



Upcoming Events

[District Grants 2017-18 Applications Due](#)

Jun 01, 2017

[RYE Pre-RI Convention Meeting](#)

Jun 07, 2017 – Jun 10, 2017

[RI Convention](#)

Jun 10, 2017 – Jun 14, 2017

[Governor Rhonda Herrington Installation](#)

Jun 24, 2017

[RYE Final LT Orientation Meeting](#)

*Lone Star College - Montgomery
Jul 08, 2017*

Bulletin Editor

[Jacque Chapman](#)

(If you have any comments or questions, please contact the editor)

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District 5910 News June 2017



Gig Langston

District Governor 2016-2017
Rotary District 5910

Stories

From the Governor

AND THEY ARE OFF....

Part of the District Governor's club visit is being shown club projects and fund raisers. Spindletop Rotary was our second visit last July and I remember the Beaumont humidity hitting me full force when I left the car's AC. Karen and Bobby Chapman loaded Lou and me up to see what makes up their signature fund raiser project: THE SOUTHEAST TEXAS SOAP BOX DERBY.

I remember seeing pictures of soap box derbies but these are always in a city that has hills....not flat Beaumont. Unbelievable, this derby is the third largest official soap box derby race in America. The local winners are eligible to compete in the world championship derby in Akron, Ohio each July. Now what about that lack of natural topography for the gravity powered cars to be able to race? Sixteen years ago, the late Jack Hauser brought the idea of a race to Spindletop Rotary just like those he was familiar with in his native Ohio. He convinced the city of Beaumont to close the Maury Meyers Bridge over I-10 for a weekend period. This bridge gives the club, the 1,000 feet of race track that the racers need in order to pick up speed to get across the finish line. The racers are loaded onto equipment that enables two racers to start the race at the same time. At the other, electronic timing equipment provides split second accuracy for determining the winner of the race. It is up to the drivers to keep the racer in the correct lane and to stop once the finish line is crossed. After the winner is weighed (no secret barbells), the wheels and brakes are checked before the racer is transported back to the top of bridge for the next race.

This year, there were sixty seven young people competing for prizes and college scholarships. In addition, there were six special needs children



competing in two-seater racers driven by another young person. Friday night is trial run race night. Saturday and Sunday are the official race days with losers being eliminated after a race is lost. They each get two trips down the track with the racer being switched to the other track after a race. This year some 125 people gathered to operate the derby. Spindletop and Beaumont Rotaries, spouses, community groups and Rotary friends made up the derby volunteer group. Lou and I attended the Saturday races and spotted our granddaughter, Ashley, working the finish line. All in

all, Spindletop has given more than \$300,000 in scholarship since the derby's inception sixteen years ago. Our District 5910 is greatly enhanced by local club fund raisers such as Spindletop's Southeast Texas Soap Box Derby.



Sadly, all good things must come to an end. This newsletter marks my last as your District Governor. Club visits, District Conference, International Assembly and monthly newsletters are "have to" District Governor duties prescribed by Rotary International. All have been done this Rotary Year of 2016-2017 with the aid of 5910 Rotary Clubs especially by my club, Angelina Rotary, and my dear wife who made all the trips with me.

Now as my favorite Rotary author, Cliff Dochterman, states in, As I Was Saying: *"I realize that Rotarians come and go---but District Governors just accumulate."*

See you on down the road in Rotary service,

Gig

Gig Langston
District 5910 Governor 2016-2017

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Hutchison on Networking

Networking

Business Lessons My Dad Taught Me



by **Kent Hutchison**
Rotary Club of Nacogdoches

[Link here to read the article.](#)

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CLUB NEWS: Texas City

Rotary Club of Texas City Awards \$60,000 in Scholarships



Congratulations to the Rotary Scholarship Recipients Kiavania Wells, Kelsey Thomas, Berenice Davila, Jakob Lucas, Cali Cooper, Mykaela Gorom, Jade Chapman, Jose Navarro, Kelvin Zhou and Osvaldo Jimenez. \$60,000 was awarded to these outstanding students! Some of these scholarships are for a renewable scholarship and some are a one-time payment to the college of the student's choice for their credit.

Golf Tournament

The Rotary Club of Texas City held its 42nd Annual Frances Levissee Golf Tournament on May 25th. Over \$20,000.00 was raised to help fund scholarships, I Like Me Books, Polio Eradication and many other projects the club supports. This was the second largest fundraiser for the club.

