the Ducky Derby, Park Diem, the One Safe Place Crab Feed and the 4<sup>th</sup> annual Shasta Dam Bridge Ride. We also sponsored a Harlem Ambassador Basketball Game for the benefit of the Shasta College Rotaract Club where we invited the entire community to a fun Sunday afternoon basketball game between the Professionals and a local group of Rotarians and Celebrities. It was a mountain of fun.

I attended District workshops and the 100<sup>th</sup> anniversary of our District 5160 in Berkeley in March. I got

to know many of our district leaders including District President Fred Collignon and his wife Joan who have become special friends during the year. I felt a special connection to our Assistant District Governor Amelia Ward and became close to her over the year and look forward to helping her during her year as District Governor in two years. Redding East Rotary was especially represented at the District level by former RER presidents Bev Stupek, District Membership, Chad Thompson, Perfect 10 Foundation Representative and Dave Ercolano, as Membership Chair.

And saving the best for last, I want to extend a special thanks to the RER Board of Directors starting with past President Eric Woodstrom who was ALWAYS there with sage wisdom and advice and helped me whenever I asked. I have developed a new respect for ALL the RER past presidents, but especially Eric who helped me every step of the way when I had questions and always followed up with suggestions on how to handle the many challenges of club presidency. The board was made up of a strong group of Redding East Rotarians including Shannon Phillips as President Elect, Chris Haedrich as Club Secretary, Amy Morin as Club Treasurer (Arguably the two most challenging jobs in the club!). They fulfilled their duties with professionalism and competency that was always appreciated. Lisa Geraci served as our membership chair and our Area of Services Directors were Brian Crume as Foundation Chair, Tom Schmidt, Community Services, Ron Largent, Public Relations, Mike Sanders, Youth Services. I also would like to give special thanks for Denise Yergenson and Mike Sanders for their efforts posting photos to our website and Facebook every week.

Our club consists of over 20 committees under each area of service where different club member serve as committee chairman doing "The Work of a Rotary Club". I thank all the members for their support during my year as president, many whose efforts go unsung. I encourage all members to consider giving to the club management in the same way you give back to the community. Rotary is a fantastic way toward fulfilling your need to give back AND to go above and beyond.

Yours Truly

Andy Main, Club President 2016-2017

Happiness Matters

