

1971-72
Comm - Youth Comm
7/08/72

PROGRAM PROPOSALS
FROM THE SPACECENTER ROTARY YOUTH COMMITTEE
FOR 1971-72

The Youth Committee of Spacecenter Rotary held its initial meeting on July 8. Present at the meeting were Charles Hoover, Dick Gregg, Bob Chuoke, Jim Donnell, Leo Symmank and Al Ligrani.

Our committee undertook as its goal: "To prepare projects and programs designed either to aid young persons directly, or to enhance the community's appreciation of their value and potentialities." (Rotary Youth No. 20-'71-72)

Into our goal we have embodied three guiding principles.

1. To place youth from our community on our Rotary Youth Committee and to have youth and Rotarians working together on the youth projects.
2. To try not to duplicate programs already functioning in the community.
3. To try to organize the programs our committee initiates in such a way that where feasible they might eventually be sustained by the community.

At this point many of the facets of our program are still quite tenuous. Some areas of youth activity are still being explored. These plans we wish to share with you, The Board of Directors of Spacecenter Rotary.

CRISIS HOTLINE

Our committee is meeting with the directors of CRISIS HOTLINE in Houston and in Galveston to help them coordinate their efforts in The Clear Creek Community. We see our role as primarily twofold:

- a. Publicizing CRISIS HOTLINE, its purpose and telephone numbers among the youth of this community.
- b. Providing CRISIS HOTLINE in Galveston and Houston with a list of referrals (doctors, psychiatrists, counsellors) from this area.

Requested budget for publicizing CRISIS HOTLINE \$150.00. We would hope to approach a few businesses and employers for additional small gifts to publicize this program. We would like to be able to approach them and ask them to add to Rotary's gifts. We understand a similar amount was budgeted for this purpose last year but was not used.

Charles Hoover has agreed to assume the prime responsibilities for our committee for this program.

HARRIS COUNTY BOYS HOME

Our committee proposes that The Boys Home again be given \$200.00 to be earmarked for providing scholarships to send boys to Camp Strake. (B.S.A.)

We further propose that this year Spacecenter Rotary initiate a sportsmanship award for each of the three major sports (basketball, baseball, football) to be presented to three boys at the Boys Home annually.

The following would serve as guidelines in the selection of the three boys to receive the annual award in each of the three sports:

1. Person to be selected should be selected by his peers, his supervisors (coaches) and, if possible, the officials of the game.
2. Votes should be cast after each contest, if possible.
3. Voting should be based on the following:
 - a. Boy's attitude toward his fellow players.
 - b. Boy's attitude toward his coach.
 - c. Boy's attitude toward the officials.
 - d. Leadership ability.
 - e. Desire to win and play the game fairly.
 - f. Self-discipline.

We propose a plaque, possibly with an action picture of the boy in uniform, The Rotary seal, and appropriate wording describing very briefly the Sportsmanship Award. For this we suggest a maximum budget of \$40.00

We propose publicizing the varsity games of The Harris County Boys Home weekly (in season) in The Blast Off. The schedule would be provided to The Editor by the chairman of The Youth Committee. Rotarians would be encouraged through The Blast Off to attend games when possible.

We plan to invite Rotarians to serve as hobby tutors on a one to one basis to a boy at The Boys Home in such fields as mechanical drawing, ham radio or any hobby or skill which a Rotarian may be interested in sharing with a boy for a semester. The one to one relationship would allow for a flexible schedule. We would plan to give Rotarians the opportunity to sign up at several Rotary meetings, possibly before each semester.

We are encouraging The Program Committee to consider favorably the possibility of having one of our regular Monday meetings sometime in May in the new dining facilities of The Harris County Boys Home scheduled for completion in March. The program that day could feature The Boys Home and include a tour of the new facilities.

DRAFT COUNSELING

We are interested in providing interested boys of our community with draft counseling. Draft procedures have changed since most Rotarians were of draft age. Our committee has written to the Selective Service Bureau for their curriculum on the draft and also had preliminary discussions with Clear Creek School Superintendent and fellow Rotarian, Lloyd Ferguson.

Leo Symmank and Dick Gregg plan to explore this program further.

LEAGUE OF TEENAGE VOTERS

Youth eighteen years of age are now eligible to vote. Youth have recently shown an increased interest in an active participation in politics. Our committee plans to explore the possibility of forming a League of Teenage Voters, possibly with the help of the Republican and Democratic parties and The League of Women Voters.

