

Fairhope-Point Clear Rotary Youth Club News

Our mission is to empower youth with skills and experiences that allow them to reach their full potential as productive, caring and responsible members of society.



RYC Junior Master Gardening Program

Club Family & Friends,

2010 was a **year of growth** at the Fairhope-Point Clear Rotary Youth Club. A large part of our success can be attributed to our dedicated volunteers and supporters. As we begin 2011, we would like to **thank each of you** and reflect upon a few of our proudest accomplishments.

In 2010, the Rotary Youth Club has continued to shape the lives of our community's young people and provide hope for the future. Active membership numbers have more than tripled in the past eighteen months: **RYC is averaging 70 members daily!**

“RYC is averaging 70 members daily!” Our active volunteer base has increased to 43 volunteers, and we have continued to grow our programs and services.

As with many organizations, the Rotary Youth Club is dependent upon not only our volunteers' time and commitment, but also our community's

financial gifts. **Our donors' support has been unwavering and inspirational.**

It would be impossible to continue to meet the resource and revenue needs of our community's youth without our community's continued support. We currently have over 50 low-income youth who qualify for a need-based scholarship. In 2011, we hope to find a sponsor for each of these children. To find out more about volunteering, sponsoring a child or making a donation, please call 918-9148 or email info@rotaryyouthclub.org. For a complete list of our programs and services visit our website at www.rotaryyouthclub.org.

“Our donors' support has been unwavering and inspirational.”

May 2011 be as productive and beneficial for our community's kids as 2010.

Thank you for your continued support of the kids and the RYC!

PROGRAMS

SOAR ~ Academic Achievement

The Rotary Youth Club's After School Program has a distinct academic focus. The RYC Board of Directors and staff recognize the importance of a solid academic foundation for future success, and as a result, at least one hour each afternoon is dedicated to homework aid and educational enrichment programs. Through our SOAR (Skills, Opportunity, Achievement, Recognition) program, RYC was thrilled to recognize 42 of its active members who made the A or A/B Honor Roll during the 1st quarter of the 2010-2011 School Year. These members were rewarded with a trip to a USA Football game and dinner at Pizza Hut. We realize that this accomplish-

“Congrats to our members!”

ment is largely due to our dedicated volunteers who have spent hours helping

our members with their homework. A special

thanks to all of our volunteers, and congratulations to our members who made this academic achievement!



Artists With a Purpose

Artists With a Purpose have been living up to their chosen name. In October 2010, the Rotary Youth Club formed its first art club. Its members chose the name “Artists With a Purpose” and have been busy creating art, learning about art & its impact in the community and how they can use art to give back to their community.

The Art Club has visited the Eastern Shore Art Center on several occasions. Their first art project



was based upon a nationally traveling exhibit, “Hunger & Resilience,” that they saw at the Art Center. Upon completion of their art project, the young artists sent their works to Michael Nye, the creator of the exhibit, to show him how his works have impacted the local youth here in Alabama.

The holidays proved to be a busy time for the art club. In an attempt to raise funds for their art club and the Rotary Youth Club, the young artists participated in a Holiday Card competition. Although none of the submitted artwork was chosen, they had fun and enjoyed trying to do something for the club. In November, they also worked on drawing and painting Monarch butterflies on

“Making someone's day brighter!”

transparency film. With the careful help from Bruce Larson, a local sculptor, this artwork was made into Christmas ornaments that were sent to Washington DC and hung on Alabama's designated tree. They were so proud that their art was able to represent our state and community.

In November and December, the youth were also invited to Carroll Place to create art with the residents of the assisted living home. Their first visit included recreating the lesson they had done of the Monarch butterflies. The children taught the same lesson that they had learned earlier in the month to the senior citizens at Carroll Place. It was very well received, and they returned to make more crafts and a necklace with the seniors, as well as share dinner with them!

The Rotary Youth Club's Artists With a Purpose are learning much more than simply how to make art - they are learning how to use these skills to make someone's day a little bit brighter and make their community a better place.

Nancy Raia, Eastern Shore Art Center

Junior Master Gardener Program

The first Junior Master Gardener Certification Classes were held at the Rotary Youth Club during June and July, 2010. Approximately 16 Baldwin County Master Gardeners and others volunteers participated in the program which graduated the first Dirty Dozen (i.e. 12 certified JMGs). The program took the month of August off and then reconvened in September to plan and plant the JMG Fall Garden.



The 2010 Fall Garden includes collards, cabbages (green and purple), mustard greens, turnip greens, kale, broccoli, cauliflower, three kinds of onions, carrots,

white icicle radishes and red globe radishes. The JMGs were pleased to serve the collards they grew at the RYC Christmas Feast. They also grew enough sweet potatoes for every JMG family to have sweet potato pies for Christmas. Additionally, the JMGs grew

“A new JMG class: Health and Nutrition from the Garden!”

enough peanuts for the entire RYC group to munch on during the Christmas break. The first week of January the JMGs planted additional collards.

This fall, the JMGs also added 15 new interns who are participating in the after-school JMG program and will participate in the Summer 2011 Certification Classes. During the after school program, the JMGs will participate in a new JMG certification class: Health and Nutrition from the Garden. The imaginative curriculum teaches six concepts which emphasize to JMGs that growing and eating nutritious fruits and vegetables reaps its own rewards. After all JMGs are certified, the group plans to desktop publish a cookbook, Home Alone Meals. The students will learn cooking skills, gardening skills, photography skills, and computer skills necessary for desktop publishing the cookbook.



~ Debbie Calhoun

Please Support the Rotary Youth Club!

The Rotary Youth Club is a 501(c)3 non-profit organization whose members and supporters work to empower our youth with skills and experiences that allow them to reach their full potential as productive, caring and responsible members of society.

As a member, you will be joining a group of people with similar interests and concerns for our community's youth. You can become directly involved with the Club's programs by volunteering or by choosing to financially support a specific program or service.

You will be regularly informed of the Club's activities through newsletters, special mailings and meetings.

“The opportunities for involvement are unlimited!”

The opportunities for involvement are unlimited. Whatever your talents or interests, the Rotary Youth Club

could use your support. You, our community's youth and our community will benefit as a result of your membership and support. If you are not a member and would like to join, please complete the following pledge and return to us. You can also choose to

SUPPORT

support a specific program or need. For a complete list of opportunities, please contact Carolyn Marston at (251)928-9148 or carolyn.marston@rotaryyouthclub.org.

Name _____
 Email _____
 Address _____
 City _____ State _ Zip _____
 Phone (home) _____
 Phone (other) _____

Giving Levels

Sustainer \$1000+
 Benefactor \$500
 Partner \$250
 Supporter \$100
 Friend \$25

Corporate Levels

Corporate Sustainer \$2500+
 Corporate Partner \$1000
 Business/Church \$250

_____ My check is enclosed.
 _____ Please bill me.
 _____ I want to volunteer.

Please make checks payable to the Rotary Youth Club (“RYC”).

Membership dues and donations are tax deductible as allowed by IRS regulations.



Artists With A Purpose went to Carroll Place.



Law Enforcement Camp & Fairhope's Finest.



Mural influenced by Honorable Ibiyinka Alao.



42 members rewarded for A/B honor roll.

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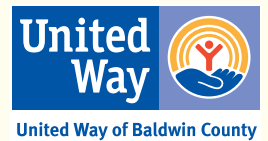
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