

The Wheel

Abilene Southwest Rotary Club
P. O. Box 5421, Abilene, Texas 79608
Club # 1807, District 5790, 325-692-7988
Web Site: www.abilenesouthwestrotary.org



Rotary's Theme - 2009-2010



Dear Fellow Rotarians,

Time is moving right along. We just finished with the District Conference that was held in Fort Worth on April 9-11. Great super conference! We had seven Rotarians and four spouses in attendance and they all enjoyed every event. The speakers were outstanding. Our club, as you know, provided the Sweets from Abilene on Friday night and everyone raved over them. People were coming back two or three times for more! Sweet On Us! Thanks Rob and Shirley for chairing the committee and thanks to all who donated Sweets. As a club, we won two awards; one Second Place for International Service and one First Place for Vocational Service. Congratulations! All awards are a team effort!

We also held our 2nd annual golf tournament. We had a great time and made some money. I want to thank those Rotarians that played or sponsored a player and the ones that came out and supported this event. The committee will be looking for a date for next year. I want to encourage all our Rotarians to get involved in it. This is an easy way to make money to support our local charities. The more the merrier! See you on the greens next year!

Our Clubs theme for May is "Top Fifty Plus Banquet." This is our premier event of the year. Chairman Downing Bolls says all plans are coming together, but we need more table/ticket sales. We are having a former Top Fifty Plus Graduate for our speaker, Victor Carrillo. Let's all get behind Downing and sell more tables and tickets to fill the house this year!

ER-EY, we still need donations and our deadline to the Foundation is prior to June 1.

Always remember Membership! Someone took the time to share Rotary with you so now it's your time to share Rotary with someone too! Ask, Ask, and Ask!!!

Thanks again for continuing the fight against Polio! Keep those cups rattling; everything helps to meet our goal with the Gates Foundation. We are goal achievers!

Important Date to mark is May 15, 2010. The District Assembly will be held in Fort Worth. All Officers/Directors, Committee Chairs and all Rotarians are invited to attend. We will form a car pool and the club will pay for the lunches. It is a great time to learn more about Rotary and network with other Rotarians to see what they are doing and also see what challenges we all are facing. But most important, let's go and support our President Elect, Roberto Aguirre.

In closing, remember to read your Rotary Magazine, continue supporting our Polio Plus effort and the Rotary Foundation with our Every Rotarian - Every Year donations.

Thanks again for letting me serve you,

Stephanie

**May
2010
Issue**



CLUB OFFICERS 2009 - 2010

Stephanie Kraly
President

Roberto Aguirre
President Elect

Aletta Allred
Secretary/Treasurer

Ross Bennett
Sgt. at Arms

DIRECTORS

Delbert Allred

Downing Bolls

Dwayne Hargesheimer

Jerry Jordan

David Mason

Charles Richardson
Newsletter Editor

Stacey Scaief

Will Speight
Exec. Secretary

PROGRAMS

May 04
AIR FORCE
Dyess AFB
Recognition

May 11
ALINA
TOKTOMAMATOVA
Exchange
Student from
Kyrgyzstan

May 18
LYDIA LONG
Abilene
Dog Park

May 25
NO MEETING
Moved to
Top Fifty Plus

May 27
VICTOR
CARRILLO
Top Fifty Plus
Banquet

EVERY ROTARIAN EVERY YEAR

Your Contribution Keeps on giving...

Your contribution to The Rotary Foundation supports both local and global projects identified by Rotarians around the world.

When you make an annual contribution to The Rotary Foundation, you can be confident that 50 percent of that gift will come right back to your district in three years to be used for educational and humanitarian programs and for projects in your local community. The other portion of your contribution benefits the World Fund in support of our commitment to international service. The three-year SHARE investment cycle ensures that 100 percent of your contribution is spent on Rotary programs and grants.