Dick Gregg has agreed to accept the prime responsibility for exploring this program.

YOUTH FORUM

Our committee again proposes that we sponsor Youth Forums for high school youth, that subjects be selected by the youth and that Rotarians help solicit well-informed speakers on the subject and that diverse points of view be responsibly represented by competent and interesting speakers.

Charles Hoover and Martin Rappaport have agreed to assume the primary responsibility for this program. We propose that \$40.00 be budgeted for this program, primarily for refreshments and publicity.

VOCATIONAL TRAINING

Our committee believes that the image of the trades needs to be enhanced among youth, perhaps especially in our technically and academically oriented community. We suspect that, perhaps, many youth who might otherwise consider a trade, are by-passing serious consideration of it, because they believe it is an inferior vocation.

We would like to work to change this image and to stimulate people in the community to provide additional training in the skilled-trades.

Robert Chuoke, who is a member of The Clear Creek School Board, has agreed to assume the primary responsibility for this effort.

CENTRAL POLICE SYSTEM

The Chamber of Commerce has recently been working to strengthen communication between city governments and studying the possible consolidation of some of their individual services. One of the possibilities cited might be a central police system for The Creek Community.

Lloyd Ferguson, School Superintendent, felt that possibly some youth might be interested in such a study. Bob Chuoke is a representative of The Chamber of Commerce in this field of study.

We think that possibly a group of youth may be interested in exploring this further and seek the insights and guidance of professors in law enforcement at Sam Houston University and other knowledgeable people. This could become a valuable experience in the process of developing good community government. Such a group might also become something of a stimulus to those in elected offices to work for the good of the greater community and help develop a respect for law, order and justice among youth.

Robert Chuoke has agreed to assume the primary responsibility for this project.

YOUTH FESTIVAL

Our committee would like to sponsor together with the youth of the community either a single art festival or several mini-festivals in music, drama, art and films.

This would be an occasion for the youth of our community to share some of their creative genius with each other and also with the adults of our community.

While we have not had time in a week to develop our ideas or to secure an "input" from the youth of our community or those adults who are leaders in our schools and youth organizations we would like for The Board of Directors to reserve for us a \$100.00 for this effort.

INTERCULTURAL YOUTH EXCHANGE

Our committee proposes to create opportunities and to help youth of our community to capitalize on opportunities to meet with youth whose culture and life style is different from their own. By this we mean youth from other countries and also from our own country.

We would appreciate receiving information of any foreign students visiting our community.

BICYCLE SAFETY

Our area not only has many adult cyclists but even more youth cyclists.

We believe a brief course on basic bicycle care and bicycle safety would be both helpful to and appreciated by some of the younger youth of our community.

We propose that Spacecenter Rotary sponsor such a bicycle care and safety program for young cyclists together with some cycle manufacturer or department store. At the end of such a course the youth might receive a Rotary Bicycle Safety Certificate.

Our committee is also corresponding with The League of American Wheel Men and Bicycle Institute of America for their suggestions and help.

Jim Donnell has accepted the prime responsibility for this project.

For this project we propose a budget of \$35.00 for certificates and publicity.

EMERGENCY CAR-CARE COURSE

Most older youth in our community secure a drivers license and drive an automobile. Not too many, we believe, receive any kind of instruction in detecting the warning signals that precede car failure or how to check and repair some of the frequent things which cause a car to malfunction or stall.

Our committee would like to encourage a group of mechanics from the community to volunteer their time in teaching a four session (8hr.) course to both young men and women in our community.

Jim Donnell has assumed the primary responsibility for this project.

OTHER GIFTS TO YOUTH GROUPS

We suggest that The Board of Directors consider favorably granting gifts of \$250.00 to the YMCA, \$100.00 to the Little League and \$100.00 to the Pony League in The Clear Creek Community.

BUDGET REQUESTS BY YOUTH COMMITTEE

YMCA	\$250.00
Little League	100.00
Pony League	100.00
Harris County Boys Home (Scholarships for camp)	200.00
Harris County Boys Home (Sportsmanship Awards)	40.00
Bicycle Safety Certificates	35.00
Youth Festivals	100.00
Youth Forum	40.00
CRISIS HOTLINE	<u>150.00</u>
Total	\$1015.00