



RKC Reporter

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HIXSON AWARD TO JAN MACKAY

Janice Natalie Mackay, a nearly twenty-year Rosemead Kiwanis veteran, was surprised January 20, 2005, by presentation of the coveted Hixson Award (see accompanying article) as part of the annual Kiwanis Division 10 Governor's Banquet.

The presentation was made by Ca-Nev-Ha Governor Patti Barsotti as twelve representatives of the Rosemead Kiwanis Club and Rosemead High School KEY Club looked on. Over 100 other Kiwanians

were also present, plus (by special invitation and arrangement) Jan's own parents.

JUST WHO IS JAN MACKAY?

Jan was born and reared in the Fairfax district of West Los Angeles. She married, raised a family and was a fairly typical housewife in Temple City until her early thirties. Then, in 1986, her history of service to and involvement with non-profit



groups began to accelerate.

It all began with a Girl Scout Council sponsored bilingual internship program. In 1987, when Rose

[See "Mackay," p. 3](#)

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Club
'Since 1945'

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What is the "Hixson Award?"

The Hixson award is named in honor of George F. Hixson, a Rochester, NY, attorney. He was the first President of Kiwanis, elected at a meeting of fifteen clubs held in Cleveland in May, 1915.

As President he was instrumental in founding the first Kiwanis Club outside the

United States, located in Hamilton, Ontario, Canada.

Hixson served two terms as President of Kiwanis International (a feat unmatched in the subsequent 90 years).

According to the New York Kiwanis District website, "Hixson played key roles in the early years of Kiwanis

while the organization was transformed from a commercial to a community service organization." He remained an active Kiwanian until his death in 1967.

The Kiwanis International Foundation (KIF) created the Hixson Fellowship award in his honor in October,

[\(See "Hixson," p. 4\)](#)

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(SOAP = “Supported Organizations and Projects” of the Rosemead Kiwanis Club; for information on K-family groups mentioned here please see links on the right side of the rosemeadkiwanis.org website) home page

TEMPLE STUDENTS SING

Thursday, February 2, 2006. The Temple Knights Choral Group presented a musical montage to Kiwanians and residents from California Mission Inn. Music from the 40's to the 90's was featured in the program, conducted by George Woo from Temple Intermediate School.

Performance by student musical groups before adult audiences is an important part of education, noted Rosemead Kiwanis Program chairman Frank DiNoto. It is expected other groups will be supplying additional multi-generational programs.

KEY CLUBBERS AT GOVERNOR'S DINNER

RHS Key Club President Calvin Thanh and Secretary Bianca Hong were among those attending the January 20, 2006 Governor's Dinner at the San Gabriel Hilton. They heard Ca-Nev-Ha District Governor

Patti Barscotti declare that Kiwanis should be “The Best Show in Town.” She mentioned the availability of Foundation grants to help with homeless children.

Child safety awareness projects by local K-family clubs, usually in partnership with local Church and civic groups, can make a major impact with education programs, Barscotti noted in her address.

85% of car seats are installed incorrectly, she said. The Ca—Nev-District has educational materials available for use in conjunction with a voluntary inspection program. Fire prevention and SUV-related safety are two other areas eligible for similar treatment.

Kiwanian and Jazz musician Billy Mitchell headed a band providing music for the program. He is founder of the SAPPA (Scholarship Audition Performance Preparation Academy) program “designed to increase participation of inner city students in



RHS Key Club President and Secretary Calvin Thanh and Bianca Hong with District Governor Patti Barscotti

music and arts scholarship competition.”

RHS KEY CLUBBERS IN VOLUNTEER EFFORTS

The RHS Key Club roster is currently 191 members strong, according to Secretary Bianca Hong. After strong efforts on the Rose Parade floats the group coasted a bit in January, but February saw a return to vigorous activity including:

- An ongoing math tutoring effort is being held every Monday at the Savannah Elementary school from 2:40-3:30 pm. Six key clubbers are usually involved, per the number requested by school officials; more could be supplied.

- On February 11 RHS KEY Club members helped out in the Special Olympics Bowling from 9:00 am to 12:00 pm at Bowling Square lanes in Arcadia.
- On February 12 RHS KEY Club members helped out with the LA/China-town Firecracker Walk, both helping set up and passing out water. The effort extended from 6:00 am – 2:00 pm.

In addition to the above club-specific projects the RHS Club has followed the District practice of “pairing.”

(see “SOAP,” p. 4)

“Mackay” (from p. 1)

mead Kiwanis opened its ranks to women members, she was among the first to join. She also became involved with several organizations, including advising the Rosemead High School Kiwanettes (later merged with the RHS KEY Club), becoming a Red Cross Development Specialist, serving as Special Projects Co-ordinator for OPTIONS in Alhambra and entering into an internship with American Humanics.

In 1990 she became the Executive Director of the American Humanics Los Angeles Chapter. This was a Cal-State Los Angeles based post that she would hold for eight years; at the same time she was also teaching classes for the University's Department of Child and Family Studies.