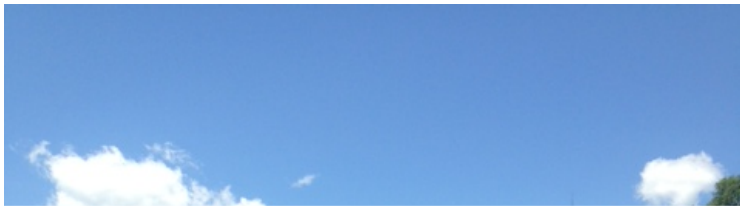


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CLUB NEWS: Woodville

Woodville Rotary Honors Veterans





The Rotary Club of Woodville spent their Wednesday lunch meeting placing about 400 American flags on the gravesites of veterans at the Woodville Magnolia Cemetery. This was done to honor our veterans for Memorial Day. This is the first year that Rotary assisted a local women's group who does this every year. 15 Rotarians and also community volunteers participated. It was a very moving experience for all.

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CLUB NEWS: Galveston



Recently the Rotary Club of Galveston awarded three \$1,500 scholarships to outstanding students who would be most likely "to make a significant and positive contribution to society." Selected by the Club's Scholarship Committee, the recipients are chosen based on proven academic success, have demonstrated future potential, leadership, vision, self-reliance, service to the community, and financial need. This year's recipients were Coltyn Collins (right), graduate from Ball High's Communities in Schools Program; Abigail Merritt (left), an O'Connell College Preparatory graduate; and Courtney Mack (not present), a Ball High School graduate. Chair for the Scholarship Committee is Rotarian Bert Sweeten. (photo by Robyn Bushong.)



Every year, the Rotary Club of Galveston hosts an annual Memorial Day program - honoring and remembering Rotarians and Galveston-area residents who have served in the military. This program is chaired by Mike Guarino. Special guests invited to attend this program included veterans from all branches of the military. Guarino introduced each veteran with a brief bio of their military service and each veteran received a special commemorative U.S. Flag pin. Honored were 64 veterans, 12 active duty service men & women plus 8 Jr. ROTC cadets and instructor making this the largest Memorial Day program. Veterans who participated in this year's program joined together for a group picture on the steps of Fisherman's Wharf - the site of the club's weekly Wednesday luncheon meeting. (courtesy photo by Manny Chan, Creative Photography.)

The Rotary Club of Galveston recently presented a check for \$2,000 to the Ball High School JROTC. Presenting the check on behalf of the Rotary Club is Club President, John Zendt (left). Accepting the donation on behalf of the BHS JROTC are (from left) Cadet Major Madison Unger, Cadet Command Sgt. Major Sofia Reyes, Captain Destinee Rhame, and Sergeant First Class Eduardo Gonzalez (right.) (photo by Robyn Bushong.)

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CLUB NEWS: Bryan

Bryan Rotary Club is proud to provide grants to Bryan area teachers and awarded \$10,494.28 this year. Congratulations to the 2016-2017 Grant recipients!

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CLUB NEWS: Dickinson

Dickinson Rotary Recognizes Texas Public Schools Week

In honor of Texas Public Schools Week, Dickinson Rotary held their April 5th meeting at Lobit Elementary and Lobit Middle School. Opening in August 2016, these two campuses are home to students in grades PreK to 6th grade. The campuses are located together and share common areas such as the cafeteria and library. Prior to the noon meeting, Rotarians visited every 2nd grade class and read Andy and Elmer's Apple Dumpling Adventure. Written by Andy Shoup and published by the Rotary Club of Fairborn, Ohio, this delightful story conveys the invaluable message of The Four-Way Test. After reading the story, The Four-Way Test was discussed and every student was given a Four-Way Test bookmark.

During the meeting, Junior Rotarians from Dickinson High School were introduced, and Rotarians were entertained by Lobit Middle School music students. At the conclusion of the meeting, both principals were recognized and given books for the campus library collection, and Rotarians were provided the opportunity to tour the facility.

Dickinson Rotary guest readers for 2nd graders at Lobit Elementary included: Carter Dale, Tammy Dowdy, Jack Matkin, Pat Bumpus, Jim Barry, Carla Voelkel, Vicki Mims and Renee Casey.

Rotary President, Jim Barry, and an excited group of 2nd graders with their 4-Way Test bookmarks

Lobit Middle School Principal, Terri Bruce and Lobit Elementary Principal, Stephanie Williams, with new books for their campus library from Dickinson Rotary.

