



February 2018

District Governor

DGE

Rotary District 5840 Leaders

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Rotary gives \$53.5 million to help eradicate polio

With 22 confirmed cases in 2017 to date, and just one case in 2018, the world is on the brink of eradicating polio, a vaccine-preventable disease that once paralyzed hundreds of thousands of children each year. Rotary is giving \$53.5 million in grants to support



immunization and surveillance activities led by the Global Polio Eradication Initiative (GPEI).

More than half of the funds will support efforts to end polio in two of the three countries where polio remains endemic:

- Afghanistan: \$12.03 million
- Pakistan: \$19.31 million

Further funding will support efforts to keep 10 vulnerable countries polio-free:

- Cameroon: \$1.61 million
- Central African Republic: \$428,000
- Chad: \$2.33 million
- The Democratic Republic of Congo: \$6.48 million
- Ethiopia: \$1.82 million
- Iraq: \$2 million
- Niger: \$1.71 million
- Somalia: \$3.29 million
- South Sudan: \$835,300 •
- Syria: \$428,000

An additional \$731,338 will fund research to be conducted by the World Health Organization (WHO), and another \$518,000 will go toward technical assistance in West and Central Africa.

While significant strides have been made against the disease, polio remains a threat in hard-to-reach and underserved areas and conflict zones. Despite a historically low case count, as long as a single child has polio, all children are at risk, which underscores the need for continued funding and political commitment to eradication.

Rotary has committed to raising \$150 million over the next three years, which will be matched 2-to-1 by the Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation, yielding \$450 million for polio eradication activities, including immunization and surveillance.

Rotary started its polio eradication program PolioPlus in 1985, and in 1988 became a partner in the GPEI, along with WHO, UNICEF, and the U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention. The Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation later became a partner. Since the initiative launched, the incidence of polio has plummeted by more than 99.9 percent, from about 350,000 cases in 1988 to just 22 confirmed cases in 2017 (as of 25 January). Rotary has contributed a total of more than \$1.7 billion - including matching funds from the Gates Foundation - and countless volunteer hours to protect more than 2.5 billion children in 122 countries from polio.

Carol Holmes, **District 5840** Governor

On Friday, several of our District Conference Committee members went to Horseshoe Bay Resort to finalize the rooms we will



be using for our District Conference May 4-6, 2018. Several of our members had never been to Horseshoe Bay. This venue is so beautiful. As one member said, "If everyone could see this, we would have hundreds of attendees." Have you seen Horseshoe Bay Resort?

YOU CAN SAVE \$100 PER COUPLE IF YOU REGISTER BY MARCH 15th!

You can also attend just the All Clubs Luncheon on Friday for \$40 is you are unable to attend the entire conference. You need to reserve your room on or before April 3. If not, our block of reserved rooms will increase in price. If you reserve your room by phone, be sure to let them know you are with Rotary.

Your Committee is working very hard to make this one of the best conferences have ever had. THIS we CONFERENCE IS FOR YOU! Go into the District website and look at the online brochure under registration. There is something for everyone and lots of free time to enjoy the resort. There will even be a golf tournament on Friday. We want you to be there and to "Celebr8 this year's success."

Presidents, you should be receiving your cruise raffle tickets from Joe Ramirez, District Foundation Chair soon. We will be drawing that winning ticket at District Conference for a Royal Diamond level Caribbean cruise. The winner and the seller will win a cruise. All money from cruise tickets goes to the Rotary Foundation. Our Foundation goal for this year is \$186,170. We can do that.

SEE YOU AT OUR DISTRICT MAY CONFERENCE, **4-6**, AT **HORSESHOE BAY!**

LAST CHANCE TO SAVE \$50 ON DISTRICT CONFERENCE REGISTRATION IF YOU REGISTER BY MARCH 15TH



For more information and to register for the District Conference, please go to: http://www.rotary5840.org/Stories/2018-district-conference

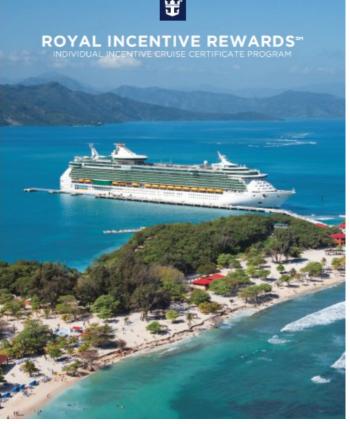
Rotary District 5840 Raffle Cruise

As in years past, Rotary District 5840, is holding a Royal Caribbean Cruise Raffle at the District Conference on May 2018. Many have not received your tickets, or will do so this week, otherwise contact your club President and have them follow up with me.

