



**Rotary PlayGarden Opens**



**Kiva Micro Loans**



**Stop Hunger Now**



**ROTARY**  
CLUB OF SAN JOSE

ROTARY CLUB OF SAN JOSE  
**FOUNDATION**



**100 Years of Leadership, Fellowship and Humanitarian Service**  
**2014-2015 ANNUAL REPORT**

**Message from the presidents:**

Dear Fellow Rotarians,

We are pleased to bring you a summary of the past year for the Rotary Club of San Jose and our local RCSJ Foundation. We wanted to recognize those that serve on our 42 committees as well as those that financially support our many activities. In addition to our service work this past year, our Members also enjoyed 46 weekly meetings with great speakers and more than 25 special social events.

If you take just a few minutes to review this annual report, you will realize the tremendous impact our projects are having in our local community and around the world. It will also serve as a reminder of the friendship we share. Your time, your talent and your treasure make all this possible.

With our deepest gratitude for all that you do,  
**Stew Park and Vincent Sunzeri**

**Club Mission**

*Engage San Jose leaders in meaningful service within our community and humanitarian projects around the world, while embracing opportunities for friendship and providing informative programs.*

The Rotary Club of San Jose is the community's most active and well known service organization. Since it was founded in 1914, Members have volunteered more than 3,000,000 hours for community and international service while being at the forefront of efforts to build the infrastructure and social fabric of our community. Most importantly, more than 4,000 business and community leaders have shared the fun and friendship of being Members of the Rotary Club of San Jose while upholding the ideals of humanitarian service and high ethical standards.

**Rotary Club of San Jose Club Board**

Stew Park	President
Brian Adams	President Elect
Tom Bondi	Treasurer

<b>Director-1st Year</b>	<b>Director-2nd Year</b>	<b>Director-3rd Year</b>
Jon Ball	Matt Bell	Chris DiSalvo
Shishir Doctor	Dick Conniff	Cathy Kimball
David Ginsborg	Norm Hulberg	Karyn Sinunu
Bruce MacKenzie	Suzanne St John	Mark Walker

**Service Above and Beyond**

More than 100,000 residents turned out on the 4<sup>th</sup> of July to celebrate the return of fireworks to downtown San Jose. As we have done for the past 100 years, San Jose Rotary provided leadership and financial support for this grand community event.

President Stew took the members on a world tour by working with KIVA to make micro loans to new entrepreneurs in 50 different countries. Another new program matched 60 high school students from our sponsored Interact Clubs with 30 Rotarians to bag more than 17,000 meals in cooperation with Stop Hunger Now.

Our dedicated Rotaplast committee sponsored a mission to rural Venezuela and performed more than 100 life changing operations. Closer to home we gave 50 new trumpets and trombones to Santee Elementary School for their music program.

But the biggest event during the Rotary year was the construction and opening of the Rotary PlayGarden. After five years of planning and fundraising, the vision for our Centennial Project turned into San Jose's most exciting park and playground (see the back page for more details).

2014-15 was an exciting year for the members of San Jose Rotary.

**Foundation Mission**

*Enhance Rotary's legacy of service through stewardship of charitable contributions and provide financial support for local nonprofit organizations, international projects and Club activities.*

Founded in 1949 to support the charitable activities of the Rotary Club of San Jose, our local Foundation has given more than \$5,000,000 to many important local and international projects as well as direct grants to over 150 other community organizations. These grants leverage the volunteer work of San Jose Rotarians meeting critical needs and reaching deserving recipients in San Jose as well as around the world. Our charitable foundation is the engine that drives our community work and service projects.

