

ROTARY CLUB OF RALEIGH

2001-02 ANNUAL REPORT

Prepared by 2001-02 President Wilson Hayman

The 2001-02 year for the Rotary Club of Raleigh has been one of many accomplishments, as the oldest civic club in North Carolina continues to be active in the community and to provide excellent weekly programs and good fellowship for its members and visitors.

The following is a partial list of the accomplishments that our Rotary Club of Raleigh members have achieved in the year from July 1, 2001 through June 30, 2002:

- Sponsored 15 disadvantaged children to attend the Carolina Mudcats game with club members at the "Take a Kid to the Ballpark" Event sponsored by our Rotary District 7710 on July 21, 2001.
- Provided volunteers and participants for the "Ready Set Poe Walk/Run and Family Festival" held on August 8, 2001 to benefit the Poe Center for Health Education, thanks to Willard Ross and the Poe Center Walk/Run committee.
- Through the leadership of Curt Williams and our Ambassadorial Scholarship Committee, nominated candidates for the Rotary International Ambassadorial Scholarship and Centers for Peace and Conflict Resolution, with our nominee for the Peace Centers program being named an alternate for the Peace Center at the University of Queensland, Australia.
- With the leadership of Mike Bywater and his committee, provided unprecedented support to the Boys' and Girls' Homes of N.C. in Lake Waccamaw by raising \$1,002, in part through the sale of personalized Rotary shirts and caps, donating computers and other internal gifts, and sending eight club members attired accordingly to Lake Waccamaw for the Rotary Day Harvest Train on October 6, 2002.
- Thanks to Jim Lofton and the Programs Committee, our club had a year of tremendous speakers and programs, informing and entertaining our membership on an interesting and diverse array of topics.
- Upgraded the club's award-winning web site with the help of Ron Snyder by the addition of a "members only" page and other improvements.
- Hosted the General Manager of the Rotary Foundation, Duane Sterling, for a program in October arranged by Bill McLaurin and Bob Cerwin and raised over \$11,000 for the Rotary Foundation from our members with the help of the Rotary Foundation Committee led by Bill McLaurin, who also received the Rotary Foundation Citation for Meritorious Service from Rotary International.

- Under the leadership of co-chairs Beth Briggs and Ron Garber, conducted two New Member Orientation sessions, and instituted a new mentoring program to introduce new members into our club during their first six months of membership.
- Raised \$1,519 from members for the Guatemalan Book Project due to the efforts of John McNeill and our International Projects Committee, as well as donations totaling \$500 to the dental clinic project in Honduras sponsored by the UNC School of Dentistry.
- Instituted a membership attendance survey under the auspices of our Attendance Committee led by Scott Ruby and Cindy Heath, and explored possible means of contacting non-attending members to improve participation.
- Les Pearce led the festive and well attended holiday luncheon at the Carolina County Club on December 3, 2001, with entertainment by the St. Mary's School Chorale.
- Under the leadership of Brenda Mullins and the Bulletin Committee, our club's weekly bulletin was overhauled, including digital photos, and its e-mail transmittal to the membership was begun.
- Collected \$1,531 from members for the Warmth for Wake program, led by Jim Graham and his committee of the whole.
- Thanks to Chuck DeSmet, assisted by Carl Murnick, who coordinated club members' ringing and personally filled the gaps to collect \$12,256 for the Salvation Army in the Christmas bell ringing program.
- Five club members attended our Rotary District 7710 District Conference in Wilmington in November, and more attended fall, mid-year and spring District Assemblies in Cary as well as District sponsored seminars on the Rotary Foundation and Rotary Peace Centers.
- Participated in Rotary's Global Quest to develop membership worldwide by inducting 20 new members since July 1, 2001 to date, led by Robert Barth and our Membership Development Committee.
- Participated in the Shadow Program by inviting several Broughton High School students to each spend a day with a club member and introduce them to the Rotarian's vocation, under the auspices of Larry McBennett and the Shadow Program Committee.
- Thanks to Kevin Sommers and his committee, for supporting the Communities in Schools Program through donations of alarm clocks and school supplies and by Whit Lee's presenting a student "unsung hero" award to a Daniels Middle School student at a club meeting.

- Sponsored, for the first time, the “Rotary Against Drugs” Speech Contest at Broughton High School, under the leadership of Emerson Teer and his committee, with the top three winners speaking to our club and the first-place winner also competing at the multi-district finals in Chapel Hill.
- Nominated Christy Thompson as a successful candidate for our District’s Group Study Exchange Team to Brazil.
- Coordinated by Jill Gammon and her committee, hosted the five-member GSE Team from the State of Parana in Brazil for two days in club members’ homes, showing them Raleigh’s sights, and entertained them at a gala dinner at Sandy Long’s home.
- Supported our club-sponsored Rotaract Club at Peace College with the help of Paul Briggs and the Rotaract Committee.
- Nominated and sent four local high school students to an outstanding Rotary Youth Leadership Assembly (RYLA) in Greensboro, coordinated by Les Hall and our RYLA Committee.
- Thanks to Jim Lofton, for helping furnish and staff the Rotary booth at the Chamber of Commerce Business Expo at the Raleigh Convention and Conference Center in April, in cooperation with the other Raleigh clubs, to foster Rotary awareness and membership development.
- With the leadership of Les Pearce assisted by his wife, Lynn, and the Club Activities Committee, held the club’s spring social at Exploris and its Imax Theater on May 9 with a record 130 in attendance, which raised \$5,860 from a silent auction. This income plus member contributions brought the total net income to our Club Foundation from member donations to \$20,051 for this Rotary year, these funds being used for community grants and to help grow the Foundation’s Endowment Fund.
- Our Fellowship Committee chaired by Robert Boone assigned a greeter at each meeting and instituted periodic fellowship moments which recognize a special club member.
- As coordinated by Past President Dave Heintz, our Rotary Club of Raleigh Foundation gave \$9,000 in grants to support worthwhile community programs provided by the following nonprofit organizations: SAFEchild; Salvation Army Community Center; Impeesa District, Boy Scouts of America; Raleigh Rescue Mission; Wake Teen Medical Services; Lutheran Family Services in the Carolinas; YWCA of Wake County; Prevent Blindness North Carolina; Daniels Communities in Schools Rotary Academy; and The Opera Company of North Carolina.
- Our Community Recognition Committee led by David Middleton presented our “Unsung Hero” Award to an individual in our community who has provided a special service for which he or she had not previously received due recognition.

- Provided a \$1,000 scholarship to each of five graduating Wake high school students who will be attending a local college or university next fall, under the leadership of Will Meier and the Scholarship Committee.
- Thanks to Bill Rankin and our Four Way Test Committee, who reviewed 230 entries submitted in the Four Way Test Essay contest sponsored by our club at Ligon, Martin and Daniels Middle Schools, and who enabled our club to recognize three student winners from each school, with a special award going to the overall winner, Joshua Broadway from Martin.

Although it is impossible in this space to name all of the Rotarians who have served our community and beyond through our club this year, I want to thank all of our members for their work and dedication in reaching so many of our dreams this year.