

# *PTRC News Letter*

*A scholarly work for the enlightenment of the Port Townsend Rotary Club*

*For March 31<sup>st</sup> 2020*

## **2020 Auction Re-Imagined**

The committee is working hard to put together an online auction in lieu of the previously scheduled dinner auction. They immediately addressed the situation in early March and moved forward. Info from the committee:

- They're shooting for a May online auction.
- They're in negotiations with Fort Worden about a refund for our downpayment.
- Your solicitations will not be for naught. Everything that can be auctioned online will be included.
- Additional items welcome.
- Watch for news through this newsletter that will come to each week and/or through the blog that will soon be up on our website.
- Contact Lee Hoffman, chair, for general information. Cindy Madsen or Jo Nieuwsma for items to donate.

## **Club donates \$25,000 to Jefferson Community Foundation Emergency Fund:**

Our Community Service Committee voted to donate our 2020 community grant funds to an emergency fund established by the Foundation to address immediate community needs that have emerged as a result of the coronavirus quarantine. Grants will be awarded on a weekly basis to get the funds out as soon as possible.

The Foundation is in a unique position to identify community priorities and to develop strategies to support local nonprofits most prepared to meet urgent needs. To date, the Foundation has raised over \$100,000 for the fund.

All applicants for our 2020 community grants have been notified of the decision and are aware that they can request funding through the Foundation. *For more information about the Emergency Fund, visit the Foundation's website at [jcfgives.org](http://jcfgives.org).*

## **District Community Grant: \$3,500 from club/matching grant from District**

The DCG committee has interviewed representatives from ECHHO, Jefferson Teen Center, Recovery Café and Port Townsend chapter of Seattle Angels Foster Program, and will select the grantee soon.

## **Student Exchange**

**Nicolas** is still in Port Townsend and safe with his host family, the Andersons. Lisa and Steve report that he has become good friends with their son, Mark and that they are happy he has been able to stay here. Nicolas' parents feel that he is safer here than he might be traveling home. **Cyan**, our outgoing student, is still in Taiwan and her last check-in with Shelly indicated that she was doing well.

**Scholarship Committee** has received several applications from Port Townsend students, including two from foster kids who had to move away from Port Townsend when they needed a new home. They will be considered for college scholarships because they attended Port Townsend high school for a period of time.

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## ***For April 1<sup>st</sup> 2020***

### **International and District Conferences Cancelled**

The District Conference scheduled in Victoria, B.C. in May, and the International District Conference scheduled in Hawaii in June, have both been canceled. Sandy Eherenman had been awarded a scholarship to attend the District Conference and Lee and Lisa Hoffman had been awarded scholarships to attend the International Conference. The board will decide whether or not to carry over the scholarship funds to Rotary year 2020-21.

### **Club Blog Site Coming Soon**

I've been working with John English to insert a blog site on our website. We announced its launch last week but had a glitch with it, so we'll send out an email blast as soon as it's ready. It will provide a platform for people to check in with one another, share news and ideas, and post photos. I'm looking forward to hearing how people are finding creative outlets and staying sane during our quarantine!

Be well, friends.

Carla

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