In 1995 she wrote the following for the American Humanics website:

“Our Mission is to provide our diverse population with professional education for leadership and management of nonprofit organizations.

“AH is a national, nonprofit organization, a partnership of 13 agencies: Red Cross, Junior

Achievement, Boy Scouts, Girl Scouts, Big Brothers, Big Sisters, YMCA, YWCA, Boys and Girls Clubs, Girls Incorporated, Camp Fire Boys and Girls, Goodwill Industries, 4-H.

“It has 17 college affiliates across the country who provide the academic “home” for the program, accreditation, diplomas for graduates, etc.

“As you can imagine, in nearly 50 years of service, we have thousands of graduates all over the country. Most carry the AH mission in their hearts and will do whatever they can to carry on the helping tradition.”

While with AH she continued her Rosemead Kiwanis involvement, serving the club as an officer and newsletter editor. She also helped start the Kiwanis affiliated Circle K chapter on the Cal State LA campus, partially financed at the time by Rosemead Kiwanis and later transferred to the Monterey Park Kiwanis Club.

THE POST AH PERIOD

In 1998, after secur-

ing a Master's degree in Child Development, she embarked on pursuit of a doctorate degree from the University of Southern California. This effort was interrupted by the pregnancy-inspired needs of her daughter in Washington. She left town (and her Kiwanis involvement) for a period of time to help with her new grand child.

Returning in late 2003 she became involved in the Rosemead Kiwanian after school program, helping secure a major grant from the Mr Holland's Opus Foundation for the Muscatel Middle School and spearheading the RIF (Reading is Fundamental) program for Rosemead schools. She has also been a valued mentor and tutor to newer Kiwanians.

**KIWANIS**
‘We Build’

Over the years
Kiwanis themes
have included:

- **Business mutual aid**
- **Young Children**
- **Education**
- **Spiritual Development**
- **Economic Education**
- **Community Health and Recreation**
- **Developmentally Challenged**
- **Parent Education**

'Helping and changing the world—one person and one community at a time'

“SOAP” - from p. 2

Pairing involves partnering with other KEY clubs in support of fund-raising for designated causes.

Most recently the RHS KEY Club pairing was with the Mark Keppel High School Key Club on behalf of fighting lung cancer.

Other KEY clubs in the District are paired up on behalf of other assigned causes including PEM/PTP, Aids, Breast Cancer, Leukemia, and Diabetes/Obesity.

A principle means of fundraising is the making of KEY chains; these are then sold with the proceeds going to the designated causes.

The KEY Clubs also have quarterly national efforts, with plans related to Pediatric Trauma and Birth Defects (in conjunction with the March of Dimes) presently under development.

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George W. Hixson

“Hixson” - from p. 1

1983. The award is given in exchange for contributions to build the KIF Endowment Fund. The Fund in turn supports various causes.

Hixson Fellow Characteristics

Says the Nampa, ID, Kiwanis website:

“The Hixson recipient is a person who dares to dream big dreams and set big goals. One who is willing to pay the price, make the sacrifice, try the difficult and attempt the impossible.

”The recipient might not solve all the problems of their community, but will give, provide, help and re-emphasize the things in life that really count.

“This person is a part of a group of people that are committed to

- build not break,
- lift not lower,
- love not leave,
- nurture not neglect,
- respect not resent,
- to work- not wait”

“These individuals strive to make

- our aging feel needed,
- our underprivileged feel accepted,
- our youth feel important and
- their community feel proud

“to be touched by Kiwanis.

“Why?

“Because as members of Kiwanis International, we build, we care and we believe!”

Hixson Fellowship Projects

Hixson Fellowship monies support the KIF long- term worldwide service project - eradicating Iodine

Deficiency Disease (IDD) in underdeveloped countries.

Other efforts include grants to clubs and districts and support of efforts such as the Key Leader and the Kiwanis Service Leadership programs.

States the KIF website: “New George F. Hixson Fellowship members receive two numbered medallions bearing the likeness of Hixson. Both hang from a blue and white ribbon. One is encased in a walnut and velvet shadow box for display, and the other is worn at high-visibility Kiwanis functions. Also awarded is a tie tack/lapel pin.”

Local Kiwanis Clubs frequently sponsor Hixson Fellowship awards to recognize exceptional accomplishments of long-time Kiwanians. Recipients now exceed 11,000 worldwide.

KIWANIS AREA CLUB MEETINGS

There are regular meetings of other Kiwanis clubs in our area, including those listed below. For current information see our Rosemead Kiwanis website under 'Meetings' at RosemeadKiwanis.org.

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|-----------------------|-----------------|----------------|------------------|
| • Alhambra | • Monterey Park | • San Gabriel | • South El Monte |
| • Altadena/Crown City | • Pasadena | • San Marino | • South Pasadena |
| • El Monte | • Pico Rivera | • Sierra Madre | • Temple City |
| • Montebello | | | |