**Rotary Club of San Jose Foundation Board**

Vince Sunzeri	President
Elaine Curran	Vice President
Howard Loomis	Treasurer

<b>Trustees</b>		
Elaine Curran	Martin Hoek	Dave Henderson
Kathy Gallagher	Cinda Hoyt	Elizabeth Monley
Bert George	Fred Leonard	Jay Ross
Eric Heckman	Howard Loomis	Vince Sunzeri

# Starting with service in San Jose California

*San Jose Rotarians serve youth, the disadvantaged, arts organizations and senior programs in our community by volunteering our time, providing hands on assistance, and leveraging our financial resources to support other nonprofit organizations.*

## **Committees – During 2014-15 the RCSJ Foundation gave more than \$130,000 to our committees.**

**Boy Scouts** - Has 2 Packs 116 & 911 with 38 scouts who went on field trips, camped, hiked and collected food for the hungry. Troop 116 has 25 boys, two earning eagle scout, and 25 adults. They camped 26 nights, worked 199 service hours, hiked 1032 miles, biked, and kayaked.

**Career Development** – Sponsored Job Shadow Day in May for 90 high school students from the Silicon Valley Career Technical Education Center. These students spent half a day with a Rotarian in their work place learning about careers in their profession. Approximately 100 students then attended a Rotary lunch program with their Rotarian hosts where they received copies of Rotary's 4-Way Test relating to ethical behavior.

**Disaster Relief Committee** – Continued our relationship with ShelterBox by purchasing 1 ShelterBox to be deployed as needed in the world. We coordinated, along with the Interact Committee, a President's project: Stop Hunger Now! in which Rotarians working with Interactors, packaged 17,000 meals to be shipped where needed. We donated, along with individuals in the club and the Ski Committee a total of \$5300 to the Rotary Club of Nepal and ReSurge International to be used for the immediate relief of victims of the Nepal Earthquake.

**Downtown Development** – Educating and engaging members on efforts to increase vitality in downtown San Jose. Key projects include historic photographs in highly-visible downtown storefront windows; active cleanup of the Guadalupe River between the SAP Center and Julian St; advocacy for successful transformation of Saint James Park; and continuing the Fourth of July fireworks in downtown San Jose.

**Enterprise Leadership Conference** – In cooperation with Los Gatos and Los Gatos Morning Rotary Clubs, 96 high school juniors were immersed in an intense 3-day leadership conference at Asilomar learning about business principles and community service with the guidance of Rotarians. Each of the 12 student teams developed their own unique start-up business.

**Ethics** –Promoted ethical practices in business by working with 32 MBA and MBT students from the SJSU College of Business who met with the leaders of seven of our community's leading business, government and nonprofit organizations to learn how they integrate ethics into their policies, procedures, and every-day practices.

**Interact/RYLA** – Supported Interact service clubs at Lincoln, Gunderson, Overfelt, Bellarmine and Santa Teresa high schools. These five Interact clubs involved more than 250 student members doing community service projects and supporting their international project "The Answer is the Sun" and 1000's of hours of community service. District 5170 has the largest group of Interact Clubs in all of Rotary. San Jose Rotary also provided 8 scholarships to the RYLA leadership camp.

**International House** – Provided a welcome event, group photos, country flags, computer system upgrades and subsidized tickets to the arts for the 75 San Jose State University students living in the International House. There were over 25 different countries represented this year.

**Leigh Weimers Emerging Artists** – Provided unrestricted grants to three emerging local artists who have shown originality and dedication. The awards are named for former member and Mercury News columnist Leigh Weimers who was an active supporter of the arts.

**Los Amigos de Washington School** – This important San Jose Rotary partnership with Washington Elementary School sponsored Back to School night (and barbecue), several career field trips for fifth graders, science camp scholarships for third graders, a girl scout troop, student achievement recognition, a career/health fair, Christmas giving tree and teacher development. They also promoted the China Club with regular Skype conferences and a student exchange with a rural school in China. San Jose Rotary's Fish, Rotacare and Digital Bridges committees also support the students at Washington School and their families.

**Military Care Packages** – Provided care packages for active U.S. military members. Also hosted the Bay Club Courtside Tennis Tournament, Social and Silent Auction to help build community awareness and participation.

