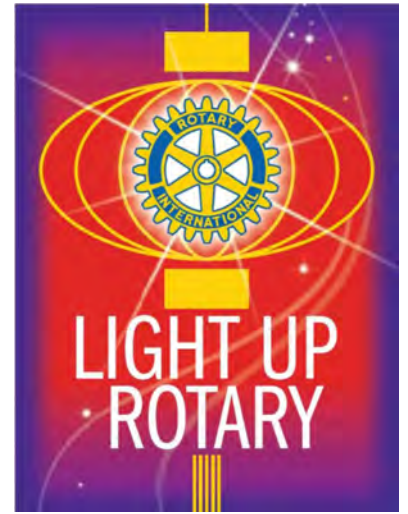


the newsletter of



Spring 2015

Rotary District 5840 Leaders

District Governor	Janet Livingston
DGE	Lou Miller
DGN	Judy Hutcherson
District Secretary	Brenda Sanchez-Carrasco
District Treasurer	Phillip Plant

In This Issue

- Governor's Corner	1-2
- Rotary in India	3
- Kerrville Rotarians busy during the holidays	4
- RI President Huang visits the Winston School	5
- Hondo - D'Hanis "Share the Joy"	6
- Record setting District Grants	7
- Kerrville Morning supports CWJC	7
- Purple Pinkies at Kerrville Morning	8-9
- New Interact Club at Hondo - D'Hanis	10
- Alamo Heights supports Cambridge Elementary	11
- Kerrville's new satellite Rotary club	12
- Interact News	13
- More Interact News	14
- Rotary Day at Hondo - D'Hanis	14
- Global Education Grant Scholar Micah Leonard	15-16
- North Central supports Kitchen on the Street	16

District Conference 2015 is a series of events designed for Rotary Clubs in D5840 to show off their projects, enjoy fellowship, and include Rotary Youth Programs in the FUN!! The events are in several locations in D5840 and are economical to attend.



April 29, 2015 Wednesday, 11:30 am District Conference Kickoff at Rotary Club of San Antonio, at The Bright Shawl.

April 29, 2015 Wednesday, 1:00 pm Del Rio Rotary Club hosts next location for tours of their community projects, tour of Val Verde winery and special International Reception with sister Clubs from Mexico. Overnight lodging available special price for Rotarians.

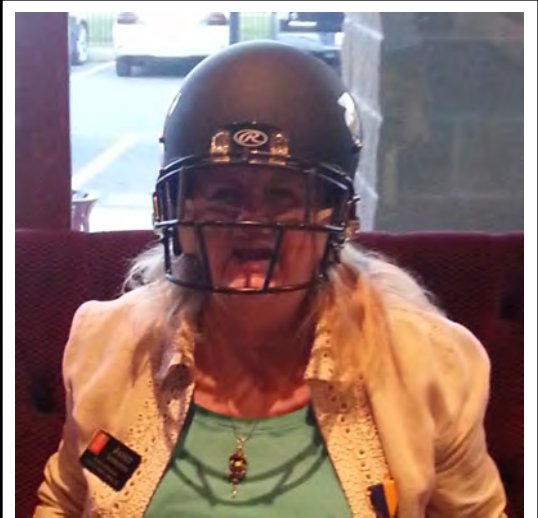
April 30, 2015 Thursday, 11:30 am Kerrville for Multi -Club Luncheon at Inn of the Hills, hosted by Rotary Club of Kerrville and Kerrville Morning Club. Western Theme.

April 30, 2015 Thursday, 2:00 pm Fredericksburg for Multi-Club Special Project for Youth in Community. Afternoon fellowship at Mamacita's on your own peso. Live entertainment at the RockBox Special Rotarian rates for overnight lodging available.

May 1, 2015 Friday, 11:30 am New Braunfels for All Club Luncheon at McKenna Center. Keynote Speaker SSGT Shilo Harris, Wounded Warrior, Motivational Speaker and Author--And Rotarian! Breakout sessions after luncheon for Membership, Foundation Grant Training, and Rotary Club Central.

