



Quarterly Newsletter

District 5340 - Sponsored by San Diego Rotary Club 33 and Mission Valley Sunset Rotary Club

A Message from our Advisors ...



This past year July 2016—June 30, 2017 has been another amazing year for City Heights Rotaract and I have had the honor of being one of the Advisors for the Club. As the Club grows it will begin to develop its own character and culture—much like Rotary Clubs do. Some of the culture will be according to bylaws and regulations, but much of it is from the week to week and month to month practices done by the Club. I am not sure that every Rotaract Club has a Rotaractor of the Month—which is a great idea. I am pretty sure that no other Rotaract Club has a Peace Chairman and names a Peacemaker of the Year from the community. There is certainly NO other Rotaract Club that is as active doing community service in our

local community of City Heights and reaching out to other areas by helping Rotary Clubs with their projects, such as Pt. Loma Rotary and their bike ride; Chula Vista Sunrise Club and their soapbox derby. City Heights Rotaract has put itself on the map in Rotary District 5340. City Heights Rotaract is also unique in that it grew out of another organization, Hoover High Schools Cardinals Interact Club—although it is not a requirement to have been in that club to join City Heights Rotaract. The support from Price Philanthropies and the staff of the Hoover HS Interact Club has certainly helped City Heights Rotaract get off to a good start. It has been a great two years and I am sure there will be many more. It has been a pleasure to serve with the best: City Heights Rotaract is the BEST!!

- Marge Cole



The City Heights Rotaract has become a dream come true for me. Just over 2 years ago I was impressed by how many young professionals showed up to learn about the possibility of establishing a community based Rotaract. Marge Cole and Chuck Pretto helped guide the group along the way to make the Rotaract a reality for our community. As advisor to the club, it has been magical to work along side the board helping them to

make decisions that have ultimately lead to the successful growth of the club and the huge impact you all have made in the community. The fellowships and bonds that I have made with you all will forever be something I cherish. As we close the chapter of yet another successful year, and begin a new one my goals for the club will be for it to continue to grow in fellowship, continue to serve the community, and most importantly to have fun! Together we will work hard to make your club the best club. I look forward to seeing you all back at the new year.

- Pamela Gutierrez

April

April was the beginning of looking into the upcoming Rotaract year! Elections for the new board of directors were held! The rotaractors also spent time bonding over a hike and baseball and one of our annual favorites, the San Diego Mother's Bay Run!



Rotaractor of the Month - Kevin Tran-Le, Club Member

"Kevin makes sure to be present when he can. He is willing to put in work whenever and wherever necessary! He makes any event he's a part of fun and enjoyable! We are lucky to have you as a part of our club. Congratulations on being rotaractor of the month!"



(Above) Elections were held for the 2017-18 Board of Directors. Congratulations to the newly elected board!

(Below) For the second year in a row our members volunteered and participated at Mission Valley Sunset Rotary Club's San Diego Mother's Bay Run!



A few of our members attended Rotary Night at the Padres, where Rotary District 5340 Governor Marilyn Sanderson threw the first pitch.



(Right) CHR celebrated Earth Day by removing weeds from Swan Canyon for Creek to Bay Clean Up! Great work!

May

Even with the Rotaract year quickly approaching its end, the City Heights Rotaractors stayed busy with service, socials and fundraising opportunities! This month CHR was especially grateful for the opportunity to connect with other organizations.



Rotaractor of the Month - Elena Magaña, Club Member

Elena is a member that is committed in helping out in any way possible. She is passionate about our community, has an energy that is contagious and is always open to trying new things! Thank you for your dedication and commitment, we appreciate you!

Happy Birthday!



Pamela Gutierrez
May 2nd



Sesy Enriquez
May 7th



Kien Nguyen
May 8th

Our members who did not have a helmet or bike light, were given one for their participation. Loaner bikes were also provided! Thanks City Heights CDC!



(below) Rotary and Rotaract District 5340 enjoyed another night at the Padres against the Chicago Cubs. Such great night for all!



Thanks to our Professional Development Chair, Erick Diaz, CHR was able to partner with City Heights CDC to teach our members how to safely ride their bikes in the streets of our neighborhood!



June

June marks the final month of the rotaract year! From service in our community to a few of our members attending the Rotary International Convention in Atlanta, Georgia our rotaractors have kept busy. Even while keeping busy the rotaractors also found time to celebrate!



Rotaractor of the Month - Erick Diaz, Professional Development Chair

Erick has provided beneficial workshops for our members and has coordinated all of our guest speakers this year. He has helped lead the way in connecting our members to organizations in our community. He has gone above and beyond to lead the way as our Professional Development Chair. Thanks for all that you do, we truly appreciate it

Happy Birthday!



Joaquin Cruz
June 2nd



Stephanie Perez
June 5th



(Above) Many of our rotaractors were up early on Sunday morning to stencil some storm drains around City Heights.

(Below) There were different parts to stenciling. First, the area had to be cleaned. Second, setting the base coat and letting it dry. And finally using the blue paint to stencil the message.

(Below) Teamwork was very important in this process. There were many working parts in making sure that our stenciling was clear and legible.





Three of our members had the opportunity to attend this year's Rotary International Convention

(Below) President Sesy passing the ball to President-elect Lizbeth Pastenes.

