

BOSTON ROTARACT

2009-2010 ANNUAL REPORT



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Dear Friends,

Wow! We have had quite the eventful year. Besides our membership increasing fourfold, we have helped with various service projects locally and internationally. As President-Elect for the 2010-2011 Rotaract year, I want to extend a warm thank you to all our members, friends, donors, and everyone else who has aided in making our year such a success. We could not have done it without you so thank you!

Boston Rotaract is a community based service club sponsored by Rotary International for students and young working professionals who aspire to make the world a better place. We uphold and firmly believe in Rotary's principles of "service above self," and use each opportunity of service to strengthen our local and international friendships with other Rotaractors and Rotarians from around the world. The club wanted to put together a comprehensive annual report to better explain our past and current projects. We have a very exciting year ahead of us my friends so read on!

Thank you again for your continued contributions and support!

Sincerely,

Anetta Rauf
Boston Rotaract Club President 2010-2011

Anand Vankawala
Boston Rotaract Club Vice-President 2010-2011



INTERNATIONAL SERVICE

PERU TRIP 2009

In June through August of 2009, Boston Rotaract's Kaitlyn Winegardner and Christina Strömberg spent three months volunteering in Northern Peru. Their trip developed out of their passions for travel and for Latin America. With the help of Boston Rotaract, they delivered three editions of English text books, a computer, and CD-ROMs and also volunteered at a local school that serves children without access to education.



The school where they volunteered is named C.E.P. or la Corporación Educación Popular (Association for Education of the General Population). C.E.P. provides education for children who can't afford private school or incidental fees for public school, such as a uniform and daily bus fare. The school holds classes for 3 year-olds through sixth grade and is currently expanding for grades 7-12. There are 9 classrooms, 2 play areas, garden, office/library, new kitchen and bathrooms, social worker office, and a dining area. Future facilities are being built that include a second floor with 5 new class-

rooms, expanded library, and a bathroom for pre-schoolers. C.E.P. was founded in 2005 by Padre Victor Tumba while completing a doctoral program in education. The children receive free education, school materials, and lunch. What was once an empty, dusty terrain is now a thriving school complete with classrooms, cafeteria, playground, a garden, and even a beautiful mural.



One of the largest reasons that C.E.P. is able to thrive is because of the support they receive from international volunteers. Kaitlyn and Christina spent many long days doing everything from assisting in classrooms to doing construction work. Their tasks really depended on the needs of the school at that particular time. However there were three main projects that they spent most of their time helping with. Kaitlyn spent mornings volunteering with the four year-olds, correcting homework, assisting with lessons, and generally caring for the children. The second main task that the girls helped out with was construction work. Among the many projects were cement laying for



INTERNATIONAL SERVICE

Peru Trip Continued

a new cafeteria and building a garden. This took many hours and was extremely difficult as the work was all done manually and the weather was often not cooperative. The final project, which Kaitlyn and Christina were most proud of was painting a mural on a 50ft wall in one of the children's play areas. The mural was designed and sketched by Amy, a fellow volunteer from England and held the theme "Children Around the World." Many hours were spent painting. It seemed that whenever someone would have a free moment they would head to C.E.P. to help with the mural. There was even a painting party where 12 volunteers spent their Saturday at the school. Everyone was ecstatic, especially the children who were thrilled to have a new play area.

The trip to Peru was a wonderful experience in which Kaitlyn and Christina were honored to represent Boston Rotaract.



GUATEMALA TRIP 2010

In the mountains high above Guatemala's lake Atitlan, many families do not have access to safe, clean drinking water. This region has one of the highest incidence rates of childhood diarrhea, due mainly to its contaminated water sources, but also complicated by sanitation issues and bad hygiene practices.

This year Boston Rotaract Club is partnering with Catherine and Will Reyes of Rhode Island and the Rotaract Club of Guatemala Sur to complete a project geared towards water, sanitation, and hygiene. Our group will be traveling to Guatemala in August 2010 to deliver soaps, vitamins, shoes, and to install water filtration systems in rural communities.