May 1, 2015 Friday, 6:00 pm Rotary Reunion in San Antonio at The Veranda, for private party for fellowship, food and FUN!! Only \$45 per person. Business Casual. Cash bar no credit cards please.

May 2, 2015 Saturday 10:00 am Rotary Family and Youth Day at Morgan's Wonderland. All the D5840 Youth Programs--Early Act, Interact, Rotaract, RYLA, and RYE have been working on hosting a great day to "Show Up and Show Off" their Rotary experiences. Rotarians fee is \$15 each and spouses, kids and friends are FREE!! Awards and prizes. Raffle drawing at 4:00 pm



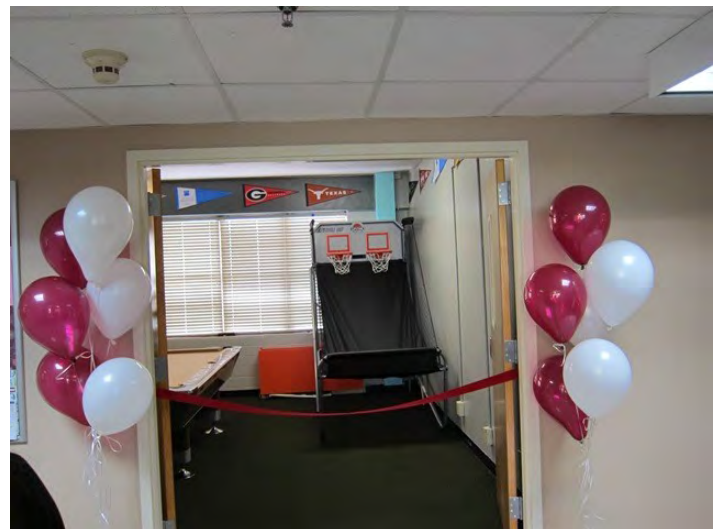
DG Jan is getting into football spring training and encourages all District 5840 Rotarians to attend the District Conference

Rotary Club of San Antonio U40 members refresh rooms at SAMMinistries

Article and photos submitted by Anne Swift

The U40 (under 40) members of the Rotary Club of San Antonio refreshed two teen rooms at SAMMinistries Transitional Living Center. The group repainted, purchased new furniture, new gaming system, large screen television, books, movies, electronic basketball game and more much. The rooms serve the teen residents of the transitional center. This project was aided by a District Simplified Grant.

The Rotary Club of San Antonio has a special program for leaders under 40. The U40 Class was formed to introduce San Antonio's business and community leaders under age 40 to Rotary. U40 Class members come together in service to develop lasting relationships with other rising leaders. Nearly a quarter of the club is comprised of members under 40. Candidates are recruited between August and October to fill a limited number of slots in the class.



Rotary in India

Submitted by PDG Sherri Muniz

This is a school owned by the Rotary Club of Agra Taj Mahal that my husband Al and I have supported over the years with donations. When we were with San Antonio Northeast Rotary Club our club did two small district grants to provide tables and benches and some computer equipment.

In 2010, in addition to funds sent to the Rotary Foundation for PolioPlus, the D5840 Pints for Polio event raised some money to support a project with one of the Rotary clubs in India who hosted the visiting team from Texas – that year several D5840 Rotarians were on the team, including Dr Linda Cook of San Antonio Rotary Club, Meg Barron of San Antonio Northeast, Monica Gutierrez of San Antonio North Central, JJ Nichols then with San Antonio Evening, Jennifer Catron then with San Antonio Mission Trail, as well as Al and I. The project the club in India chose to support was at this school – the funding helped to build an office for the headmaster of the school.



These two photos from the actual ribbon-cutting – JJ and Monica co-chaired the Pints for Polio, so they represented our district at the ribbon cutting! The school now serves over 600 students – more than ½ of them girls! It has pre-school through high school graduation and nearly all the students go on to university! This school is in an area where no government public school exists, so this school serves students who would otherwise not be able to have any formal education at all unless their parents can afford to transport

them to school in the city nearly 45 minutes away every day, . . . What a life-changing project the Rotarians of the Rotary Club of Agra Taj Mahal began nearly seven years ago!

