

# UKIAH ROTARY AND INTERACT

A Rotary sponsored service club intended for students age 14 to 18; Interact gives young people an opportunity to participate in fun, meaningful service projects. Interact clubs perform at least two projects a year, one serving the community and the other furthering international understanding—as a matter of fact, Interact stands for International Action. The first Interact club started in Melbourne, Florida in 1962 as a result of an effort began by RI President Harold Thomas (1959-60). By Interact's 40<sup>th</sup> anniversary in 2002, more than 200,000 young people in about 107 countries belonged to some 7,700 clubs. Ukiah High School's Interact club began in 1995 with three students and has grown to over 30 active members.

Ukiah's Interact club has been active in a variety of service projects, from collecting clothes for children in Russia and Africa, to collecting toiletries for hurricane victims in the Caribbean, to collecting food and toys for the Ukiah Christmas Effort, to providing solar stoves for the refugees of Darfur, to walking dogs at the Milo foundation! In 1999, the Interact Club received the MCOVY (Mendocino County Outstanding Volunteer of the Year) award for all of their service activities. Since 2000, Interact's major fund raiser has been parking cars at the 12<sup>th</sup> District Fair in August each year; from 2002 to 2018 the club picked up litter along northbound Highway 101 from Perkins Street to Ackerman Creek each month as a community service project, assisting John Bogner, and after John's passing, Gary Nix (who "adopted" that section of highway). These are some of their many activities to help make Ukiah and Ukiah High School a more beautiful place to live.

Following is a listing of the Ukiah High Interact Presidents as well as the Ukiah Rotary & South Ukiah Rotary advisors to the Interact club.

Year	President	Ukiah Rotary Advisors	South Ukiah Rotary Advisors
1995-96	Ellen Yan*	George Phelan	Roger Coate
1996-97	Maggie Yan	George Phelan	Roger Coate
1997-98	Jolene Henderson	George Phelan	Roger Coate,
1998-99	Nathaniel Barre	George Phelan, John Slonecker	Roger Coate,
1999-2000	Ada Yan	George Phelan, John Slonecker	Roger Coate
2000-2001	Molly McCalla	George Phelan, John Slonecker	Roger Coate
2001-2002	Christie Murphy	George Phelan, John Slonecker	Roger Coate
2002-2003	Stacie Silva	George Phelan, John Slonecker	Roger Coate, Charlie Kelly
2003-2004	Jessica Huey	George Phelan, John Slonecker	Roger Coate, Charlie Kelly
2004-2005	Lauren Aimes, Katie Boetcher	George Phelan, John Slonecker	Roger Coate, Charlie Kelly
2005-2006	Lauren Bishop	George Phelan	Roger Coate
2006-2007	Andy Kong, Avery Mann	George Phelan	Roger Coate
2007-2008	Katie Eddy, Jane Koury	George Phelan, Shari Shapmire	Roger Coate
2008-2009	Tessa Behnke	George Phelan	Roger Coate
2009-2010	Tessa Behnke	George Phelan, Rusty Eddy	Roger Coate
2010-2011	Hannah Eddy	George Phelan	Roger Coate, Carol Myer
2011-2012	Alexander Sequera	George Phelan	Roger Coate, Carol Myer
2012-2013	Zane Molgaard	George Phelan	Roger Coate, Carol Myer
2013-2014	Karina Ruiz	George Phelan	Roger Coate, Carol Myer
2014-2015	Karina Ruiz	George Phelan	Roger Coate, Carol Myer

2015-2016	Christina Nickerson, Sarah Teran	George Phelan	Roger Coate, Carol Myer
2016-2017	Rosa Fava Lake, Isabel Lopez	George Phelan	Roger Coate, Carol Myer
2017-2018	Spencer Rico, Luca Szabo	George Phelan	Roger Coate, Carol Myer
2018-2019	Spencer Rico, Luca Szabo	George Phelan	Roger Coate, Carol Myer
2019-2020	Karina Alvarado Mendoza	George Phelan	Carol Meyer, Lucy De Nickerson

\*Ellen started the Ukiah High Interact Club with the help of Ukiah High teacher Dan Stearns after Ellen attended RYLA in the summer of 1995. Dan attended RYLA in the summer of 1990 and returned to RYLA yearly as an advisor. He returned to Ukiah High in 1995 as a teacher and was the club's first faculty advisor. Dan was followed by Dwight Cawthon who has been the faculty advisor since 1996, and Dwight has built Interact into one of the most active clubs at Ukiah.

(Dwight, you can update the above list of the great projects and awards Interact has garnered!)