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CLUB NEWS: Vidor

Vidor Club Hits the Road with Read and Feed

The Vidor Rotary Club's green bus Read and Feed program will take on its biggest project yet as summer begins. The club has partnered with Vidor ISD to take hot lunches to low-income students Monday-Thursday for six weeks beginning June 5. The lunches will be delivered to three locations as part of the USDA's summer feeding program, helping to get healthy food to children and youth who normally eat breakfast and lunch at school. In addition, the green bus will continue to provide reading materials for children over the summer. The club acquired a newer bus recently, and the second 'little green bus' is up and running after being showcased at the most recent VISD Board of Trustees meeting.

CAPTION: With the Vidor Rotary Club's new green bus are left to right Rotarian and Superintendent of Schools Dr. Jay Killgo, VISD Board of Trustees members Mike Marion and Rollie Burr, Interact President Alexis Franks, board members Mike Helms and Gina VanDevender, and Vidor Rotary Club President Tim Andrews.

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CLUB NEWS: Cleveland

Cleveland High School Interact Club Installs **105 New Members**

The Cleveland High School Interact Club has grown by 105 new members and continues an outreach both in the Cleveland community and internationally. Since being chartered May 2016 through the sponsorship by the Cleveland Rotary Club, the Interact Club has completed any projects – most recently two donations to Rotary International (for Polio Plus to eradicate the disease worldwide and \$1,000 to drill a water well in a village in Nicaragua). The club also participated locally in Treat Street at Halloween, backpacks for students, Bunny Blast at Easter – always emphasizing the Rotary motto of “Service Above Self.”

Two pictures show the enthusiasm and dedication of the Interact Club: first, the entire membership assembly; second, the sponsors from Rotary and Cleveland High School (left to right): David Standlee, Rotary District 5910 Water Wells to Nicaragua Chair; Cleveland Rotarian and Assistant Governor Ernestine Belt; Cleveland Club President Eisha Jones; Rotarian T. W. Garrett; Cleveland High School Interact Faculty Sponsor Moszellie Morales; Rotarians Scott Lambert, Amanda Brooks, and Tommie Daniel.

David Standlee accepting check for water well from Giselle Reyes, President

Ernestine Belt recognized by CHS Interact Club

Cleveland Rotary Awards 10 \$1000 Scholarships

On May 23, the Rotary Club of Cleveland awarded 5 \$1000 scholarships to Natalie Felts, Kaniz Islam, Citali Rodriguez, Taylor Tarver, and Alexis Uhl seniors at Cleveland High School. On May 30, 5 \$1,000 scholarships were awarded to Alyssa Alpha, Shianne Hunter, David "Trai" McCall III, Ellie Rau and Nina Rau seniors at Tarkington High School.

Pictured (left to right): Rotarian Scott Lambert, Tarkington High School Rotary Scholarship recipients: Ellie Rau, David McCall III, Shianne Hunter, Alyssa Alpha, Nina Rau, Rotarian Ernestine Belt, and Rotarian Tommie Daniel.

Cleveland Rotary Welcomes Three Special Guests

Cleveland Rotary Club speaker host Tarkington School Superintendent Kevin Weldon welcomed two Texas Rangers – Ranger Ryan Clendennen and Ranger Brandon Bess – as the weekly program. He had a special connection to Ranger Clendennen as a former student and member of his football team at Splendora High School. Texas Rangers step in to assist with major incident crimes, border incidents, unsolved/serial crime, and more – working alone or with local law enforcement wherever needed. Their skills, technology, and the fact that they are licensed (as Game Wardens) with jurisdiction throughout Texas greatly enhance the investigative skills of the local community. Rotarian Ernestine Belt introduced another special guest – Rotarian Thiago Facchini from Brazil, whom she met with attending a Rotary group study exchange.

Pictured (left to right): Ranger Brandon Bess, Rotarian and Superintendent Kevin Weldon, visiting Rotarian Thiago Facchini, Rotarian Ernestine Belt, and Ranger Ryan Clendennen.

Tarkington Student Headed to Japan

Members of the Cleveland Rotary Club were proud to welcome Savannah Litton, a Junior at Tarkington High School who is going to Japan this June as part of the Rotary Youth Exchange Short-Term Summer program for 3-4 weeks. Savannah's lifelong dream has been to study in Japan, develop her Japanese language skills, and enhance her perspective on the world. Upon her return, a young woman sponsored by a Japanese Rotary Club will be visiting us in Cleveland. Rotary banners will be exchanged between the Cleveland Club and the club in Japan. Savannah is so proud of being a part of this connection between the countries.

Pictured (left to right): Rotarian Tommie Daniel, Rotary Speaker Host James Leach, Rotary Exchange Student Savannah Litton, and Rotary President Eisha Jones.

