



**Blacksburg
Rotary Club**
Rotary International
District 7570

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

ROTARY CLUB OF BLACKSBURG RAISES OVER \$14,000 FOR FOUNDATION PROJECTS

BLACKSBURG, VA - Each year the Rotary Club of Blacksburg (club 5753) holds an auction to raise money for the Rotary International Foundation, a not-for-profit corporation which enables Rotarians to advance world understanding, goodwill, and peace through the improvement of health, the support of education, and the alleviation of poverty. In February, the Club held a Mardi Gras Masquerade and Auction for its members that grossed over \$14,000 through bidding and donations.

“This money will be used to name at least 10 Paul Harris Fellows over the coming year,” said Christy Brown, Director, International Service. The presentation of Paul Harris Fellow recognition is the Rotary Foundation’s way of expressing its appreciation for a substantial contribution to its humanitarian and educational programs. The acknowledgement is named for founder, Paul Harris, a Chicago lawyer who started Rotary International with three business associates in 1905.

“Additionally, the money will be directed to such things as our Group Study Exchange Program, the Ambassadorial Scholarship Program, Health, Humanity & Hunger grants, matching grants and the Rotary International goal of eradicating Polio,” continued Brown. “This money, combined with past contributions, will put our club over the \$400,000 mark since we began 30 years ago. That is an average of about \$13,000 per year and we are proud to be making a difference in our community and our world.”

The Club is also collaborating with other Rotarians on projects, such as working with the Rocky Mount Club to help the people of Ghana eradicate the Guinea worm and provide clean water to their villages. The money raised for the Foundation, also goes to local projects. In 2005, the Blacksburg Club put forth money, volunteer hours and a lot of physical labor for development of Wong Park. The Club led the transition of the 9.9- acre parcel to an urban park in the Town of Blacksburg. Matching grants came from the Rotary Foundation for this project.

The Rotary Club of Blacksburg is celebrating its 30th year of service in the New River Valley Today, this club that meets every Thursday at noon, has grown to more than 100 members . To learn more about the Club see its Web site, www.blacksburgrotary.org.

About Us:



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Rotary International is a global network of community volunteers, an organization of business and professional persons united worldwide who provides humanitarian service, encourage high ethical standards in all vocations, and help build goodwill and peace in the world. Founded in 1905 in Chicago, today there are approximately 1.2 million Rotary club members belonging to nearly 33,000 Rotary clubs in more than 200 countries and geographical areas. The Rotary Club of Blacksburg (club #5753) began in 1978 and today consists of over 100 members who meet at noon on most Thursdays at the Blacksburg Country Club.

Contact

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