

The Rotary Club of Weston in Partnership with The Weston Bar Association Give Back to Community

BY KEIL HACKLEY, IMMIGRATION LAWYER AND CO-FOUNDER ROTARY CLUB OF WESTON'S HORSE HEROES PROGRAM

BEFORE CLOSING OUT THE 2012 YEAR, THE ROTARY Club of Weston created yet another partnership with an organization desirous of giving back to the community. The Weston Bar Association (WBA), formed just six months ago, and its approximately 55 members, has already made a significant mark in Weston with its charitable arm. As a founding Board Member of the WBA and the co-founder of the Rotary Club's HORSE HEROES Project, it was easy for me to put the two organizations together for the purpose of facilitating a mutual interest: the foster children residing at Children's Harbor.

Weston Bar Association President Evan Baron called the question at the November board meeting and it was unanimous. Every single member of the board voted in favor of working with the Rotary Club of Weston. Baron said, "Rotary is a powerhouse in this community. Let's work with them in the same way we support the Dan Marino Foundation. Let's do what it takes to use our collective contacts to give back to the community, particularly our youth."

Marvin Schulman, a WBA Board Member and lawyer in Weston, jumped in to call Jazwares, Inc., a toy company headquartered in Sunrise, Florida. Before we knew it, Weston Rotarian and Past Club President Douglas Maymon, Rotary Member Marie Ros, and I were on our way to Children's Harbor with a bundled bag of toys.



The Rotary Club of Weston worked with its partners to collect toys for the Children's Harbor. Pictured from left: Douglas Maymon, Jennifer Stewart, Keil Hackley, and Marie Ros.

Rotary President Carolyn Burk commented, "The Weston Bar Association is exactly the type of organization with whom our Club wants to align." Ms. Burk went on to say, "This organization of attorneys has their priorities straight: conduct business, but find the time to give back. It's our time as successful business people. We need to take a long hard look at what we can do and then simply step up and get it done."

The Broward Sheriff's Office's proved the seriousness of their commitment to the community when they partnered with the Rotary Club of Weston in the HORSE HEROES project, also for the benefit of Children's Harbor. Rotary President Burk couldn't say enough about the relationships the Club has formed this past year, and added, "It's refreshing to see such professional groups as the Weston Bar Association striving to work with us."

Going into the 2013 year, President Carolyn Burk believes that the Rotary Club of Weston has only scratched the surface of what it does best - making a difference one project at a time; one child at a time; one relationship at a time.

The Rotary Club of Weston is recognized as one of Southwest Broward's leading community service organizations. Weston Rotary meets at Weston Hills Country Club every Thursday morning, year-round, from 7:30 - 8:30am to enjoy a buffet breakfast and a lively meeting program. For further information about Weston Rotary, visit our website at www.WestonRotary.org, or stop by our FaceBook Fan Page (Rotary Club of Weston) for the latest happenings.

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