

# History Timeline of the Rotary Club of Georgetown-Sun City

**Note:** This timeline contains errors and omissions. It was compiled with old notes, incomplete knowledge, and failing memories. Please contribute to its accuracy with corrections and additions. Special thanks to David Leas and Susan Ward for compiling our history in the early years. Their work is posted on our website at

<http://www.clubrunner.ca/portal/SitePages/SitePage.aspx?did=5870&pid=53685>

## Chartered.....

**October 1997**

President Bob Gooderl

Club Meeting Location: Scott & White

*Charter Members: Chuck McKay, Barb Bamsch Pekar, Norm Peters, and Adaire Wolf*

Current member who joined in 1997: Bill Miller

Highlights of the Rotary Year 1997-1998:

- ❖ The Rotary Club of Georgetown-Sun City chartered by Rotary International on October 24, 1997
- ❖ Charter Banquet on December 4 at Berry Creek Country Club
- ❖ Club Banner designed without a computer by Barb (Bamsch) Pekar
- ❖ First fundraiser – Sold fajitas and Cokes at Air Show
- ❖ First Rotarian of the Year: Adaire Wolf

## **1<sup>st</sup> Anniversary.....**

**October 1998**

President Hal Downey

Club Meeting Location: Scott & White

Current members who joined in 1998: Chris Mealy and Tom Powell

Highlights of the Rotary Year 1998-1999:

- ❖ First Group Study Exchange (GSE). Hosted two Korean citizens on GSE to Texas
- ❖ June 1999 First Art Auction Fundraiser – 150 attendees.
- ❖ Club's first donation --\$1000 to Georgetown Alzheimer Project
- ❖ Club donated to Extended School Enrichment (ESE) of Georgetown ISD

## **2<sup>nd</sup> Anniversary.....**

**October 1999**

President Chuck MacKay

Club Meeting Location: Scott & White

Current members who joined in 1999: George Olive and Rich Petro

Highlights of the Rotary Year 1999-2000:

- ❖ Bob Gooderl presented his American flag and base to the club
- ❖ July 4, 1999. \$1 for a chance to dunk the Del Webb Vice President
- ❖ Bill Bryce was District Governor for 1999-2000.
- ❖ Club continued Mentoring Program and Business Link Program
- ❖ March 2000. Second Art Auction.
- ❖ Gave \$2000 each to ESE of Georgetown ISD and Georgetown Alzheimer Project
- ❖ June 2000. First School Supply Project. Joint project with MEDICO to gather and send unwanted end-of-school-year school supplies to Honduras.
- ❖ Meals catered by Alycia Henneman
- ❖ Net gain of 10 members

## **3<sup>rd</sup> Anniversary.....**

**October 2000**

President David Ruffin

Club Meeting Location: Scott & White

Current members who joined in 2000: Tom Minor and John Skannal

Highlights of the Rotary Year 2000-2001:

- ❖ Fundraiser “A Taste of the Wurst.” Sold German sausage.
- ❖ March 2001. 3<sup>rd</sup> Art Exhibition and Auction
- ❖ Donated \$2000 to ESE of Georgetown ISD
- ❖ Donated \$2000 to Georgetown Alzheimer Project
- ❖ 2<sup>nd</sup> Annual School Supply Project to Honduras in cooperation with MEDICO
- ❖ Georgetown-Sun City reached \$18,000 in charitable donations including Rotary International (RI) grant for \$12,500.

## **4<sup>th</sup> Anniversary.....**

**October 2001**

President Doug Bryce

Club Meeting Location: Scott & White

Current members who joined in 2001: Bill Harrah and Harold Lawless

Highlights of the Rotary Year 2001-2002:

- ❖ First Breakfast With Santa. Firemen were dressed as clowns. Santa arrived on an antique fire truck and visited Children’s Choir at Christ Lutheran Church. Gifts were delivered on Christmas Day.
- ❖ 3<sup>rd</sup> Annual School Supply Project. Partnered with San Pedro Sula Rotary Club in Honduras. Also, medical supplies, walkers, wheelchairs and crutches were delivered through MEDICO.