(Below) Our members gathered with all the clubs of the Rotaract District 5340 to celebrate the accomplishments of each club and collectively as a district. Way to go Rotaractors! Lets make next year even better!



(Above) Thank you to our 2016-17 Board of Directors who worked hard to ensure that things got done!



CHR awarded its first Service Citation Award to a member who exemplifies "Service Above Self." Congratulations to our club member, Linh Le! We are lucky to have you.



(Above) A very special thanks to our amazing advisors who are always there to guide us and support us when we need it!

2016-17 Board of Directors



I am lucky to have served as president this year. We came together to do many service projects and hosted fun socials that fostered fellowship between our members. We continued to grow as strong leaders of our community by attending various conferences. I want to thank all the support we received from our sponsoring Rotary clubs and our advisors. I want to thank all our members for their dedication to our club. They truly embody Service above self. You all are my motivation and inspiration, you have impacted our community in so many ways. I look forward to seeing the continued success of this amazing Rotaract club.

- Sesy Enriquez, President



I had an amazing year as Vice President of the club. It has been great to work together with a group of people that care for the community as much as I do. Together we have worked hard to put Service Above Self. This year our club accomplished even more than last year and I am excited for what is to come for next year. I hope to continue on our efforts of giving back to City Heights and continue to develop our club through the work of the board of directors. Being Vice President provided me with the tools to lead as President and make it a great year for everyone. Together we will continue to make our club a success.

- Lizbeth Pastenes, Vice President



After graduating college I was unsure of what I wanted to do. However, one thing that was clear to me was that I wanted to spend time connecting with like minded individuals and find a way to give back to a community that has not only been my home, but has fostered my passion for service and people. Joining City Heights Rotaract and becoming a part of the board has allowed me to participate in events that I wouldn't have otherwise known about and work alongside individuals who want to make City Heights a better place. Being secretary was a great pleasure and I look forward to seeing the success of CHR next year!

- Stephanie Perez, Secretary



During my tenure as Director of Finance for the City Heights Rotaract Club, I expanded my capabilities as a young professional while acquiring fundraising skills managing the club's finances. Working with a group of like minded individuals who are passionate in making a difference in the community empowered me to fulfill the obligations all while connecting with club members, Rotary members and community members. It has been an invaluable experience to charter the first community-based rotaract clubs and forge the path for incoming City Heights Rotaractors.

- Adrian Alvarez, Treasurer



City Heights Rotaract club supported many causes that served both the people in our community and our environment. Looking back, I am proud of all the hard work and commitment our members showed while participating in service events.

Being active in our community allowed us to build meaningful connections with the organizations in City Heights, which will serve as a great foundation for future partnerships. As I transition into Vice President, I feel confident that our next service chair, Rudy Vargas, will be successful in further establishing our club's presence in our community and strengthening the relationships we have gained.

- Sonya Vargas, Service Chair



Thank you City Heights Rotaract for another inspiring year of meaningful experiences. The role of International Service and Peace Committee Chair gifted me with the ability to understand Rotary's impact.

Not only are we making a difference in our local communities but globally as well. I enjoyed learning and connecting with other remarkable organizations in City Heights, whose mission of improving the lives of individuals living in our community align with the things we believe in. I am grateful to be apart of this special club. I've learned this year how powerful being open, understanding and compassion can be.

- Caroll Vongsouthi, International Service Chair



It was a phenomenal experience! It was great to have the opportunity to serve on the CHR Board and work with individuals who are so passionate about serving their community. I am confident the events we hosted were a great benefit to our members, and I am excited to see them become our community leaders. Best wishes to the incoming board.

- Erick Diaz, Professional Development Chair



At the beginning of the Rotaract year I was so nervous to be in my role. Though we were just going into our second year I knew my role had a lot to do with the success of our club. I knew what the club needed and what I wanted for the club. One of my goals was to build fellowship, when I see our club together, I know we accomplished that. With the amazing board and the great support of the club it was a successful year. Looking back, I learned many things about myself and I am proud of myself and the club as a whole. Leaving this position I am so grateful for the opportunity and can't wait to enjoy many more years with City Heights Rotaract!

- Micheli Ortega, Club Chair



Starting off the rotaract year I felt nervous about taking on the role of social media chair. But as time passed I got comfortable in my role and made it my own. With the help of our members, all pictures taken throughout service projects and socials allowed everyone to have an insight into what we have done. This has been another amazing year for City Heights Rotaract. Coming up on three years I can't believe how far we have come as a club and individuals as well. I love being in the club and can't wait for what next year holds in store for us. Bigger and better things!

- Jocelyn Solis, Social Media Chair



Taking on the webmaster position I learned about managing responsibilities and committing myself to helping out my community. I have met a lot of wonderful friends that helped me discover more about myself and helped me persevere. Through managing the club's website I learned a lot about website editing and a lot about making one from scratch. It has taught me that websites and social media play a big role in spreading our club's efforts. City Heights Rotaract club is my like my second family and I'm grateful for the much support and many fun times.

- Bryan Liang, Webmaster



If you would like to join us at our monthly meetings, participate in our events or would like more information about our club, please email us at **chrotaractclub@gmail.com** or check out our website **cityheightsrotaract.org**. Make sure to like us on Facebook to keep up with City Heights Rotaract Club!