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## Jim Bell

District Governor 2015-2016

# Rotary International District 5240

Ventura, Santa Barbara, San Luis Obispo, Kern Counties

Southern California, USA

Dear 2015-2016 Rotaract Presidents and Club Leaders:

**“Be a Gift to the World”** is the International Theme for Rotary this year and it is more than our theme. It is how we make a difference — every day, in every club, and every country we serve.You can engage, guide, motivate, and recognize your Club and members with our 2015-2016 Awards programs.

District 5240 for the first time is including Rotaract and Interact Clubs to participate in our awards recognition program. It is a way for the Rotaract Clubs to celebrate their accomplishments through the year with their host clubs and District. It is not a mandate, rather a way for your club and the District to celebrate and recognize your club at out awards ceremony June 25, 2016. The Rotary Clubs have their own set of criteria as well.

Remember, the Awards are for your Club, the District, and Rotary International to recognize achievements by your members.

2015-2016 Awards are based on the Five Avenues of Service and these Principles of Effective Clubs:

* Sustain and increase your membership base
* Implement projects that address the needs of our local and global communities.
* Develop leaders from within the Club, and encourage service to Rotary beyond the Club level

Awards Criteria are designed to be objective, measurable, and scaled by Club size, as follows:
**Club size: 1-25members = small; 26 and above members = large. (measurement taken July 1, 2015)**

The Awards give your Club leaders a “game plan” for being a more effective Club all year long. Making regular progress on the Awards criteria will help build pride in your Club and public awareness of Rotary service in your community; if you consistently track, announce, and publicize what you do.

**Believe me, Rotaract Club Leaders, when I encourage you to...**

* Participate in the Awards process!
* Appoint an Awards Chair or Committee for your Club
* Have your Awards Committee complete the forms as the year progresses. Some Clubs post completed awards criteria on their website, describing their accomplishments as they go.
* Submit your District Awards forms between April 16, 2016 and May 15, 2016.
* **Send your District 5240 Awards forms in Word or PDF format to:****rpschwartz@sbcglobal.net****.**

**Send photos of your club projects, events etc. in jpeg format. Forms and photos will be accepted April 16, 2016 to May 15, 2016. Send a back up CD or thumb drive with the awards criteria and photos to: Sandi Schwartz 2405 Snowdrop Drive Bakersfield, Ca 93311**

**Note- you are not required to complete every criteria listed. See top of the page for instructions on the number of criteria per membership size of your club**

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| District 5240 Awards & Recognition Program - Rotaract 2015-2016Recognition awards for Club actions/goals achieved from July 1, 2015 to May 15, 2016. Some criteria count in more than one category. The “Explain” box will expand as you briefly describe what you did. Send your District 5240 Awards forms in Word or PDF format to **rpschwartz@sbcglobal.net**.Send photos in .jpeg format. Forms and photos will be accepted April 16, 2016 to May 15, 2016. Send backup CD or USB thumb drive of awards and photos to Sandi Schwartz, 2405 Snowdrop Drive, Bakersfield, CA 93311 |
| **Club Service Recognition (Club size: 1-25= small, 26 and above = large)** |
| **Complete at least 7 (large Club) and 5 (small Club) of the following:** | **Number Completed:** |
| **1** | **Mandatory** for all clubs - Update your Rotaract Club information in the Rotary International website. No club will be eligible for an award if information is not current. |
|  |  |
| **2** | Invite a Rotarian to speak on Rotary at a regular meeting. |
|  | Explain if completed: |
| **3** | Increase club membership by a net of 2 for a small club and 3 for a large club. Measure July 1,2015 to May 1, 2016 |
|  | Explain if completed |
| **4** | Register one member to attend RYLA as a counselor. |
|  | Explain if completed: |
| **5** | President and 5% of the membership attend the District 5240 conference in Bakersfield October 2-4, 2015. Counts as two points if the club has a booth in the exhibit area to highlight your projects and/or fund raising efforts |
|  | Explain if completed:  |
| **6** | Participate in the Rotary World Peace Conference January 15 and 16, 2016. Counts as two if attendees follow up with sponsoring Rotary Club to thank them as applicable. |
|  | Explain if completed: |
| **7** | Participate in District 5240 Rotary Work Day April 23, 2016 |
|  | Explain if completed |
| **8** | Participate in joint project with a non-Rotarian organization. |
|  | Explain if completed: |
| **9** | Participate in a joint project with a local Interact Club. Counts as two if a joint project with Interact and the sponsoring Rotary Club |
|  | Explain if completed: |
| **10** | Elect and orient new officers for 2016-17 by May 1, 2016..  |
|  | Explain if completed: |
| **11** | Participate in Big West Rotaract by sending your PE and/or members of the Board. |
|  | Explain if completed: |
| **12** | Create or maintain a media presence using Facebook, Instagram, etc., to promote club activities and accomplishments. |
|  | Explain if completed: |
| **13** | Participate in an International Project, counts as two if your members actually travel to participate. |
|  | Explain if completed |
| **14** | Participate in a joint project with sponsoring Rotary Club (Cannot be the same project as #9) |
|  | Explain if completed: |
| **15** | Participate in District Rotaract Council |
|  | Explain if completed: |
| **16** | Work with Rotary and Interact clubs to connect Interact seniors with a Rotaract/Rotary club near their college campus. |
|  | Explain if completed: |
| **17** | Submit photo(s) and stories on District website at stories@district5240.org (Look on District Website under “Contact Us” menu for “Submitting Club Stories” instructions. |
|  | Explain if completed: |
| **18** | President (or Board member) and 5% of members attend Rotary District Assembly. April 2,2016 in Oxnard or April 16, 2016 in Bakersfield |
|  | Explain |
| **19** | President attends sponsoring Rotary Club’s meeting (2 points if President helps lead the meeting) |
|  | Explain |
| **20** | Plan and carry out a community service project unique to your club. |
|  | Explain |