Please keep in mind that:

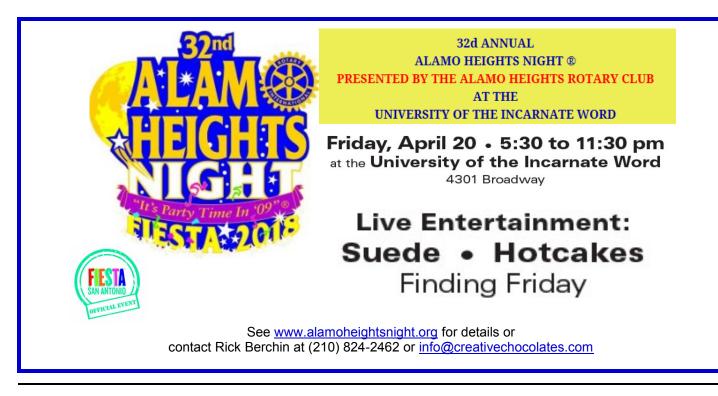
Both the seller and buyer of the winning ticket will each receive a 6 or 8 day cruise in a Royal Diamond Balcony Stateroom for 2.

All sales needs to be sent to The Rotary Foundation Annual Share Fund. Your club treasurer can take care of this. Your sales amounts are credited towards your Paul Harris points account.



Sold ticket stubs need to be mailed to me at by the end of April. My address is 1077 Shady Cove Lane, Spring Branch, Texas 78070. You can destroy the unsold tickets.

Sincerely, Joe Ramirez District 5840 Rotary Foundation Chair Joeramirezsat@gmail.com 210.859.2515



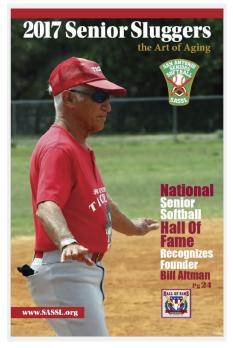
Rotarian Bill Altman Inducted into National Senior Softball Hall of Fame at 31st Anniversary Awards Banquet/Trade Show Courtesy San Antonio Senior Softball League

SASSL held it's 31st Anniversary Banquet/trade show on Saturday, January 13, 2018 at Morgan's Wonderland Event Center. 400+ players, families and guests attended. Bill Altman, SASSL CEO, and a member of the Randolph Metrocom Rotary Club, was inducted into the National Senior Softball Hall of Fame. The induction was performed by NSSHOF President Ridge Hooks who is also CEO of the Softball Players Association (SPA).

Each of the 18 SASSL players 80+ were awarded certificates and a copy of a group picture acknowledging their continued participation in SASSL and Senior Softball. Team awards was presented to each of the winning teams in league play throughout the 2017 season. SASSL now has over 1,000 registered seniors in it's program. 700+ were currently active during 2017.

Roy Bragg, Express News feature writer also wrote an article which appeared on page 1 of the Sports Section, December 26, 2017. The article can be viewed at http://www.expressnews.com/sports/columnists/roy-bragg/article/Softball-founder -Altman-corraling-fellow-seniors-12456061.php?utm_campaign=email-premium&utm_source=CMS%20Sharing%20Button&utm_medium=social

In addition, a 48 page full color brochure was produced for the banquet which contained pictures of 38 of the 40 SASSL teams plus a write-up on the National Senior Softball Hall of Fame recipient Bill Altman. A brief history and facts about SASSL was included.



The Mission of the National Senior Softball Hall of Fame is to recognize and honor players, managers, directors, umpires, and others, who have achieved the highest honors in Senior Softball.

John Fey writes, "Bill Altman is a wonderful gentleman, a great sportsman, and a fine player, but more importantly, he's a true champion of the game of senior softball in the United States."

Dick Porter says, "I have had the honor of working and playing senior softball alongside Bill for more than 20 years now, and I can testify that there is no greater proponent of senior softball than this amazing 86-year old league founder/commissioner, coach, and player in three different age leagues...all at the same time."

Cathy Pottorf writes, "Without his determination, drive, and time, we would not have 700+ active seniors, ages 40-86,

males and females, playing on 42 softball teams, in seven different age brackets from March – November each year in San Antonio. He currently manages and plays on three different teams himself while providing leadership to the entire city senior softball league."

Fred Gonzales wrote, "Bill organized senior softball in San Antonio, Texas, which started with a few teams and has grown to over 700 participants, making it the largest local senior softball organization in the United States."