To sponsor a filter, donate, or learn more about the project, please visit:

www.bostonrotaract.org

or

Contact Kaitlyn Winegardner at
internationalservice@bostonrotaract.org



COMMUNITY SERVICE

This year we participated in several community service projects: Monster March to Prevent Suicide, Volvo 5k Road Race, Room to Grow, National Braille Press, Greater Boston Food Bank, Boys and Girls Club, Mystic River Watershed Cleanup, and Cradles to Crayons. We capped off a strong year of volunteering by partnering with City Year to work towards bringing a transformational change to underserved schools in the Boston area. In all, this was a year full of fantastic opportunities for the Rotaract Club to embrace partnerships within our community and to enhance awareness of important issues. We want to thank our partners this year for their help and reiterate our commitment to support their causes.

SERV-A-THON 2010

The Boston Rotaract Club brought together its members this year to partner with City Year for their Serv-a-thon 2010. On May 22nd, we



sent fourteen of our members to participate in the physical transformation of the Mario Umani

Elementary school in East Boston. Club members painted murals, cleaned up a skate park, and performed landscaping services.

To raise funds for this project, Boston Rotaract club operated two fund raising events to raise awareness of our cause and to target a wider audience. Our first fundraiser was a very successful auction in which auctioned items donated to the organization by Rotarians and friends of Rotaract. Our second fundraiser was a wildly successful NCAA March Madness tournament pool. After weeks of tireless work by the local service committee, we raised over \$880 towards our funding Serv-a-thon.

MONSTER MARCH

The 2009 Boston Monster March is a costume charity walk and giant carnival on Boston City Hall Plaza to benefit the Samaritans, who run a hotline to help prevent suicide. Boston Rotaract volunteers helped run carnival games and assisted with handing out prizes.

To keep up to date on Boston Rotaract events, projects, and meetings, visit our website:

<http://www.bostonrotaract.org>



Boston Rotaract Club

A Rotary-assisted service club for young men and women ages 18 to 30



COMMUNITY SERVICE

ROOM TO GROW

During our Local Service Event with Room to Grow, we organized clothing donations for babies born into poverty. As it was October, the focus was on getting Halloween costumes together, and to gather winter clothing. It was wonderful to see the mountains of community-donated clothes, however these donations would not make it to those in need without the help from volunteers like us in order to make them accessible by size and type.



NATIONAL BRAILLE PRESS

Members of the Rotaract Club of Boston volunteered for the Hands On! Gala, an event coordinated by the National Braille Press. The event, hosted by Deal or No Deal's Howie Mandel, raised funds for Braille Literacy. The proceeds were used to purchase Braille textbooks and high tech Braille devices for students. These textbooks and devices allow the students to actively participate in their classrooms, rather than passively through a reading aide. Rota-

racters sold raffle tickets, provided assistant to the visually impaired and took part in assembling/ disassembling the banquet hall.

GREATER BOSTON FOOD BANK

In January, club members volunteered at the Greater Boston Food Bank (GBFB). Volunteers are critical to the work the GBFB do every day in feeding the hungry. The GBFB depends on volunteers to inspect, sort, and repack "salvaged" food and grocery products which are donated by individuals and various organizations. These items are then redistributed to nearly 600 hunger-relief agencies throughout eastern Massachusetts and will eventually end up in the hands of more than 394,000 people in need.

MYSTIC RIVER WATERSHED

In April, we joined with the Mystic River Watershed Association for a day of service along the Mystic River. As part of our service, members helped clean up trash from along the river banks and removed shopping carts and other large items from the river.

HAITI FUNDRAISER

In light of the earthquake that took place in Haiti in January of 2010, we dedicated our February local service project towards raising relief funds to help victims. We held a speed dating event at Joe's American Bar & Grill in downtown



COMMUNITY SERVICE

Haiti Fundraiser Continued

Boston where we helped singles show their support for Haiti while having a fun time. Additionally, we sold handcrafted chocolate candies



made by Natalie Kaiser during the speed dating event. Through this event we raised over \$500 that went towards the Rotary International Haiti Relief Fund.

CRADLES TO CRAYONS



The vision of Cradles to Crayons is that "One day, every child will have the basic things they need to be safe, ready to learn, and feel valued." In May, club volunteers worked at the Giving Factory, where they matched outfits, stuffed backpacks, and filled orders that meet the needs of individual boys and girls in their local communities.



PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT

As a core tenet of Rotaract, we work towards helping our members develop the necessary skills to achieve their full potential. We sometimes invite guest speakers to our meetings and hold workshops to increase knowledge of professions and learn new skills towards starting and furthering their careers. Some of the speakers we have had this year include:

Fernanda Medeiros — Fernanda is the Manager of the International Center at Children's Hospital Boston. Her department is responsible for coordinating medical care for international patients. Her team is incredibly diverse, speaking 8 languages, from 9 countries and with various backgrounds (3 physicians, 1 social worker, and 1 nurse). Fernanda and her staff coordinate comprehensive care plans that not only address insurance, visa, and financial issues, but also support the culture and social needs of the families.