Kerrville Rotarians busy during holidays with service projects and events

Article submitted by Joseph Benham

Photos courtesy of David Martin

From helping decorate the courthouse and other downtown buildings for Christmas to plunging into the frigid water of the Guadalupe River in a New Year fund-raiser, members of the Rotary Club of Kerrville stayed busy throughout the holidays, living up to their "Service Above Self" motto. Club members devoted 50 hours to ringing bells for the Salvation Army, and Rotary's Interact affiliate at Tivy High School put in a full-day at the red kettles as well.

After the club donated \$1,000 to the Blue Santa program of the Kerrville Police Department, Rotarian Jacques Duhr led a team of club members and Bolivian Exchange Student Fabiana Moreno in collecting, sorting, and delivering boxes of food, clothing and toys to 49 families, including 129 children. A blue-clad, bearded Santa went along on the delivery vehicles to visit with younger kids.

Two large food drives involving members of the parent club and its new satellite group helped re-stock shelves at ministries in this area: a campaign in conjunction with the organization's annual Christmas party filled two trucks, and Rotarian John Miller and his associates at National Car Sales raised \$3,500 in cash and hundreds of pounds of non-perishable food that went to the Christian Assistance Ministries (CAM).

Still on the subject of funds raised for worthy causes, club members Justin Hammack, Greg Appel, Mike Ezer, Randy Johnson and Rhonda Richter were among hardy and brave souls who raised \$11,000 for the United Way of Kerr County by taking the Polar Bear Plunge, a trip down the long slide into the Guadalupe River on the grounds of the Mo-Ranch Conference Center northwest of Kerrville. Rotarians Kristy Vandenberg and Bob Waller served as judges for the annual event.

Back in the center of Kerrville, there were direct connections between the Christmas Tree Forest on the courthouse grounds and the Rotary Club of Kerrville. Past President Diane Green and current chief Kim Clarkson of the Rotary Club of Kerrville celebrated as the tree entered by their company received the most votes from residents and tourists who visited the forest during the holidays.

The club had its own 9 1/2-foot tree, decorated by Clarkson and Rotarians Sherri Jones, Tricia Byrom and Traci Bond, and seven other entries were placed in the forest by companies and organizations headed by club members.

More than a dozen club members worked on holiday lighting of the courthouse and grounds, and on placing white lights on all public and commercial buildings in the area designated the Historic Downtown of Kerrville. The decorations also included garlands and bows on light posts in the area. Rotarians returned to help take the decorations down in January.

The Rotary Club of Kerrville took the lead in purchasing the 45-foot Giant Everest Fir tree that stood on the grounds closest to the intersection of Main and Sidney Baker Streets in the center of downtown Kerrville.

The club meets for programs and lunch at 11:45 a.m. most Wednesdays at the Inn of the Hills Resort and Conference Center on Junction Highway. All visiting Rotarians in the area are welcome. Additional information on the club, its satellite group and the civic, educational and service activities of the local organization and Rotary International is available from the club's local offices at (512) 787-7964 and on the Internet at www.kerrvillerotary.org



RI President Huang visits the Winston School San Antonio

Article and photos submitted by Mike Canales

On January 12, 2015, RI President Huang and his wife, Corinna, visited the Winston School of San Antonio. Sara Moravits, President of the Winston School was the master of ceremonies.



Lauren Weinberg from the Winston School receiving the Outstanding Interact Member for the 3rd Six Weeks Award from President Huang



Hondo / D'Hanis Rotary Club "Share the Joy" service project

Article and photos submitted by Jannie Bryant

The Hondo / D'Hanis Rotary Club's annual "Share the Joy" service project. The club provided presents, a catered dinner with entertainment, food basket with items for a Christmas dinner, and a turkey for families that have suffered from an immediate crisis that includes illness, injury, death, sudden unemployment, fire, etc., and the families have no financial means to provide a Christmas for their children. Some of the Interact kids from the brand new middle school Interact Club of McDowell School volunteered with the gift wrapping. So did the students that will be participating in RYLA this year.



