

Let's Have a Great Rotary Year!!!

Rotary Club of Space Center

I have been using the same phrase several times lately and decided to use it for my theme this year, "Let's Have a Great Rotary Year!!!" How does one have a great Rotary year? By making a lot of money, giving a lot of money away, and having fun doing it. Let's start with the giving it away. Our budget is \$106,000 with 26 local and 6 international projects that make a difference. We have already given \$18,000 to one of our primary beneficiaries. Second we netted almost \$100,000 from our fund raisers last year and plan to do better this year. Thirdly and most importantly, is having fun. I am a strong advocator of good communications to our members and the public, and to build strong relationships among our members. I have started an informal lunch meeting between the monthly board meetings with members of the Board to foster teamwork for this leadership group. Every two weeks there is a Rotary Family Night Out so we can know more about the members' families. Forty four of our members, Interactors, and International Youth Exchange students and associated families were at the Astros's Polio Plus game recently. Before that we had a great turnout for the family night out at local Putt Putt Fun House. I took a survey of the membership at the beginning of the year and am using the information to have a "Who Is This" moment at each club meeting. The vita of each new member is placed in the weekly newsletter. In addition each new member is assigned a mentor to smoothly and quickly assimilate her or him into the club membership. We are actively working with the Interact Clubs at the schools. We are using the Interactors to lead the effort within their respective schools to solicit volunteers for our fall fundraiser in October. So far we have 47 of the needed 100 student volunteers signed up to work. We take each opportunity to brief the group about Rotary as we meet with them about volunteering. Summing up the thought "Let's Have a Great Rotary Year", we plan to make a lot of money, give a lot of money away to make a difference in the local and global communities and have a lots of fun doing it.

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