**RotaCare** – Provided financial support for the San Jose RotaCare Free Clinic located next door to Washington School which provides free health care for individuals unable to afford health insurance or health care. This committee did fundraising, recruited volunteers and organized a reception to recognize the many dedicated medical professionals that volunteer at the clinic. The committee also organizes and delivers dinners donated by local restaurants for the medical volunteers.

**Service to Seniors** – The Service to Seniors Committee organizes and serves a summer barbecue and Holiday dinner for the seniors at Morrone Gardens.

**Youth Exchange** – Selected 2 students to study abroad during their junior year of high school. Selected were Celia Riojas to Japan and Dante Rivera to Spain. In exchange, we will be hosting two inbound foreign students from Japan and Spain. Youth Exchange supports outbound, inbound and returning exchange students throughout the year.

# Ending Polio and Promoting Peace Worldwide

*Part of a worldwide organization, San Jose Rotarians have the opportunity to create service projects around the world. Starting with Rotary International's commitment to eradicate Polio, we work with other Rotary clubs and NGOs in many other countries.*

## International Projects

### Venezuela - Rotaplast mission

A team of six San Jose Rotarians was scheduled to go to Mexico in July for a Rotaplast mission but the trip was cancelled due to safety concerns. Undeterred, our volunteers went to an equally dangerous Venezuela in October where the team performed more than 100 cleft lip and cleft palate operations. \$60,000.

### Other International Projects

**Nicaragua** – In cooperation with Silicon Valley Wheelchairs and the Martha Sanfilippo Foundation wheelchairs were delivered to residents of a rural area. Rotarians Josh Burroughs and Andy Armstrong delivered the wheelchairs. \$1,000.

**Nicaragua** – Working with a private NGO we helped fund a new well for drinking water at a rural school with over 200 children. \$2,000.

**Vietnam** – Partnering with San Jose based VNHELP, San Jose Rotary provided desks, chairs and other equipment for three new schools built by VNHELP. Rotarians Mike Fulton and Thu Do visited the 600 children who are now attending these new schools. \$20,000.

**Guatemala** – Organized by our Rotary District 5170 this mission also provided cleft and palate surgeries. San Jose Rotarian Sandra Jewett participated. \$3,000.

**India** – Working with the Rotary Club of Singarakonda we provided 100 sewing machines to a job training center in southeast India. Rotarian Krishna Chitabathini was present for the dedication. \$5,000.

**Sri Lanka** – Working with the Rotary Club of Kandy we provided funding for prosthetic limbs. All of the proceeds from our annual International Feast benefited this project. \$3,000.

**China** – We replaced lighting that had failed at Hoa Chung School (our partner in the China Exchange). \$2,500.

### Special Grants

**KIVA** – Micro loans for individuals worldwide. \$5,000.

**Stop Hunger Now** – Food packages distributed to schools and orphanages worldwide. \$5,000.

**Santee School** – New musical instruments for San Jose Jazz Progressions program for school in low income neighborhood. \$4,000.

**History of San Jose Movie** – Support for one hour educational movie about the history of the City of San Jose. \$5,000.

**KIVA** – Revolving loan fund established for future micro loans. \$5,000.

## Community Grants

### During 2014-15 the RCSJ Foundation awarded \$128,755.

The primary purpose of our Community Grants is to assist nonprofit organizations serving the citizens of San Jose with grants up to \$10,000 for specific, tangible and identifiable capital purchases.