Mr. Walter G. Thomas June 18, 1920 - February 15, 2018

We are saddened to announce the death of Rotary Club of San Antonio member, Walter Thomas. Walter was President in 1992-93 and District Governor in 1996-97. Walter joined the club in 1974 and had 38 years of perfect attendance before illness made it impossible to attend on a regular basis.

Walter was known for his quick wit and sage advice. Walter will be sorely missed by all who knew and loved him. Our condolences to his family, especially his children Diane and Glenn, who are both d carry on the Thomas tradition of perfect attendance

members of the club and carry on the Thomas tradition of perfect attendance.

EarlyAct First Knight Ceremony at Travis Elementary in San Marcos Submitted by Carrie Campbell

On January 26th, I attended an EarlyAct ceremony at Travis Elementary in San Marcos at the invitation of Lisa Brown, the EarlyAct coordinator for the Greater San Marcos Rotary Club. Two other members of the GSM club were present, including the current Club President, Lacie Orsak. This club sponsors a monthly ceremony which recognizes a student from each class who has demonstrated character traits studied for the month. For January 2018, the traits were courage and confidence. Lisa Brown had arranged for the assistant volleyball coach from Texas State University to be the presenter. As each recipient's name was called, the student proceeded to the stage and stood on an "Olympic" podium. The presenter placed a medal around the child's neck and the child's teacher gave the child an award certificate that detailed the accolades that the school principal had earlier read out to the school. The student was then joined on stage by his/her parents and teacher for a photo.

The ceremony was carefully planned. The staff, parents and children were all attentive and proud to participate. It was wonderful hearing hundreds of elementary school children reciting the 4 Way Test. Lisa Brown and the Rotary Club of Greater San Marcos deserve significant kudos for this meaningful work. They are making an impact.







Dominion Rotary Club to support activities in

2018 Sporting Clay Shoot for Hope Fundraiser

Friday, March 23, 2018 1:00 p.m. - 9:00 p.m. San Antonio Gun Club Olmos Park

Registration and Sponsorships Available Learn more at: www.dominionrotary.org

For more information or to register as a sponsor, please contact: Craig Ross, Craig@GetRossNow.com (210) 488-2235 "Hoppie" Cantwell, wecantwell@yahoo.com



The Winston School and Madison HS Interact clubs joined forces at Habitat for Humanity on Saturday, February 3, 2018. Thirteen Winston Interact members and 10 Madison Interactors laid down sod on one of the homes at the Habitat site. After finishing their initial task ahead of schedule, the very energetic Interactors were assigned to other duties. These two clubs have collaborated on several projects the last two years which explains why they work so well together.





Analise Beres, right, Vice President of the Winston School Interact Club and Interactor Extraordinaire. Analise works hard at all the projects--she sets an excellent example for everyone.

The Winston School Interact Club volunteered at the San Antonio Food Bank on Friday, February 16. The Interact Club has made fighting hunger one of their top priorities this year. It has participated in several hunger relief efforts so far this school year.





Drumming sensation, Bennett Wilson receives the "Overall Winner" award at the Winston Interact 13th Annual Talent Show and Dinner. On hand to present the trophy were Hannah Lee, Miss Greater Helotes Texas Teen, and Jessica Kramm, Miss San Antonio Texas.

Winston Interact 13th Annual Talent Show

Winston School Interact member Bennett Wilson walked away with the grand prize at the Winston Interact 13th Annual Talent Show on Thursday, February 1, 2018 at the Winston School San Antonio. Thirteen years ago, Interact Club president Mark Moore recognized a need for Winston students to showcase their "talents" and suggested a talent show. Since that time the event which includes a dinner has grown into one of the school's most popular events, usually featuring 10-15 acts. The judges are provided by Silver Crown Productions in Helotes, Texas. The Winston School Interact Club is co-sponsored by the North Central and Boerne Sunrise Rotary clubs.

EarlyAct Rotary District 5840 Celebration

Submitted by Darcee Grivel and Mike Canales

Leon Springs Elementary School was the site of the 2nd Annual District 5840 Early Act Celebration on Saturday, January 27, 2018. Approximately 50 Early Act members, Sponsors and parents attended the funfilled event. Representatives from Leon Springs Elementary, Aue Elementary, and the Winston School EA clubs made impressive presentations on the projects and activities they have completed so far this year.

