



By Mary Alys Cherry

UHCL honors Rotary, JSC Federal Credit Union

Community Partnership Award winners get together for a photo as the UHCL breakfast concludes at Lakewood Yacht Club. They are, from left Rotarians Jerry Smith, Marilyn Musial and Mike Dennard, UH-Clear Lake President William Staples, JSC Federal Credit Union President Mike Brown and Business Development Director Jennifer Robinett. Dennard is president of the Rotary club and Musial is president-elect. Brown is also a member of the Rotary club.

Two Bay Area organizations that have brought sunshine into the lives of others – Space Center Rotary and the JSC Federal Credit Union – were honored by the University of Houston-Clear Lake Thursday.

Both were honored at UHCL's annual Report to the Community breakfast at Lakewood Yacht Club, not only for brightening the lives of local families but for supporting the university's Center for Autism and Developmental Disabilities.

In presenting the Community Partnership Awards, UH-Clear Lake President Dr. William Staples told how the credit union had provided scholarships and supported many university programs through the years and how the Rotary club had donated proceeds from its 38th annual Shrimporee to the autism center, "providing vital assessment and educational materials for our parent/caregiver training program."

Staples spoke at length about the work the university is trying to accomplish with victims of autism, illustrating his talk with a video presentation.

"The demand is huge," he told the crowd, adding that there is a significant wait for help as the center works to help autistic children increase their cognitive, communication and social skills so they may function effectively in schools."

Jennifer Robinett, business development manager for the credit union, and Rotarian Jerry Smith, who suggested funneling Shrimporee proceeds to the autism center, accepted the awards.

