

President's Report: Bill Nagel

My major goal for the 2012/2013 Rotary year was to increase participation and make sure we had a vibrant, fun club that our members enjoyed being part of while also focussing on the mission of Rotary and ensuring that we weren't just fun but were also relevant. All of the members of the club were fantastic in taking up the charge and helped to make the year a great success. Two members in particular though, went the extra mile to make my vision a reality.

Leo Novsky, as program chair, did a fantastic job bringing in interesting and varied speakers every single week. Beyond just getting interesting people, he also created monthly themes that focused our speakers and helped ensure variety throughout the year. He capped off the year with the start of a fantastic and important series that saw us bring in every candidate for Seattle mayor as a speaker.

Christina Davidson also went above and beyond. Also in her first year as a club chair, she led the community service committee and more than doubled the number of hands-on service opportunities available to our members throughout the year. We helped out at Treehouse, the Orion Center, International District cleanup projects, and more. We also started a new Reading for Tots program where our members would read stories to kids at a Low Income Housing Institute (LIHI) building on Thursday afternoons, and a partnership with the Seattle Mountaineers where we funded and helped as volunteers to take elementary students from Bailey Gatzert to various outdoor programs where they would learn about nature, rock climbing, and good stewardship.

In addition to kicking our programs and community service into high gear, we also continued our tradition of making many varied donations to help fund international service projects all over the world (this year we funded, among others, projects in Nepal, Vietnam, South Africa, and Myanmar). We also gave out our annual scholarships and continued our internship program through Partners for Work with our special needs intern Brian.

In the past, many of our immediate past presidents have taken a break and rested during the year following their presidency, but not Susan Beals. During the 2012/2013 year she led the creation of a new Rotaract club at Seattle University chartered and sponsored by SIDR. The club started off strong and was a huge success with a bright and promising future ahead.

I also focused on membership during the year, with an emphasis on inviting guests and making sure we were a friendly club rather than pestering people to join. During the first half of the year, we ran a contest to see who could bring the most guests (Leo Novsky won). While we didn't have many new members join during my year, it laid a groundwork that led to many new members joining in the following Rotary year.

Three district level awards were given out during our year: the presidential citation, the

district literacy award, and the ignite award (focussed on membership). We were one of the few clubs in the district to receive all three.