Tabard Theatre Company	2 Wide angle speakers, mgmt system & mounting hardware	5,624
3rd Street Community Center	4 Desktop computers, software & printer	3,066
Eating Disorders Resource Center	Computer and peripherals	8,193
Loaves & Fishes Family Kitchen	Washer/dryer, plumbing, desktop computers, network cable	5,174
Bill Wilson Center	2 new washer & dryers	3,674
Books Aloud	Server, 2 workstations, 2 backup drive & router	5,000
Cancer CAREpoint	Display unit, signage, iPad, camera, wig storage & chairs	7,938
Immanuel House	Stove, refrigerator and washer & dryer	6,785
School of Arts & Culture @ MHP	Digital projector, scalar/switch & power zoom lens	10,000
School Health Clinics SCC	1 refrigerator with ISO certification	2,500
Parents Helping Parents	Computer & peripherals	4,916
Happy Hallow Foundation	Furniture, animal shelter bldg. and materials	9,986
Healthier Kids Foundation SCC	AuDX pro plus hearing screening equipment system	7,996
Employment & Community Options	iPads, protective cases and carrying cases	5,000
Nat'l Alliance on Mental Illness SCC	New phone system w/individ voicemail, projectors & screens	6,125
San Jose Jazz	Canopy for mobile stage truck	6,000
Asian Americans for Comm. Involvement	Refrigerators, freezers and stoves	10,000
College of Adaptive Arts	Installed professional dance floor in school dance area	9,778
Seneca Family of Agencies	Purchased and installed carpet	6,000
Estrella Family Services	Apple iPads	5,000



# Rotary PlayGarden Opens!!!

As part of our 100 year anniversary, the Rotary Club of San Jose wanted to complete a project that would create a lasting legacy. After reviewing several proposals, the Club selected the Rotary PlayGarden as our centennial project. The Rotary PlayGarden is a unique regional equal access playground located on a 4.5 acre site in Guadalupe River Park in San Jose. It is free to the public and the opening ceremony was held Saturday February 21, 2015.

The Rotary PlayGarden is an inclusive playground destination where children of all abilities can discover, explore, and play together side by side. The key elements of the Rotary PlayGarden include adaptive playground equipment such as disc-shaped swings and wheelchair-accessible carousel; a tunnel entrance featuring wind turbines and kinetic art made from gears and recycled airplane parts; an earthen hill with embankment slides, rock steps and a bridge; a multi-sensory water and sand area; and a small amphitheater for outdoor classrooms and other gatherings.



The development of the Rotary PlayGarden was a collaborative effort among the Rotary Club of San Jose, the City of San Jose and the Guadalupe River Park Conservancy. The nonprofit Guadalupe River Park Conservancy, which operates the Visitor & Education Center adjacent to the Rotary PlayGarden site, will provide maintenance and on-going programming for the completed Rotary PlayGarden. The Santa Clara County Office of Education and San Andreas Regional Center will also support programming at the facility for their clients.

The Rotary Club of San Jose has gifted the Rotary PlayGarden to the City of San Jose to serve the children and families of our community forever.

## Thanks to Everyone Who Supported the Gala

### **Title Sponsor: Comerica Bank**

### **Gold Sponsors:**

Cinnabar Hills Golf Club, Salas O'Brien

### **Silver Sponsors:**

Air Systems, Barry Swenson Builders, Cornerstone of Los Gatos, PG&E, Republic Services, Silicon Valley Business Journal, Toeniskoetter Development Construction

### **Bronze Sponsors:**

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CALJAN  
Heritage Bank of Commerce  
Iron Construction  
Landmark Technology  
RBC Wealth Management  
Valley Heating, Cooling, Electric

## **Syd B. Hardt Legacy Society**

Recently established to acknowledge any Member who has named the Rotary Club of San Jose Foundation as a beneficiary of their will, trust, life insurance policy, or other testamentary document. This new group honors long time Rotarian Syd Hardt who left a gift of over \$800,000 to our local Foundation to help build our Permanent Endowment. His gift and the others to the RCSJ Foundation Endowment are managed by the Foundation Board of Trustees to support the charitable activities of The Rotary Club of San Jose. Syd B. Hardt and his family will be honored in a special location inside the Rotary PlayGarden when it is finished. The motto of the Rotary Foundation's Permanent Endowment is "Here, Now, Forever". We are hoping to have at least 100 Rotary members join this group and leave gifts to the Permanent Endowment that will last forever.

*For additional information on how to become a member of the Syd B. Hardt Legacy Society, please contact Larry Kuechler or Ivonne Montes de Oca.*