- ❖ A total of 18 pallets of medical and school supplies were delivered to Honduras over three years.
- ❖ March 2002. Stacy Group and our club presented 4<sup>th</sup> Art Exhibition and Auction.
- ❖ First Service Above Self Awards bestowed upon George Olive and Barbara Pekar

## **5th Anniversary.....**

**October 2002**

**President Adaire Wolf**

Club Meeting Locations: Scott & White,

Masonic Lodge, Sun City Ballroom

Current members who joined in 2002: Jamie Mattison, Charley Ray, and Bob Selman

Highlights of the Rotary Year 2002-2003:

- ❖ Club “rotated” a lot this year – from meeting location to meeting location.  
Moved, moved, and moved. And survived!
- ❖ Second annual Breakfast With Santa (BWS). Held in Downtown Fire Station.  
Over 200 children and adults attended the breakfast. Santa arrived on “Betsy,” an antique 1922 Seagrave fire pumper.
- ❖ BWS proceeds funded toys and clothes for needy families
- ❖ Our club sponsored an Ambassadorial Scholar, Prakash Thaps, with funds.
- ❖ First Rotary Youth Leadership Award (RYLA) in District 5870 in many years.  
Our club identified a RYLA participant from Jarrell ISD.
- ❖ First club participation in the Bi-District Conference (Texas-Mexico). The Wolf and Leas families attended the conference in Nuevo Laredo.
- ❖ 5<sup>th</sup> Art Exhibition and Auction
- ❖ \$1000 from Art Auction was donated to Georgetown ISD Extended School Enrichment

- ❖ 4<sup>th</sup> Annual School Supplies for Honduras
- ❖ All three Georgetown presidents and the District governor were women!

## **6th Anniversary.....**

**October 2003**

President Barb Pekar

Club Meeting Location: Sun City Ballroom

Current members who joined in 2003: Don Mabray

Highlights of the Rotary Year 2003-2004:

- ❖ December 2003. Last meeting at the Masonic Lodge in San Gabriel Park
- ❖ 3<sup>rd</sup> Breakfast With Santa
- ❖ 6<sup>th</sup> Art Auction
- ❖ 5<sup>th</sup> Annual School Supplies for Honduras
- ❖ First Hill Country Fall Arts and Crafts Festival

## **7th Anniversary.....**

**October 2004**

President David Leas

Club Meeting Location: Sun City Ballroom

Current members who joined in 2004: Harold Bergh, Byron Calcote, Lou Gibson, Bill

Harries, Dick Retz, and Art Tragesser

Highlights of the Rotary Year 2004-2005:

- ❖ 4<sup>th</sup> Breakfast With Santa
- ❖ 7<sup>th</sup> Art Auction
- ❖ Hill Country Arts and Crafts Fairs
- ❖ Club participated in Matching Grants in the Bi-District Conference

- ❖ Over the years, the Art Auction raised over \$22,500 for 45 students to attend the ESE in Georgetown ISD

## **8th Anniversary.....**

**October 2005**

President John Skannal

Club Meeting Location: Sun City Ballroom

Current members who joined in 2005: None

Highlights of the Rotary Year 2005-2006:

- ❖ 5<sup>th</sup> Breakfast with Santa. Breakfast was at downtown fire station
- ❖ Art Auction
- ❖ Attended Bi-District Conference in Monterrey, Mexico
- ❖ Participated in a centennial project with the other Georgetown Clubs

## **9th Anniversary.....**

**October 2006**

President Bill Harrah

Club Meeting Location: Sun City Ballroom  
and the Oaks

Current members who joined in 2006: Stephen Brown, Alex Munson, and Bob Smith

Highlights of the Rotary Year 2006-2007:

- ❖ Bill Harrah was our Rotary president – without a computer!
- ❖ Bill asked Rotary International if he was the *only* club president without email.

The reply: “Oh, no, Mr. Harrah! There are two in Bangladesh and one in Sri Lanka.”

# **10th Anniversary.....**

**October 2007**

President Bill Miller

Club Meeting Location: The Oaks and Sun

City Ballroom

Current members who joined in 2007: Dick Will

Highlights of the Rotary Year 2008-2009:

- ❖ District Assistance Program (DAP) Grant went to Williamson County Children's Advocacy Center for equipment
- ❖ Three international matching grants: Matamoros Emergency Medical Equipment; Honduras Clean Drinking Water; and Support for Senior Citizen Home in Mexico
- ❖ Initiated February Valentine Polio Plus Happy Bucks, or "Let's-put-it-to-Lou" Challenge. Raised \$2603 this initial year.
- ❖ Established a 501(C)3 account through Chisholm Trail Community Foundation which allowed donations to be tax deductible
- ❖ Increased Breakfast with Santa to 21 families and 85 Georgetown children
- ❖ Gave library books to Jarrell ISD libraries
- ❖ Gave \$2,500 in college scholarships at Jarrell High School
- ❖ Sponsored RYLA students and meals
- ❖ 84% of membership were Sustaining Members of the Rotary Foundation Annual Fund by giving at least \$100
- ❖ Revised Club Bylaws to comply with Rotary International recommended changes
- ❖ Awarded "Best Cooperative Project" for 2007-2008 for Breakfast with Santa

