

THIS WEEK'S PROGRAM
United Way – Sherri Moe, Executive Director

NEXT WEEK'S PROGRAM

Butch Holden, BSU Art Department – “Why More Art is Needed Now”

Important Dates to Remember

Barcelona, Spain – Rotary International Conference

- June 23-26, 2002

International Goodwill Conference – Winnipeg, Manitoba

- February 15-16-17, 2002
(Speaker: RI President Richard King)

Visiting Rotarians

Jack Harris, Los Angeles, CA

Proposed for Membership

Mike Kelsey, Jeweler

Rose Notes

Last day to turn in rose sales has been changed to October 1, 2001.

Rotary's Historic Focus on Youth

Programs for youth have been a focus of Rotary from its earliest days. The very first grant award by The Rotary Foundation was US\$500 given to the Ohio Society for Crippled Children. Founded by Rotarians in 1919, the Society was the forerunner of the National Easter Seal Society.

By 1920, most Rotary clubs had Boys Work Committees, which originated a variety of projects to help boys. These projects included seminars on hygiene, public awareness campaigns about the importance of staying in school, the development of recreational summer camps, and invitations to visit Rotary club meetings.

Rotarian enthusiasm for both the Ohio Society for Crippled Children and the Boys Work Committees sparked debates at the 1923 RI Convention in St. Louis (Missouri, USA). Some Rotarians wanted to concentrate on service to handicapped children. Others wanted to grant priority to Boy Scouts. The convention resisted all measures to limit the objectives of Rotary's youth service.

Following the convention, the RI Board of Directors gave clubs autonomy to choose their youth programs. As a result, Boys Work soon expanded to include girls, and service to youth branched out in all directions. In 1949, the Board of Directors expressed Rotary's commitment to young people by adopting the slogan “Every Rotarian an Example to Youth.”

Today, Rotary's service to youth includes local and international projects that range from meeting the basic physical needs of children to providing educational and vocational opportunities. Rotary also sponsors clubs and programs that give young people their own opportunities to serve others, such as Interact, Youth Exchange, Rotary Youth Leadership Awards (RYLA), and Rotaract.

Rotary Grows

Rotary clubs added a net 7,942 members in 2000-01, the first increase since 1997. This represented growth of 0.67 percent.

In another eagerly awaited development, Rotary International chartered the 30,000th club, the Rotary Club of Jilotepec, Mexico, in June.

Also of interest, RI has granted provisional status to clubs in Beijing and Shanghai, China, where Rotarians have been meeting for four and two years respectively. Neither club will be officially chartered, however, until the Chinese government enacts a law governing nongovernmental organizations.

***God Bless
America***