Record setting 31 District Grants

Submitted by DG Jan Livingston and PDG Jerry Hardy

District 5840 took RI President Gary Huang's theme to heart and "Lit up Rotary" with its program of district grants this year. "We allocated the maximum of fifty percent of available district designated funds to district grants this 2014-2015 Rotary year" said District Governor Jan Livingston. "The allocation was \$62,992 and we have \$6 left."

District Rotary Foundation chair Doug Whinnery led the strategy and began implementation with club leaders at President Elect Training in March 2014. Promoting the plan continued through District Assembly training and a Foundation Grants seminar last spring. Club grant applications supporting the targeted allocation total arrived by July and in August our applications were approved by Rotary Foundation staff.

"The Rotary Foundation put the money in our District Grants checking account and the next day I had checks in the mail" said District Grants subcommittee chair Jerry Hardy. He added, "Initially we held back a ten percent contingency reserve; then distributed the final balance after a mid-year review."

Scholarship programs were funded for several clubs, as well as various community literacy projects. Books were purchased for local libraries, schools and even Head Start programs. A scout hut received needed repair and the roof on a senior center was replaced. Nutrition programs were given needed resources, bookcases built and bicycles bought through our Foundation dollars.

Grants also went for supporting an orphanage in Mexico and a similar project in Peru. One club renovated parts of a homeless shelter with its sweat equity and used their matching grant for materials.

PDG Hardy's final comment was "we can do more as our Rotarians see what their contributions accomplish. Last year was a record setting \$102 per capita giving level and, as contributions increase, so will our grant funding."

Kerrville Morning Rotary Supports Christian Women's Job Corps

Article and photo submitted by Ray Buck

In keeping with its goal to promote employment and vocational education for deserving, underprivileged men and women, Kerrville Morning Rotary made a \$1,000 donation to Christian Women's Job Corps (CWJC) of Kerrville.

"It's an honor to help CWJC as they seek to provide life and job skills to area women," said Bob Green, Morning Rotary Vice-President.

"The Christian Women's Job Corps is very grateful for this generous donation from the Morning Rotary and Rotary International. Our Spring 2015 class will begin February 11, and these funds will be used to offset a portion of our curriculum costs, particularly the curriculum needed for our new QuickBooks, Parenting, and Money Management classes as well as our Bible Study manuals. The Morning Rotary has caught the vision of giving a hand up to the CWJC Interns that will positively affect their families and our community," said CWJC Executive Director, Ann Buck.



Presenting a check to CWJC, L-R, Morning Rotary Vice-President, Bob Green; CWJC Executive Director, Ann Buck; CWJC President, Candace Cormier; and, Morning Rotary Secretary, Nancy Riley.

Kerrville Morning Rotary Club supporting “purple pinkies” to eradicate Polio

Submitted by Ray Buck

Article courtesy of *The Kerrville Daily Times*



Morning Rotary gets students involved in raising funds to eradicate polio

By Caitlin Clark
Staff Writer

caitlin.clark@dailytimes.com

Joe Tally-Foos, an Ingram Tom Moore High School sophomore, used a cotton swab Tuesday to carefully apply a topical dye to the pinkie finger of another student, staining it a brilliant shade of purple.

Many students around the cafeteria could be seen sporting the purple dye on their fingers.

In countries where polio is still common, the dye, called gentian violet, is used by Rotary International to stain a child's pinkie after they have been immunized from the disease to prevent double dosage. At Ingram Tom Moore High School, the dye served as a symbol of one more child saved from the vaccine.

Tally-Foos and other members of Ingram Tom Moore's Interact club, Rotary International's service organization for young people, dyed the pinkies of

each student who donated a dollar or more to help eliminate polio worldwide.

The Kerrville Morning Rotary Club will promote the "Purple Pinkie Project" at several more schools in Kerrville, Ingram, Hunt and Harper over the following weeks.

"Each (polio) vaccination is 66 cents, so a

whole dollar pays for a person's vaccination as well as part of another," said Valeria Garcia, president of the Ingram Tom Moore Interact club.

