

SPACE CENTER ROTARY CLUB

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NOMINATION OF SPACE CENTER ROTARY CLUB AS OUTSTANDING CLUB DURING ROTARY YEAR 1991-1992

The Space Center Rotary Club is one of the most outstanding Clubs in District 5890 primarily because of the breadth and effectiveness of its programs. The Club's activities encompass all four areas of Rotary service. Few clubs in the entire Rotary world participate in so many varied and unique programs. The Club has also excelled in initiating outstanding new programs such as Free Enterprise, Drug Essay Contest, Rotary National Award for Space Achievement, and others. Following is a brief summary of the Space Center Club's major accomplishments for 1992:

Community Service

Both Rotaract and Interact Clubs have been active this year. The Rotaract Club with 25 students has adopted a temporarily disadvantaged family and provided home repairs, tax preparation, etc. In addition, this Club has participated involuntary Channel 8 Sesame Street activities for children. Both Clubs have held fund raising activities in support of many community activities this year.

Five thousand dollars in scholarships were awarded in 1992 by the Space Center Club to Clear Lake High School and University of Houston students.

Almost \$12,000 was raised to support a community center building in Clear Lake. The Club has pledged \$100,000 over several years.

The sixth annual Rotary Award for Space Achievement was presented to Mr. Norm Augustine, CEO of the Martin Marietta Co. at the Hyatt-Regency Hotel in Houston in February. This award was conceived and developed by the Space Center Club.

The Space Center Club established a local Rotary Foundation and 25-30 Club members have made contributions this year.

A Rotarian mentor program has been established for potential school drop-outs in Clear Lake. Over 20 Rotarians have participated.

Major contributions were made to Meals on Wheels, YMCA, Boy Scouts, Bay Area Council on Drug Abuse, and many other Clear Lake area organizations.

The Drug Abuse Essay Contest, initiated by the Space Center Club, is being continued as a District event.

International Service

The Space Center Rotary Plastic Surgery Program brought 7 children to Houston this year for surgery at St John's Hospital in Clear Lake. Six children were from Mexico and one from Jerusalem (a child injured in an auto bombing incident).

A relationship with the Aeropuerto Club of Mexico City was continued with a visit planned to Mexico City in September 1992.

Dr. David Taylor and other members of the Space Center Club have continued to be very active in the Free Enterprise Program and a second team visit is scheduled to Eastern Europe in May 1992. Two members of Space Center will participate in this trip.

Five students nominated by the Space Center Club have been approved for the Summer Youth Exchange Program for 1992.

Space Center Rotary hosted two exchange students this year -one from South Africa and one from South America. Our Club has provided leadership for the District in this area.

Programs emphasizing Rotary Foundation Programs have been held throughout the year and another is scheduled for early May.

Vocational Service

The second Teacher Award Program is underway. This award is given to the outstanding teacher in the Clear Creek District who will receive a monetary award of \$1,000 and a Paul Harris Fellowship from the Space Center Club.

The Space Center Club is again assisting in Project Graduation, a Clear Lake Community project to involve graduating students in safe/worthwhile activities on high school graduation night.

Club Service

Club attendance in 1992 has increased to an average of over80% from a previous average of approximately 75%.

The Blastoff (Club bulletin) has been an excellent semi-monthly publication to keep members informed of all Club/Rotary activities.

The 18th Annual Shrimporee raised approximately \$30,000 and was an activity that provided outstanding Club fellowship for our members. It included a 5k Fun Run, Beauty Contest, and shrimp boil and auction. The Shrimporee was followed by a car raffle to raise funds for the new Bay Area Community Center.

The "Red Badge" Program has been continued this year to help integrate new members into the Club. Also, new members have been asked to sit at the head table for several weekly meetings after initiation.

Two socials were held this year to enable members to become better acquainted and have more meaningful fellowship.

A pictorial roster of Space Center members is currently being published and distributed.

A memorial stone was placed at Clear Lake Park which recognizes all deceased Rotarians from the Space Center Club. A dedication ceremony was held at the Shrimporee.

Numerous other committee including Membership, Classifications, Membership Development, Long Range Planning have all been active this year with excellent results.

It is not possible within the space allowed to describe all the activities of the Space Center

Rotary Club during 1992. However, two additional activities are of such major significance that they should be mentioned. First, the Space Center Club sponsored a major new Club in District 5890 this year. This Club, the Seabrook Club, began with over 56 charter members and has the potential to be an outstanding club in this District. Secondly, we are extremely pleased that Billy Weseman of the Space Center Club has been selected as the District Governor nominee for 1993. He is truly an outstanding representative of the quality of membership in our Club.

<u>Summary</u>

Overall, the Space Center Club has had an outstanding year during 1991-1992 and truly deserves recognition. Successes this year have only been possible because of the dedication and perseverance of many outstanding innovative Rotarians in our Club.

Prepared by: Jack R. Lister President Space Center Rotary 1991-1992