The following programs are examples of Rotarian efforts supported by our Annual Programs Fund:

Ambassadorial Scholarships

District Simplified Grants

Group Study Exchange

Health, Hunger and Humanity (3-H) Grants

Matching Grants

Rotary Grants for University Teachers

Rotary World Peace Fellowships

Volunteer Service Grants

For more information about other Rotary Foundation programs, please visit: www.rotary.org

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RI & DISTRICT



2009 - 2010



JOHN KENNY
The Rotary Club of
Grangemouth, Scotland
*Rotary International
President*

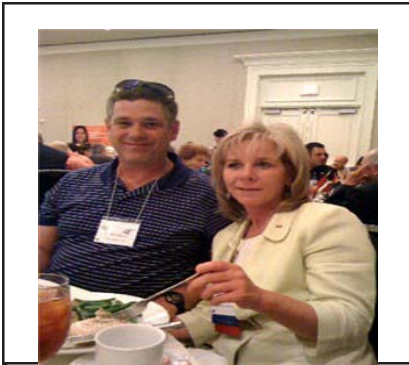
JOHN A. MILLER
The Rotary Club of
Arlington North, Texas
*Governor
Rotary District 5790*

ISAAC CASTRO
The Rotary Club of
Hamlin, Texas
*Assistant Governor
Rotary District 5790*

J. PAUL LUCAS
The Rotary Club of
Hurst, Euless, Bedford, Texas
*Governor-Elect
Rotary District 5790*

RICHARD A. SHERMAN
The Rotary Club of
Arlington South, Texas
*District Secretary
Rotary District 5790*

DAVE DAVIS
The Rotary Club of
Great Southwest Arlington, TX
*District Treasurer
Rotary District 5790*



President Stephanie Kraly (R) enjoying District Conference with husband, Terry Kraly



Shirley & Rob Olson hosted our "Sweets from Abilene" at the District Conference



Aletta & Delbert Allred sell Breakfast Burritos at our recent Golf Tournament at Dyess AFB.



Golf Tournament Pros Cliff White(L) Doug Banks (C) and Ed Miller (R) playing golf in Mesquite Grove Golf Tournament at Dyess AFB



**Rotary District 5790
Exchange Students 2009-2010**



Enjoying District Conference in Fort Worth. Lucas on left and Alina, holding her Flag.

Bulletin Board

May Free Meal: Chas. Schwertner
 March Attendance: 86%
 March Membership: 58+6(H)
 May 10 - Club Board Meeting
 May 15 - District Assembly
 May 27 - Top Fifty Plus Banquet

May Birthdays

Charles Schwertner - 05/08
 Will Speight - 05/10
 Harriet Connor - 05/13
 Warren Smith - 05/15
 Bill Shoemake - 05/18
 Cliff White - 05/25

May Anniversaries

John & Peggy McConnell - 05/05
 Ross & Joann Bennett - 05/24
 Ed & Shirley Miller - 05/24
 Worth & Diedra Worth III - 05/27

Weekly Greeters

May 04

Rob Olson, Shirley Olson,
Bill Page

May 11

Charles Richardson, Joe Roeder,
Karla Rose

May 18

Dean Rucker, Letty Rucker,
Stacey Scaief

May 27

All Club Members Greet
at Top Fifty Plus Banquet

Top Fifty Plus Banquet A Brief History

The purpose of the Top 50 Plus Banquet is to honor academic excellence. The first such banquet was held on March 3, 1960 in the Windsor Hotel. The keynote speaker was Chester H. "Chet" Lauck, of Continental Oil Company. All 50 honored students were from Abilene High School. In 1962, with the opening of Cooper High School, half of the 50 slots were awarded to that school and half to Abilene High.

Until 1981, the Top 50 honorees were only from public schools in Abilene. That year, when the Wylie area was brought into the city limits of Abilene, it was decided to include Wylie High School and also Abilene Christian High School, a private school. The Abilene and Cooper High School principals were very reluctant to release any of their 25 slots, so after some negotiation, it was decided that the two high schools would retain their 25 slots and Wylie High and Abilene Christian High would obtain slots on a pro-rata basis; hence the banquet became known as the Top 50 Plus Banquet.

Although the number of students has increased since 1960, the ease of becoming a "Top Fifty" student has not. The percentage of graduating seniors participating in the first banquet in 1960 was 9%, as compared with approximately 5% currently. In other words, it is almost twice as competitive to become a Top 50 honoree today as it was in 1960.

Rotarians, world wide, also support education by contributing to the Rotary Foundation. A total donation of \$1,000 allows one to become a "Paul Harris Fellow," named after the founder of Rotary International. Over 80% of the membership of the Abilene Southwest Rotary Club has made this commitment. Through the Rotary Foundation, over 21,000 fully funded scholarships have been provided for students world wide to study for a year in some other country other than their own. Annually, the foundation also funds 7,000 high school youth exchange students.

Rotarians believe that liberty of free men is preserved through a commitment to education, and that peace is preserved as a result of world wide understanding. Over 33,000 Rotary clubs in 200 countries support these ideals.