After the presentations the Early Actors proceeded to the school gym where they participated in several fun and engaging activities led by Sammy Gillette, EA Sponsor of the Leon Springs Elementary School. Following the activities District Early Act Chair, Darcee Grivel thanked everybody for their attendance and participation and passed out awards to the EA Sponsors. Lauren Weinberg and Ian Mitchell, former members of the Winston School EA club and Mike Canales, District Youth Services Chair also addressed the EA members, and District Governor Carol Holmes commended Mrs. Grivel, the EA Sponsors and parents for a great program.







L-R District Governor Carol Holmes, Darcee Grivel and Mike Canales

MARCH 17-18 SAT. 10am-5pm SUN. 10am-3pm



Come on out and experience the best that Dripping Springs has to offer for your Home & Garden needs! SPONSORED BY THE Rotary Club OF DRIPPING SPRINGS ADMISSION - \$5 (KIDS UNDER 12 FREE) FREE PARKING DOOR PRIZES KIDS CORNER HORSEBACK RIDES FIRE TRUCK SPECIAL APPEARANCE DRIPPING SPRINGS RANCH PARK 1042 EVENT CENTER DR.

Rotary Club of Dripping Springs Foundation is a 501c3 organization. All proceeds from this fundraiser are given back to the Dripping Springs Community through our service projects. For more information, email rotaryclubofdrippingsprings@gmail.com or visit www.drippingspringsrotaryfoundation.org

The Rotary Club of Dripping Springs is pleased to announce the 2nd Annual Dripping Springs Home & Garden Show is just around the corner. Our show will be at Ranch Park in Dripping Springs on March 17th & 18th. At the show you'll find the latest in products and services for everything from builders, contractors, materials, decks, pools, spas, entertainment systems, storage, plants, landscape displays/materials, kitchenware, and much more. I've attached our show flyer and you can find out more about the vendors on our website: https://drippingspringsrotaryfoundation.org If you're on Facebook please be sure to RSVP as going here: https://www.facebook.com/events/2012079655741645/

We hope you'll join us for our largest annual fundraiser.

Best, Ashley Tullis President - Elect Rotary Club of Dripping Springs



ROTAR

MAKING A DIFFERENCE



Saturday, May 12, 2018 Morgan's Wonderland San Antonio, Texas

9:00 AM - 2:00 PM

Rotarians: \$10 Youth: \$5 (all youth club members will pay their Advisors)

> Fun Activities * Food * Service Project Awards Ceremony



Contact: Mike Canales, mcanales@winston-sa.org, 210-615-6544

SEEKING COMMUNICATION MINDED ROTARIANS



Become a part of the happening District digital media team.

We are seeking Rotarians with special skills in

Media &



Communications: Writers/bloggers, Photographers/Graphics designers, Videographers, Reporters, Social Media.

If you would like to work with the District 5840 Digital Team, please contact Jan King, District 5840 Public Image Chair, at jan.king@outlook.com

ATTENTION CLUB NEWSLETTER WRITERS

If you are in charge of your Rotary Club's newsletter, there is now an easy to use club newsletter creator that works seamlessly with your club's membership list. This story is great news for you "would be publishers" that have been struggling all these years trying to manage your club's weekly newsletters.



ClubRunner has a new bulletin creator tool that makes it very easy to stay in touch with all of your club's members and keep them up to date on the good things going on with your club. The great part is the bulletin tool is part of the Rotary District 5840 Website.

To see this great new tool, go to www.Rotary5840.org Go to the top right corner of the page and use member login to gain access to the District's 5840 member area. Look for the tab or hyperlink marked eBulletin 3.0 and you should see a page similar to the one below.

If you do not have access to this website please contact your CLUB PRESIDENT or CLUB TECHNOLOGY CHAIR and they will help you with the website login procedures.

In response to the request of many Rotarians, your Rotary District 5840 Leadership Team has created a Speakers' Bureau, to give your club a selection of dynamic, inspiring speakers, who are willing to speak at no charge.

Ideally, our Speakers' Bureau list will allow your club to conveniently contact, invite and coordinate all logistics, well in advance of your weekly meetings, special events or service projects. Uplifting speakers may keep you, your members, prospects and guests, meaningfully engaged with Rotary's ideals.



To become a member of our Speakers' Bureau please email the speaker's name, contact information and their topics to: alice.white@ttu.edu Topics that are engaging will help attract a larger audience for your club's programs.

Information regarding the Speakers' Bureau is now available on the District website: www.rotary5840.org Thank you for your help, as your sharing of Rotary and the many things it is doing around the world enriches all of our lives.

At your service,

Carol Holmes, 2017-2018 Rotary District 5840 Governor