Steve Daly — Steve is a fellow Rotarian and is also a field representative for Shelter Box. The purpose of Shelter Box USA, Inc. is to provide victims of disaster with shelter, by supporting the efforts of the Shelter Box Trust. The function of Shelter Box USA, Inc. is, within the USA, to raise the money that provides the shelter for disaster victims. Shelter Box is a grassroots Rotary club project which has rapidly grown to an international level. Steve promotes the Shelter Box initiative through creating public awareness.

Tom Harvey — Tom is a fellow Rotarian, finishing his year as the Marblehead Harbor Treasurer.

Tom is a leader development specialist with a vision to help our society grow a new generation of leaders. Tom hosts an annual Emerging Leader Institute for young adults. The objectives of this workshop are:

- To identify and define personal styles, attributes, skills, values, interests, and beliefs in order to construct their Lifework Leader Brand
- To become fully aware of beliefs that may be self-limiting and develop strategies to override them with a stronger sense of self-efficacy.
- To create, implement, and monitor a Lifework Leadership Plan.
- To develop skills in self and social awareness, and self and social management.

Jonathan Katelitz — Jonathan has worked as a Financial Advisor at Oppenheimer & Co. Inc. since July 2007. He is an highly knowledgeable in financial planning strategies and is well versed in money market savings, CDs, stocks and bonds. Jonathan, together with his father, work out of Oppenheimer's new office in Waltham, which is dedicated to the needs of high-net-worth individuals and families, as well as trusts, institutional accounts and 401(k) plans. Jonathan lives in Cambridge, MA and likes to ski, snorkel and play guitar. He volunteer's at Children's Hospital, Big Brother and the American Cancer society



EVENTS

NORTH EAST LINK

This conference was for Inbound and outbound Ambassadorial Scholars, University Teachers, World Peace Fellows and all Rotary Foundation Alumni. It was a multi-district event held at the Boxborough Holiday Inn in Boxborough, MA. Our Rotaract representatives presented about Rotaract and our club. During the event we had an opportunity to network with TRF alumni, as well as current international students coming into the New England area to study.

achusetts-Dartmouth and Boston University Rotaract clubs.



GOVERNOR'S PRAYER BREAKFAST

Annual Governor's Prayer Breakfast The Rotary Club of Boston's Forty-Seventh Annual Governor's Prayer Breakfast brought together prominent business, professional, political and religious community leaders for two hours of fellowship and reflection. The program included a

ROTARY INTERNATIONAL UN DAY

This was an amazing program in which the Rotary International president and many other Rotary dignitaries were present. We learned a great deal about Rotary International and Networked with many Rotarians and fellow Rotaract clubs. We attended Rotaract Club at the UN's fundraising event at the luxurious Trump Towers World Bar. During this event we were fortunate enough to connect with the University of Massa-



full breakfast and distinguished guests including Governor Deval Patrick and Mayor Thomas M.



EVENTS

Governor's Prayer Breakfast Continued

Menino and US Senator Scott Brown. The net proceeds will benefit Madison Park Technical Vocational High School and ShelterBoxUSA. Boston Rotaract members who attended the breakfast helped usher guests to their seats and introduced guests to the ShelterBox concept. Overall, it was a very successful event that was able to raise thousands of dollars towards Boston Rotary's causes.

THE ROTARY FOUNDATION SEARCH

As a gesture of goodwill towards Rotarians in our district, we offered to help with a search for lost Foundation alumni. On a warm and sun-soaked Saturday, a group of Boston Rotaract members gathered to conduct an intensive online search for the contact information on lost alumni using their last know information. While there were many obstacles to overcome, we were able to find a significant portion of those alumni in hopes of brining them back into the Rotary family as Rotarians.



DISTRICT 7950 RYLA

In May, we had four members reach out to District 7950, a neighboring Rotary district, and offer to help with their Rotary Youth Leadership Awards Program (RYLA). RYLA emphasizes leadership, citizenship, and personal growth through an engaging series of workshops, activities, and speakers. Our Rotaractors represented our organization and spoke about how to get involved in your community, how to start a Rotaract & Interact club, and service projects we have performed.