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CLUB NEWS: Angelina

Angelina Rotary Club Shares May News

Amy Jones, recipient of a teacher grant awarded by ARC, came to a club meeting with two of her students, Nikki and Ashley, from Central High School. They presented to our club on how they used the awarded grant money this year. The students learned the process of making beautiful pieces of fabric art.

We awarded college scholarships to two Rotaract students and two Interact students. These scholarships are given in honor of deceased club member Rotarian Dawn Youdan who strongly believed in the value of education. Scholarship recipients are pictured with District Governor Gig Langston.

Our Diboll Interact Club sponsor Sally Macher is retiring after 20 years of service in education. We honored her with a special presentation as we are so thankful for her many years of dedication to Interact.

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CLUB NEWS: Conroe

The Rotary Club of Conroe will host a Wine Social on Saturday, June 3, 2017 on the sixth floor of the Conroe Towers located at 300 West Phillips in downtown Conroe. This social is in response to the hard work of six Rotary Clubs helping the Montgomery County Food Bank in December, 2016 and again in April, 2017. Now it is time to rest and socialize. The six Clubs included:

- Rotary Club of Conroe
- Rotary Club of East Montgomery County
- Rotary Club of Huntsville
- Rotary Club of Lake Conroe
- Rotary Club of Magnolia
- Rotary Club of The Woodlands

Rotarians, spouses, and guests from these six Club will be gathering from 4:30 to 7 pm on Saturday afternoon for a “come & go social.” All Rotarians are invited to attend. Featured guest is Bulgarian winemaker Velizar Ropa who will be showcasing his Bulgarian wines. Velizar and Conroe Rotary President Ron Saikowski know each other through wine since Ron is a Wine Columnist syndicated in 24 newspapers and writing for five magazines.

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The Rotary Club of Conroe gave out 1,824 customized I LIKE ME books to first graders in twelve elementary schools which feed into Conroe High School. Rotarian Steve Muir has chaired this education event for several years. This year the Rotary Club of Conroe received a \$3,000 District Grant which pays for one-sixth of the total book costs. Each book is customized with the first grader's first name, his best friend, his favorite pet, and activities he likes to do, based on a parent survey that each student's parent fills out. The idea is to help students maintain reading levels achieved by the end of first grade through the summer vacation. These books are often the only books available to the students over the summer. The students get so excited seeing their own names in the books. Their eyes light up and they are continually amazed that we are able to include their names and those of their friends. ([READ THE ENTIRE ARTICLE submitted and see photos by accessing here.](#))

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The Rotary Club of Conroe in conjunction with the Rotary Clubs of East Montgomery County, Lake Conroe, Magnolia, and The Woodlands in mid May to hand out over \$62,000 in scholarships to worthy student athletes graduating high school and going to college. Conroe Rotarian Leland Dushkin co-chaired this event. It took all five clubs working together to set this record amount of scholarships.

Conroe Rotary Club President Ron Saikowski presented four \$1,000 scholarships to worthy graduating Seniors at Conroe High School on Monday, May 15, 2017. The look in each student's eyes as they received each scholarship showed that four lives were changes to the betterment.

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CLUB NEWS: Friendswood

Friendswood Rotary welcomes Youth Exchange Ambassadors

Friendswood Rotary is sending 3 foreign exchange students abroad this summer. Two of the students will be short term exchanges (STEP) in France and one will be spending a year abroad in Belgium. D'Jazz Prevel has spent the 2016-2017 school year in Friendswood and is returning to France.

From left to right Gary Kay, Youth Exchange Counselor, Sebastian Bartlett- STEP , Mackenzie Finch- LT Exchange, D'Jazz Prevel- LT exchange from France, Macie Robertson - STEP and Jerry Ericsson- Friendswood Rotary President.

Celebrating with a Rotarian

Charlie Organ was inducted into the Rotary District 5910 Roll of Fame. Selection to the Roll of Fame is the highest award conferred by a District of Rotary International to an individual Rotarian for outstanding service in Rotary. Rotarians must have distinguished themselves by service, not only in their clubs and communities, but by serving at the district level as well. Congratulations Charlie!

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CLUB NEWS: East Montgomery County

Rotary Club of EMC Installs First Rotary Free Library

Members of the Rotary Club of East Montgomery County celebrated the installation of the first Rotary Free Library at Bull Sallas Park in New Caney May 18.

The library was unveiled in a public ceremony to introduce the Little Free Library concept to the community. Residents can borrow, keep and donate books to the small libraries which will be placed in parks and areas of high pedestrian traffic. Montgomery County Commissioner Jim Clark approved the first location at the playground at Bull Sallas Park and approved locations for three other parks in the county.

