

Rotary Club

COMMITTEE REPORT FORM

Date; Seotembter 19. 1977

Rotary Club of Space Center _____ **Report of**
the Space Shuttle Payload for Students _____ **Committee**

Describe briefly your committee's activities and plans. If you are making a proposal which needs action by the board of directors, please give full information on purpose, costs, timing, et cetera:

The Rotary Club of Space Center has reserved space on NASA's (National Aeronautics and Space Administration) Space Shuttle to fly a scientific payload in outer space. The payload will be conceived, designed, and constructed by students from the two high schools in the Clear Creek School District, with guidance and assistance from members of our Club. The purpose of this committee is to organize this project, make the necessary contacts, and generally assure that this-project is carried out in a meaningful way, and is consistent with the ideals of Rotary International. We will be enlisting wide support from all members of the Rotary Club of Space Center.

The Space Shuttle is part of the Space Transportation System now being built and will provide easier and less expensive access to space for a wide range of users. It should become available for private users in the 1980"s. In order to provide for small users, NASA has established a "Getaway Special" which, for \$10,000, entitles a user to fly a payload in outer space of up to 200 pounds and five cubic feet, thus making within reach the possibility of small users flying a sophisticated payload package. Our Club will depend on its annual fund raising activity to set aside the necessary funds to pay for the transportation costs. Thus, all members of our Club will share in this involvement. The Clear Creek School Board, as well as relevant school personnel, have enthusiastically endorsed this project and we have already begun making plans. We envision a student competition for ideas leading to the selection of an appropriate scientific experiment. This will be followed by wide student and community, participation in getting the payload built and ready for flight. After flight, scientific data will be collected, analyzed, and the results published. It is expected that this project will take about three years to complete.

Date of next scheduled meeting.

(Chairman) (This form is not

available from the secretariat. Reproduce locally.)