Rotary International has been raising funds in an effort to eliminate polio worldwide since 1985. Worldwide, Rotarians have raised more than \$1.2 billion through its "End Polio Now" program.

Frank Dunlap, Kerrville Morning Rotarian, said this is the first year the local branch has participated in the Purple Pinkie Project.



Ingram Tom Moore sophomore Joe Tally-Foos, left, paints the finger of freshman Miguel Benitez on Tuesday as Interact students raise money for the fight to eradicate polio.

See **Pinkies**, page 3A

**MORNING ROTARY CLUB
REPORTS THEIR PURPLE PINKIE DRIVE WAS
A HUGE COMMUNITY SUCCESS!**



**-Covenant, Ingram, Harper, Hunt, Kerrville, Our Lady of the Hills-
4,100 Students plus their families in
11 schools over 10 weeks, plus the Peterson Regional Medical Center
Raised \$3,866.67 to be matched 2 to 1 by the Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation
So that \$11,600.01 can vaccinate 17,576 children against polio
THANK YOU FOR SHARING !!**

Kerrville Morning Rotary Club visited the campus of Ingram Elementary School to raise money for polio eradication. Previously, they visited the Tom Moore High School campus for the same purpose. The Morning Rotary Club commenced the Purple Pinkie public awareness and fund-raising program in January. To date, the program has been a huge success with many area schools and the Peterson Regional Medical Center all participating.

Ray Buck, President of the Morning Rotary Club said "by partnering with the World Health Organization, the CDC, UNICEF and other government and private groups, Rotary International has already achieved a 99 percent reduction of polio worldwide, but the last 1 percent will be our hardest to conquer! In 1985, when we started, polio existed in 193 countries and today it exists in only 3 countries- Pakistan, Afghanistan, and Nigeria". The funds collected through these fundraisers will be sent to Rotary International, and will be matched 2-for-1 by the Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation. Including this matching gift, the funds donated by the Ingram students will enable over 1,700 children in these countries to receive the much-needed vaccine. Thank you Ingram faculty and students!



Superintendent Templeton and students
get 'purple'

Hondo - D'Hanis new Interact Club

Article and photos submitted by Jannie Bryant

Here are some pictures from the Induction Dinner of the new middle school Interact Club of McDowell School. I can't remember if I sent these or not. I sent multiple pics, please feel free to edit. We have been trying for years to start an Interact Club so we are very proud of this accomplishment. Mike Canales attended with one of the Interact students from his school. It was a wonderful evening.



Alamo Heights Rotary supports Cambridge Elementary School

Article and photos submitted by Rick Berchin

Approximately 55-60 children in the Cambridge Elementary School, Alamo Heights Independent School District, are from families that cannot afford to properly feed their children. While in school, the children are provided the appropriate meals to meet their needs, but this does not continue while they are away from school. One of the parents at the school began a "Snack Paks 4 Kids (SP4K)" program this past year to provide food for these

children to take home with them on weekends and holidays when not in school. Funding and volunteers were donated by a number of Churches, private donors, and other sources. The food is purchased at cost from Labatt Foods, packaged and distributed to the teachers for each child by volunteers, and distributed by the teachers to the students before they go home on the weekends. The Alamo Heights Rotary Club decided to support this program and during this 2014-2015 school year the Club will be providing about 1/2 the cost for the food (cost donated by the Club and a matching District Grant) in addition to providing volunteer support to pack the food for distribution and delivery to the teachers each week.



Standing from left: Travis Haring, Kenny Sugarman, Kerry Keisling, Larry Donoghue and Buzz Griffeth
Sitting from left: Dar Miller, Emily Boehm, Stephanie Macchia, Cathy Garrison



Kerrville Rotary Club names honorary Rotarian and inducts 15 into new satellite Rotary club

Article submitted by Joseph Benham

Photo courtesy of David Martin

Officers of the Rotary Club of Kerrville have named their former President Marianne Wofford an honorary Rotarian, and inducted 15 new members to the organization's Satellite Rotary Club. Wofford, an executive in a local investment and financial planning firm, was the first woman elected president of the 150-member Rotary Club of Kerrville, serving in 1999-2000. The club has had four women in the top job since then, Diane Green, Sandy Merritt, Sue Whinnery and the current president for 2014-2015, Kim Clarkson. Green and Clarkson are mother and daughter, and are executives of the same title firm..

