



ROTARY CLUB OF Downtown State College
P.O. Box 10742
State College, PA 16805-0742

TEL: (814) 238-0038 ext. 253
FAX: (814) 238-0011

WEB: www.sc-rotary.org

NEWS RELEASE

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

CONTACT: Laurel Sanders, Public Relations chair – 814.238.0038
e-mail at sanders.laurel@gmail.com

DATE: July 14, 2008

State College Downtown Rotary Club Distributes \$30,133 Funds Awarded to Local Organizations and Rotary Projects

STATE COLLEGE, PA, July 14, 2008 – The State College Downtown Rotary Club is pleased to announce that it has distributed \$30,133 this year to charitable programs. The funds were raised by the club under Linda Friedman's leadership as club president during the 2007-2008 year. The money primarily was raised through Rotary fund raising events, including the annual Rotary spaghetti dinner, Dinner and Entertainment Books, other community events, and member contributions.

The focus of the State College Downtown Rotary club is on youth, and the majority of funds were distributed for youth-related programs. Funds were given to support student scholarships at the YMCA; the State College Area Food Bank; the distribution of dictionaries to area third-grade students; student vocational scholarships; and student speech contestants. Funds also help to support the international youth exchange program for high school students abroad (three students from State College Area School District (SCASD) went abroad this year), and for two students from Poland and Brazil who attended SCASD this year. Other recipients included PAWS for tree planting; Hunger Plus; a sewer project in post-Katrina Pass Christian; a four-week group study exchange program for young business leaders from Tunisia; and some other smaller community projects. The remaining monies were dispersed and set aside for Rotary-sponsored projects through the local and international Rotary foundations, including the Polio Plus eradication initiative.

In addition to raising funds, the Downtown State College Rotary Club is involved in community service projects. Most notable is the club's annual participation in the annual Lederer Park clean-up day, in remembrance of founding club Rotarian Eugene Lederer.

Commenting on the value of services provided to the community, Linda states, "Being involved in Rotary has enriched my life and those of my colleagues. Service Above Self requires commitment and discipline, but the pleasure derived from helping others is indescribable. The generosity of citizens in our community is appreciated greatly. It is an honor to have served as president during the past year, and we are grateful to the community and our club members for their loyalty and generosity."

To learn take advantage of the remaining Rotary Dinner and Entertainment Books, the proceeds of which continue to go to local charitable organizations, contact Jim Eberly at jimeberly@verizon.net or look for books at the following locations:

- Moyer Jewelers, 100 E College Ave, State College;
- Sepich Eyecare, 100 Oakwood Ave, State College; or
- CATA, 2081 W Whitehall Rd, State College.

The books of two-for-one vouchers cost \$20 each and are valid until December 31, 2008. For more about Rotary International, visit the website at www.rotary.org. Information about the Evening, Downtown, and Sunrise Rotary clubs in State College can be found at www.sc-rotary.org.

Rotary International has 1.2 million members worldwide. In addition to thousands of volunteer hours, each year Rotary contributes millions of dollars in humanitarian aid and relief around the globe, funds 1,200 international scholarships, and provides cross-cultural exchanges for 7,000 young leaders. Through its flagship program, PolioPlus, Rotary has contributed more than \$600 million to the Global Polio Eradication Initiative.

#