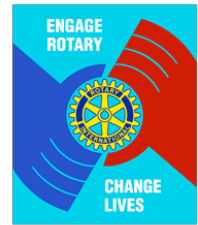


# Rotary Club of Galveston - Texas



# PILOT



Rotary Newsletter  
June 18, 2014

Kevin Harrington presided over the meeting.

There were no visiting Rotarians or guests.

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## Program

**Brett Kirkpatrick** gave a report to the club about the Rotary Foundation. His remarks follow:

Ever since Mary Beth Bassett announced this program in the Pilot, I've sensed club members' mounting excitement each week as they eagerly anticipated my report on the club's foundation. Consequently, I'm very pleased to present the program you've all been panting for.

So what is the club foundation? Why does it exist, and what does it do?

The Galveston Rotary Foundation, Inc. was established in 1990 as a tax exempt 501(c)(3) public charity. The foundation's purpose is to greatly enhance the Rotary Club of Galveston's ability to fund projects, primarily in the Galveston community, for humanitarian purposes and to promote peace throughout the world. The foundation's business is conducted by a board comprised of the club's president, president-elect, president nominee, immediate past president, and three elected trustees selected for three-year staggered terms. This year's board consisted of Kevin Harrington, Lonnie Cox, Keith Bassett, Tom LaRue, Neil Nathan, Ray Pinard and me. The board currently meets monthly to conduct business.

Sources of income include the net proceeds from the club's two major fundraisers (the Chili Supper and the Crawfish Boil), VIT club memberships, weekly door prize donations, interest from investments, individual donations such as memorials and tributes, and bequests from estates. As of the June 3 board meeting, the foundation held assets worth \$632,075. Most of the foundation's assets are invested in an endowment fund that was created specifically for small not-for-profit organizations. In recent years, the board has allocated 5% of the total assets for giving each year. This percentage is a guideline the board established as a reasonable amount to withdraw and still allow for the continued growth of the foundation's assets.

After surveying the giving guidelines of other Rotary clubs with foundations, giving guidelines for the Galveston Rotary Foundation were adopted in 2010. Preference is given to projects where Galveston Rotarians are directly involved and for programs and projects that directly serve people in the community. Ideally, such projects should 1) promote Rotary's mission and ideals, 2) enhance the greater Galveston community, and 3) embrace access, fairness, inclusiveness and diversity. Areas of primary focus include human health, hunger, housing, structured learning, literacy, youth recreation and camping, employment and training, civic improvement, neighborhood improvement, environmental improvement, historic preservation, crime prevention, public safety and arts and culture.

Funding preference is given to tax-exempt charitable organizations, and awards are not made to endowment funds or to retire existing debt or to pay costs the applicant is already obliged to pay.

The Foundation generally will not consider the following:

- Support of individuals for personal financial need.
- Grants for the purpose of travel.
- Purchase of blocks of tickets, tables or fundraising events.
- Costs that do not qualify as direct, charitable expenses.
- Applications for capital improvements or operating funds.
- Applications for organizations that exist primarily to influence legislation.
- Applications from political causes, candidates, organizations or campaigns.
- Applications from religious organizations unless the particular program will benefit a large portion of a community without regard to religious affiliation and does not duplicate the work of other agencies in the community.

Grant applications are considered as they are received, but the foundation prefers to receive them in March and September to facilitate resource allocation. A grant application form is included on the club's website for downloading or can be mailed from the Rotary office.

Since its inception, the foundation has distributed more than \$400,000 in grants. This doesn't include the \$100,000 pledged as our club's centennial year project to the City of Galveston for the renovation of Washington Park. The average annual distribution since 1998 has been \$21,193, with a low of \$9,883 in 2008 to a high of \$38,744 in 2001. During this current Rotary year, the foundation distributed \$29,428 to local organizations to support a wide variety of community enrichment projects. These included:

Three college scholarships, one each to graduates of O'Connell High, Ball High and the Community in Schools Program

Galveston Police Department - Teddy Bear Project – matched by District

Resource and Crisis Center – Laptop computer replacement

Grand Opera House – Grand Kids Festival Sponsorship

Family Service Center – Educational materials for the Incredible Years Baby Curriculum

Galveston College – Nine \$1,600 scholarships for students pursuing an Associate's degree

Holy Family Catholic School – Purchase of early childhood development educational materials

GISD – Assistance with student costumes for Niigata Sister City celebrations

Galveston Chamber of Commerce – Support of Lemonade Day

Ball High School – Support of Project Graduation

Marine Corps League – Support for traffic control at 4th of July 2014 parade

Ambassador's Preparatory Academy – Support of art education curriculum

Galveston Police Department – Safety awareness curriculum materials for 300 children

Let me conclude by encouraging you as club members to do five things to support your foundation. First, become a VIT club member. 100% of your membership dues go to direct support of projects funded by the foundation. Second, participate in the weekly door prize drawings that provide a regular stream of income to the foundation. Third, sell more Chili Supper and Crawfish Boil tickets to increase the net proceeds that bolster the foundation's endowment. Fourth, encourage groups with which you are affiliated to apply for foundation funding where appropriate. And fifth, consider standing for election to the foundation board. It's a great way to serve your club and your community.

**Kevin Harrington** led the group in reciting the Rotary Four-Way Test.

Of the Things we think, say or do:

- 1) Is it the TRUTH?
- 2) Is it FAIR to all concerned?
- 3) Will it build GOODWILL and better FRIENDSHIPS?
- 4) Will it be BENEFICIAL to all concerned

*Mary Beth Bassett, PILOT Editor*

**Upcoming Programs:**

July 9: Chuck Herrera, Sea Base, Galveston

July 16: Kelly de Schaun, Galveston Park Board

July 23: Hud Hopkins, Scholes Airport Operations



**The Galveston Rotary Club**

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