

## SPACE CENTER ROTARY YOUTH COMMITTEE ACTIVITIES

- 1. The Bay Area Boy Scouts:** Each year the Boy Scouts perform traffic control duties at our annual Shrimpooree. The Boy Scouts have been given \$1,000 to show our appreciation for their assistance as well as support for their local program.
- 2. The E. A. Smith Family YMCA:** The YMCA Board of Management has recently requested additional financial support due to a tremendous increase in requests for their services, especially in the area of subsidized child care. Space Center Rotary Club donated \$500 to this cause.
- 3. Bridgeport Communities and Schools:** Bridgeport Communities and Schools effectively engages in bringing community resources into the public schools for "at risk" students who demonstrate early signs of truancy, misconduct, rebellion, drug/alcohol abuse and fighting. Their mission is to prevent these "at risk" students from dropping out and in helping students improve academic performance and behavior. Last year we appropriated \$500 to this organization.
- 4. Communities That Care Kit and HealthOnline Software:** CCISD Safe & Drug Free Schools Advisory Council was given this kit by the Space Center Rotary Club to use for implementing a community-wide risk-factor prevention program for at risk youth. The adolescent problems behaviors addressed include: Substance Abuse, Delinquency, Teen Pregnancy, School Drop-Out and Violence. The risk factors include Community, Family, School and Individual/Peer.
- 5. Texan's War on Drugs Youth Leadership Camp:** This program was established to send one student selected based upon need to attend this camp.
- 6. Hope Village:** Vic Maria presented picnic tables and a porcelain sink for Hope Village.
- 7. The Volunteer Center "St. Nicholas" program:** Each year the Volunteer Center raises funds to purchase Christmas gifts for indigent children throughout Houston through a program called "St. Nicholas". Several local businesses are involved in supporting St. Nicholas financially in addition to wrapping and distributing these gifts to the needy children at Christmas. This is a worthy program which enhances the lives of these children by giving them a gift each Christmas. Last year we supported the Volunteer Center with \$500 for this purpose. This is expected again this year.
- 8. Clear View High School:** Vic Maria requested financial support to purchase trophies for student achievement awards at the end of each year. There are approximately 10-12 total awards given relating to each area of study (e.g., English, Home Economics, etc.).
- 9. Rotary District Drug Awareness Subcommittee:** This subcommittee of the Youth Committee is responsible for our annual Drug Essay Contest. Space Center Rotary Club initiated this program for District 5890 and Carson Stephens was the District Chairman in 1993. District 5890 looks to our club for continued leadership in this program. The District hopes to increase the awareness of this program throughout Houston and that is the reason for these changes for the banquet which will result in increased attendance and expenses.

Each year Clear Creek ISD becomes involved with this program by distributing the Rotary article "There Was A Nation...", by Paul Harvey to the eight grade English teachers who read this to the students. The students then write a 200-400 word essay and the teachers grade these and select the top two essays to be reviewed by our Rotary Youth Committee members. One essay is selected which is turned into the District for competition with other Rotary Clubs throughout District 5890. The student chosen by the Space Center Rotary Club is sent to Space Camp in Huntsville, Alabama as an expense from our Youth Committee budget. In addition, tickets to Astroworld are given to the second and third place winners and plaques are given to the top three students.