The Rotary Free Library was the idea of Club President Melecio Franco who wanted to create a 20th Anniversary Service Project for the club which celebrates 20 years of service in 2017 and install 20 small libraries throughout the area. The libraries were built by Porter High School students under the supervision of Principals of Engineering Teacher Robert Barham who also attended the unveiling ceremony.

“This project is a great way to commemorate our 20th anniversary as a club and look forward to the next 20 years as we work to improve literacy through these libraries,” said Franco.

A video of the library unveiling can be viewed here: <https://youtu.be/EqxFnsfSR2I>

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CLUB NEWS: Huntsville

Posted by Darren Williams

Huntsville Rotary's Trivia Night

On April 20th, the Rotary Club of Huntsville Texas held its annual Trivia Night Fundraiser. With just under a hundred in attendance, Past President John Hendricks led the group through a hilarious 8 rounds of trivia questions. As always, there was a heated competition between the Sam Houston Memorial Museum Team and the Sam Houston State University College of Humanities and Social Sciences Team for first place. The CHSS team came out on top and received gift cards to Huntsville's 1836 Restaurant. Several door prizes were also given throughout the night, and a good time was had by all. Congratulations to President Marjolein Lemmon and her Board for another successful year.

Happy Birthday to Huntsville's RYE student Fruzsi Szilagyi

Fruzsi celebrated her Sweet 16 birthday a long way from her home in Hungary. Representatives from her three host families (Asia Gillespie, Li-Jen Shannon, Jennifer, Darren, Katy, and Thomas Williams), Glenn and Carol Mattingly – RYE Coordinators, members of the Rotary Club of Huntsville, and dozens of friends from Huntsville High School celebrated their friendship with Fruzsi on the occasion of her 16th Birthday. The event was hosted at the home of Jennifer and Past President Darren Williams.

The spirit of the RYE program is captured in Fruszi's own words that she posted on Facebook after the party.

"My sweet 16 was awesome due to all of these people right here. Y'all made me really really happy, and I wish I could post a picture with each of y'all. I don't think a thank you is enough for everything y'all have done for me.(heart) made me cry not once, but a tons of times on Friday, because I realized how lucky I am. I love everybody so so so much (hearts)."

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CLUB NEWS: Dayton

Rotary News from Dayton

On May 11, Rotarian Tami Pierce (right) invited the officers of the Dayton FFA Chapter to come and speak to the Dayton Rotary Club. The officers each talked about the history of the upcoming Dayton Show and Rodeo along with new events this year. Some of the new events included the Unified Program, the Wild Cow Milking Contest, and of course the popular Mutton Busting Competition.

President Elect Garry Masterson met with his Executive Board on May 11 to go over goals and plans for the upcoming year. Pictured are: Garry Masterson, Brooks Hiller, Margie Poole, Jeff Lambright, Leslie Herndon, Andy Conner, and Josephine Perry.

On May 18, 2017 Mr. Larry Wadzeck (left), President of the Sports Hall of Fame came and talked to the Dayton Rotary Club. He gave an informative program over the implementation and

organization of this new program for the Dayton Community. Mr. Wadzeck spoke of the 25 members that will be inducted along with six special athletic teams in the first annual Sports Hall of Fame. He invited all of the Rotarians to come out and be a part of this special event on June 6, 2017 at the new DHS Performing Arts Center.

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Rotaract News

Rotaract Reminders

I hope that each Rotaract Club has completed AND submitted its application to be awarded a Presidential Citation. Please let me know if you need any assistance in completing this Presidential Citation. The deadline is June 30, 2017, BUT the closer to the deadline, the harder it is to go online with www.Rotary.org since tens of thousands have waited until the last minute to submit. Please make sure you get everything turned into Rotary via the website and get a confirmation around the first of June. Let's be doers and not procrastinators!

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Interact Leadership Training

Interact Training is Awesome Experience

Plan Now to Attend on August 12

Just a reminder that officer training for Interact Club leaders will be on Saturday, August 12 at Lone Star College in Montgomery. Mark your calendars, because it's always great.

There are also sessions for sponsors!

More information will be coming soon.

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Website Help

Posted by Brenda Walker on Nov 01, 2016

District 5910 Website



Team

If you need help with Club
Runner, please contact:

WEBSITE STORIES and DISTRICT NEWSLETTER:

Jacque Chapman

RC of Beaumont

admin@beaumontrotaryclub.org.

DATA INPUT (CHANGE OF PERSONAL DATA, CALENDAR ITEMS, ETC):

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RC of Lake Conroe

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DISTRICT WEBSITE MANAGER:

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