

THE DISTRICT

A Weekly Update from Governor Brenda Walker

December 24, 2012



Governor's Message

Rotarians,

I hope you are busy making final preparations for Santa to arrive, baking holiday goodies, welcoming friends and family and experiencing the joyful sounds of Christmas. Christians everywhere will celebrate the birth of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ. May the peace of the season be with each of you.

Peace Through Service,

Brenda



WELCOME TO ROTARY!



President Becky Mason and Membership Chair Michael Perez welcome new members Bel Lamb (second from left) and Lane Olson.

Bel is Executive Director of the Anayat House in Beaumont and her classification is "Associations – Anayat House." Lane is President of A-OK Moving, Shredding & Storage, and his classification is "Moving and Storage."

I MADE A DIFFERENCE AWARD



JOSH WAYNE YARBROUGH HONORED AT CHRISTMAS PARTY

Vice President Russel Buss introduced Josh Wayne Yarbrough, as our "I Made A Difference" recipient for this year. The "I Made A Difference" award was started in 2011 by Secretary-Treasurer Frank Cricchio. Sgt. Josh Wayne Yarbrough was born in Port Arthur and graduated from Memorial High School in 2004. Immediately following high school he joined the US Marines. After SOI training Josh was put with the 1st Battalion 5th Marines on Camp Pendleton. In November 2004, he married his high school sweetheart, Rachel. In March 2005, he left for his first deployment and spent 7 months in Ramadii, Iraq. In July, 2006, Josh left for his second deployment traveling to Okinawa and the Philippines. During the deployment Josh's first son Sean was born. After this deployment he re-enlisted and was sent to Edson Range where he was a combat marksmanship trainer. On March 23, 2011 Josh left for Afghanistan. While on patrol, one of the marines in his squad stepped on an IED. Josh rescued him from a canal and placed tourniquets on him and then proceeded to help another wounded marine when he stepped on an IED. He lost both legs and his left index finger. He was flown to Germany 2 days later and spent 5 days there. On June 21, 2011 Josh was flown to Bethesda, Maryland where his wife, mother, and uncle met up with him. Sgt. Yarbrough spent a little over 2 months undergoing numerous surgeries. Finally on August 6th, he was flown to San Antonio to begin his rehab. On August 11, he was released from the hospital and started rehab the next day at The Center for Intrepid (CFI). Sgt. Yarbrough spent hours and hours learning how to walk, pick up things, and just everyday normal things. Josh was released from all therapies in July, 2012. The Yarbrough's were picked for homes for heroes and a home was built for them and their second son was born. Sgt. Yarbrough is waiting to medically retire and plans on going to work with his uncle. The Port Arthur club presented Sgt. Yarbrough a \$1000 check.

DISTRICT 5910 PROVIDES THE GIFT OF WATER



L-R: DAVID STANDLEE, AG RHONDA ELLISOR AND JORGE ALEMAN, PRESIDENT OF THE METROPOLITANO LEON ROTARY CLUB.

Its' very name means "water," yet Nicaragua faces a Global Water Crisis. The poorest Nicaraguan citizens and most remote barrios face life-threatening danger every day they drink the dirty and often contaminated water from their rivers and hand-dug wells. The Nicaragua Water Well Drilling Program, a viable and vital international project started in 2006 in cooperation with the Rotary Club of Tulsa, Oklahoma, has a mission to drill water wells that provide clean water to the poorest communities in Nicaragua.

Since the beginning, more than \$40,000 has been contributed by District 5910 to this cause and 40 water wells have been drilled. A new matching grant, coordinated by District 5910 with International partner, Rotary Club of Metropolitano Leon, Nicaragua was recently approved by Rotary International for a total of \$35,100 to drill at least 15 additional wells in Nicaragua. The District also has three clubs, Palestine, Beaumont and Cleveland who have received a \$1,000 matching grant from the District 5910 Extreme Poverty Fund to drill a well.

District 5910 International Water Well Chairman, David Standlee, and Assistant Governor, Rhonda Ellisor, both with the Rotary Club of Huntsville recently attended a meeting of the Rotary Club of Metropolitano Leon in Nicaragua to coordinate the effort of the new drilling project. Members of the district will return to Central America in early summer to visit some of the sites drilled, as well as to complete the reports required by Rotary International for the Matching Grant.