## **11th Anniversary.....**

**October 2008**

President Chris Mealy

Club Meeting Location: Sun City Ballroom

Current members who joined in 2008: Don Bender, Gordon Bishop, John Chenoweth, Susan Ward, and Bob Weimer

Highlights of the Rotary Year 2008-2009:

- ❖ DAP Grant went to Ride-on Center for Kids (ROCK) for equipment.
- ❖ The club visited and met at ROCK for a weekly meeting
- ❖ Attended Bi-District Conference and wrote international matching grant for ecological stoves in Tamazunchale, Mexico
- ❖ Continued February Valentines Polio Plus and Lou Gibson Challenge

## **12th Anniversary.....**

**October 2009**

President Lou Gibson

Club Meeting Location: Sun City Ballroom

Current members who joined in 2009: Gary Brown, Robert Deffeyes, Bob Derse, Ron Ferreri, Bill Grusy, and Herman Knodel

Highlights of the Rotary Year 2009-2010:

- ❖ Established club's Permanent Endowment Fund with a beginning balance of \$25,000.
- ❖ Added 15 new members for a net increase of 6
- ❖ Earned Presidential Citation Award for exceeding our membership goal and excelling in the activities listed in each category for the award.
- ❖ International Matching Grant for Emergency First Aid Kits for elementary schools in Matamoros, Mexico.



- ❖ Chris Mealy led the Texas Group Study Exchange (GSE) to Japan
- ❖ 2010 Polio Plus Walk-a-Thon
- ❖ Earned Best Cooperative Project for Breakfast With Santa

## **13th Anniversary.....**

**October 2010**

President Tom Minor

Club Meeting Location: Cowan Creek

Current members who joined in 2010: Doyle Brown, Nathan Cabaniss, Mark Ramsey, John Rutan, and David Stuetelberg

Highlights of the Rotary Year 2010-2011:

- ❖ First year to meet in Cowan Creek
- ❖ DAP Grant devoted to a security system and large screen TV for Boys and Girls Club of Georgetown
- ❖ 2011 Polio Plus Walk-a-thon
- ❖ First year for Polio Plus Fundraiser
- ❖ Attended Bi-District Conference and wrote two international matching grants:  
Emergency Room Equipment in Matamoros, Mexico; Concrete Floors for Homes in Reynosa, Mexico

## **14th Anniversary.....**

**October 2011**

President Rich Petro

Club Meeting Location: Cowan Creek

Current members who joined in 2011: Kelly Barnett, Ray Bergman, Bob Elam, John Harding, Malcolm Hensley, Carolyn Holloway, Ben Hyde, Doug Lowe, Gary Sandercock, Pete Snelson, and Bill Thompson

### Highlights of the Rotary Year 2011-2012:

- ❖ DAP Grant devoted to the Annunciation Maternity Home for a security gate
- ❖ Donated to the Fund for the Bastrop Complex Fires September 2011
- ❖ International Matching grant in India to establish an eye clinic for the poor
- ❖ First Spring Fling Fundraiser: Dinner, auction, and raffle in Sun City Ballroom
- ❖ President Rich Petro attended the International Conference in New Orleans.
- ❖ Started strategic planning: developed mission statement, priorities, and goals
- ❖ Treasurer Linda Roberts moved to Florida and club members stepped up to problem solve solutions
- ❖ Began Membership Matters to engender pride in being a Rotarian
- ❖ Began M&M program to remind members about the importance of recruitment

## **15<sup>th</sup> Anniversary.....**

**October 2012**

**President Jamie Mattison**

**Club Meeting Location: Cowan Creek**

Current members who joined in 2012: Dan Barr, Bill Chapman, Glyn Hatley, Jerry Hobbs, Dennis Morgan, Scott Murphy, Mike Olgesbee, Gary Ross, James Scharf, Dennis Smith, Hugh Young

### Highlights of the Rotary Year 2012-2013:

- ❖ Finalized Club Strategic Plan to accomplish club goals
- ❖ Regularly scheduled Club Assemblies each quarter
- ❖ Updated Bylaws
- ❖ Attended Bi-District Conference to develop international matching grants
- ❖ Increased transparency by sharing goals, budgets, and financial statements
- ❖ Partnered in international grant for clean water in Honduras