New members of the Satellite Rotary Club are tax service and pest control executive Traci Bond, Internet webpage owner Bobby Burns, project manager Tricia Byrom, educator Austin Clarkson, state parks and wildlife official Kay Coffey, financial services manager Courtney Compton, state hospital superintendent Leigh Ann Fitzpatrick, truck and equipment repair company owner Denise LeMeilleur, attorney and municipal court judge Pat Maguire, safety training firm owner Veronique Rochefer, certified public accountant Lee Vanacker, nursery owners Erin and Brian Wofford, and educator Micheller Yanez. Marianne and Brian Wofford are mother and son, and Kim and Austin Clarkson are husband and wife. Jan Livingston, District Governor of the vast 44-county Rotary District 5840 that includes Kerrville, and Kim Clarkson installed the new members.



Satellite members, From left to right: Kay Coffey, Tricia Byrom, Austin Clarkson, Michelle Yanez, Stephanie Skrumeda, Leigh Ann Fitzpatrick, Veronique Rochefer, Courtney Compton, Traci Bond, Brian Wofford, Lee Vanacker, Erin Wofford, Pat Maguire, Kacy Smith.

Interact News

**Submitted by
Mike Canales**



Members of the Champion High School and Winston School Interact Clubs, along with UTSA Rotaract members Ruby Benavidez (club president) and Garrett Kneese, were on hand to assist with the Boerne Sunrise Fundraiser on Friday, February 27. The students helped serve the meal, bus tables and clean up after the event. The Boerne Sunrise Rotary Club holds this fundraiser at the St. Helena Episcopal Church in Boerne every year in February. The Rotary Club sponsors the Champion High School and the Winston School San Antonio Interact clubs.



The Winston School Interact Club completed a project with SA Reads on Saturday, February 21, 2015. The task consisted of sorting over 12,000 books, then placing them into boxes to be used at a later date. They completed the task in just over three hours. Chelsea Pitcher, SA Reads Program Manager commented after the project, "This is a very impressive group. It is difficult to find enough work for them." The Winston School Interact Club partnered up with SA Reads about two weeks ago and have maintained a harmonious relationship since then.

More Interact News

Article and photos submitted by Mike Canales

On Saturday, February 7, 2015, Interact members from five high schools in the local area reported to the Habitat for Humanity site to help build a home for a local family. Members of the Holmes/Business Careers, South San, Clark, East Central, and the Winston School San Antonio mounted cabinets in the kitchen, set up shelves in the utility room, and others installed door knobs in the bedrooms and bathrooms. These Interact clubs have been working together on Habitat for Humanity projects the last three years. Their goal is to have more Interact clubs in the area join them in the future. Mr. Mitch Beres, a Winston School parent and chaperone at the project commented, "It is truly a beautiful sight to see so many of our youth working together to help the community."



Rotary Day at Hondo - D'Hanis

Article and photos submitted by Jannie Bryant

Here are some pictures from the Hondo-D'Hanis Rotary Club annual Rotary Day on March 19, 2015. This is the second annual event started to raise community awareness about Rotary, brag about the club, and recruit possible members from the attending guests. The RYLA students and Interact students helped with the event.



Meet Rotary District 5840 Global Education Grant Scholar Micah Leonard

Article and photo submitted by Jane Burton

Micah was born and raised in San Antonio, Texas. She is the daughter of Ellen Imber Leonard, MD and Robert Lewis Davidson. She has one sister Arianna. Micah graduated from Alamo Heights High School and is currently a senior at Rhodes College, in Memphis, Tennessee. She will graduate this May with a Bachelor's Degree in Psychology and Spanish. She plans to do her post-graduate work at the University of Belgrano, in Buenos Aires, Argentina.