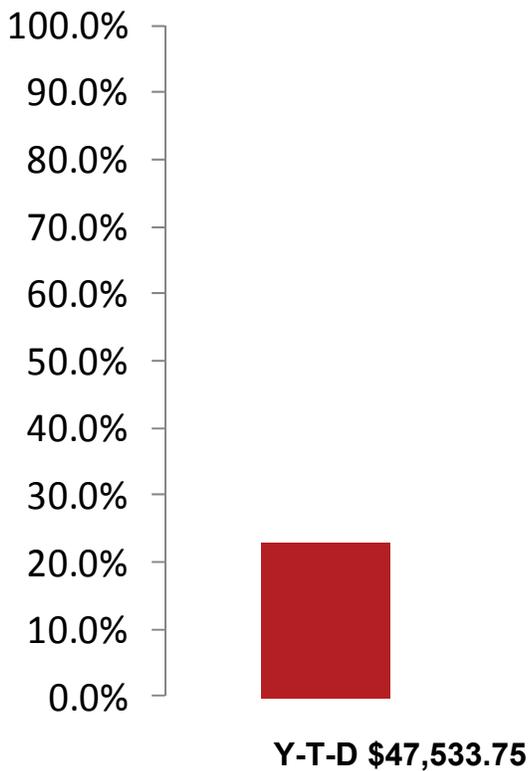
The Rotary Foundation

2012-2013 District 5910 Goals

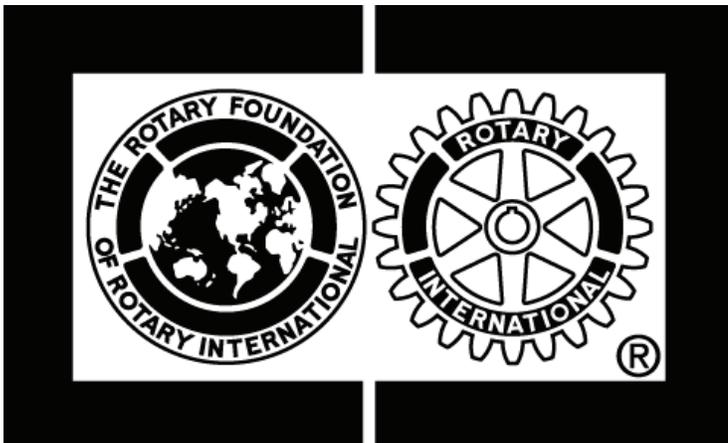
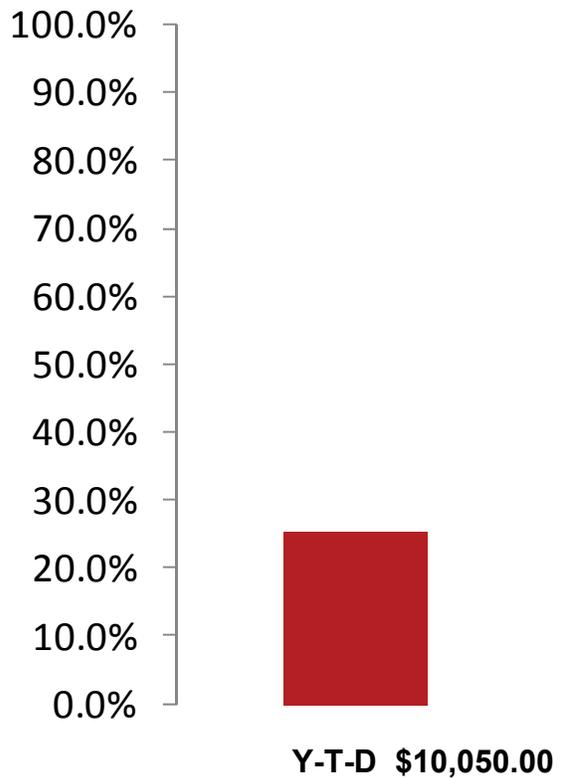
41 clubs changing the world

Permanent Fund Y-T-D \$ 12,125.00!!

Annual Fund Goal \$209,490.00



Polio Plus Goal \$40,000.00



WHY

WE

GIVE



VIDOR INTERACT 2012-2013 OFFICERS

Vidor High School Interact officers for 2012-2013 are left to right Savannah Lane, Ashton McDonald, Savannah Parfait, Kinnedy Mitchell, Sharice Fontenot, and Krupa Kanti. They are pictured with VISD Superintendent of Schools Dr. Jay Killgo and Interact sponsor Ms. Carrie Willette. VHS interact was chartered in April. It operates under the leadership of Vidor Rotary Club. The students are pictured here at the induction of twenty-one new Interact members on Thursday, December 13 at ceremonies in the VHS library.



LAKE CONROE

Texas Agricultural Commissioner Todd Staples was the guest speaker at RCLC on Thursday, December 13th. It was an awesome meeting! Thank you Alfred Anderson and Roz Dauzat for organizing this great program. Pictured here are, L to R: Conroe Mayor Webb Melder, MC Republic Party Chair Dr. Walter Wilkerson, Jr., Commissioner Mike Meador, Texas Ag Commissioner Todd Staples, RCLC President Mark Stevens, Commissioner Ed Chance and Commissioner Craig Doyle.



VIDOR



Vidor members generously provided Frito pie and Christmas cakes and chocolate Yoo Hoo to underprivileged kids. Santa and Mrs. Claus were a great hit, and they gave Rotary Club goody bags to the kids. The club also gave each child a book.

The green literacy bus arrived playing Christmas music and the kids had a joyful time.

Thanks Vidor Rotarians and Interactor's for taking time to share a bit of kindness and good cheer!

AMBASSADORIAL GLOBAL GRANT SCHOLARSHIP \$30,000

The District 5910 Rotary Ambassadorial Scholarship will be used to fund one year of **post-baccalaureate** study at a recognized university in a non-U.S. country in a study discipline that supports the Object of Rotary and the Mission of The Rotary Foundation (see www.rotary.org).

Applicant's planned studies must:

Lead to sustainable, high-impact outcomes in one of the following six Areas of Focus:



- (a) Peace and conflict prevention/resolution;
- (b) Disease prevention and treatment;
- (c) Water and sanitation;
- (d) Maternal and child health;
- (e) Basic education and literacy; and/or
- (f) Economic and community development

Applications are now available on the District website www.rotary5910.org. Look under Documents Download on left side.

The deadline for application is **February 23, 2013** and must be returned to:

District 5910 Rotary Foundation Scholarship Chair:

Werner Rose
1303 Sussex Drive
College Station, TX 77845
wrose@tamu.edu

Interviews will be held on March 16, 2013.