The following is an interview with Micah.

Jane: How did you learn about the Rotary Global Education Grant?

Micah: My Career Services Advisor at Rhodes College was working with me trying to find a fellowship opportunity. This, along with an alumnus of Rhodes and a professor at Rhodes, really helped me. The alumnus was a previous Rotary Ambassadorial Scholar who went to Columbia to study and the other was my Spanish professor who was originally from Argentina. She came to the US when she was a junior in high school to study through the Rotary Youth Exchange Program. Because of my interest in service, I came to know more and more about Rotary. My mentors said this opportunity would be a perfect match.

Jane: You participated in the Global Scholar-Elect Training Seminar in Round Rock, Texas, in January. Tell us about this experience – meeting scholar alumni, scholars-elect like yourself, and Rotarians from several districts?

Micah: This was a very special experience. It brought closure to questions I had and it really enhanced my motivation to make the most of this experience. It also underscored what an honor it is to receive this grant. I was able to connect with several Rotarians who are very passionate about this program. It was a powerful experience to meet and hear from scholar alumni, those who have already been Global Education Scholars around the world. Listening to them I could see myself as a Rotarian in the future. The former scholars shared that their lives were directly changed by the impact of their experiences.

Jane: How did you choose the country you will be going to and the educational institution where you will be studying?

Micah: I wanted to be in a country where I could develop my Spanish. It also had a population that would give me experiences working with immigrants and women. Argentina has been very progressive in developing policies to help women. I felt a strong calling to be there and to learn from them. Their activism is well thought out, not just based on impulse. For young people this is a positive example for making change come about.



Continued on page 16

Jane: What things are you most looking forward to in your experience?

Do you have any apprehensions?

Micah: First, I am a nerd so I am really looking forward to the educational component of being there in Argentina. I know the professors will not be like the US, and this is also a challenge I look forward to. Second, I really like the idea of being immersed in Spanish every day. Lastly, I am looking forward to being immersed in another culture, a culture where people have grown up very differently from me. I hope to make life-long friends and have unique experiences. This I will do this by meeting with Rotary Clubs there and being involved in their service projects. Sort of "Rotary in training."

Sometimes I worry that I will not be able to fully express myself. But this will challenge me to think through what I am saying and be concerned about how it will be received by another culture. I also worry that I may get homesick. I've always been very independent. But this is for a whole year, and I will miss the entire special holidays here and being with family. It will definitely push me out of my comfort zone.

Jane: What would you like to say to Rotarians who make this grant possible through their support of the Rotary Foundation?

Micah: I simply want to say "thank you!" I will make you proud! This experience through the Rotary grant will make my life goals come true. It will push me forward as I develop future goals. I want to do what I can to make the world a better place. I cannot wait to return and share my experiences.

Jane: Is there anything else you would like to say that was not covered.

Micah: This opportunity is great for someone of my age. We can use it to help turn around negativity and hatred. It puts a face to a country and through personal connections we can create understanding and compassion.

For more information on Rotary Global Education Grants, contact Jane Burton, jbarton13@satx.rr.com

San Antonio North Central Rotary Club helps Kitchen on the Street

Article and photo submitted by Deya Serna

The San Antonio North Central Rotary Club of San Antonio participates in a local service project by helping Kitchen on the Street. To date, more than \$7,500 has been granted by the North Central Rotary Club of San Antonio to KoS to help meet the needs of food insecurity.

Kitchen on the Street (KoS) is a non-profit organization working to eliminate childhood hunger in San Antonio, TX. North Central Rotary Club of San Antonio has partnered with Kos and 2 local elementary schools (Larkspur Elementary and Harmony Hills Elementary) to help meet the food needs of children and families. Children are provided a "Bag of Hope" on Friday so that they have individually portioned, shelf stable meals and snacks for the weekend. Family food pantries on school campuses allow low-income families to donate their time in the pantry in exchange for food. This honors folks and allows them to preserve their dignity by giving their time in exchange for much needed food. Kitchen on the Street recognizes that everyone has something to give and that time is a valuable commodity that we cannot make more of.

