

I served as president of the Putnam County Rotary Club for the year 2002-2003. I have to admit that in the beginning I was very apprehensive about serving as president and questioned if I was worthy of this honor and could I dedicate the time and effort required while working full time and travelling back and forth to Florida to help care for my father following his stroke. Thanks to the support, compassion and understanding demonstrated by members of the board, I was able to serve (mostly long distance) for seven months. I was very blessed to be surrounded by people who truly lived by the Four Way Test.

The Rotary motto is “Service Above Self,” and my goal was to provide meaningful community service projects that would demonstrate the humanitarian efforts put forth by our club. One project that I especially enjoyed was the support we provided the Putnam County Humane Society. Our donation helped provide electricity for the Human Society’s Thrift Shop in Hurricane for one year and afforded us the opportunity to participate in their Grand Opening and Ribbon Cutting Ceremony. Another project I’m proud of is the \$750 we provided to one of our area Boy Scouts to build a shelter for his soccer team in Hurricane. Upon completion of this project he earned his Eagle Badge. I felt so proud when I read the wonderful letter he wrote to our Club.

I am proud to be a Rotarian and to have served as your past president. Rotary has provided me with an excellent environment for developing strong friendships and business relationships. The fellowship I experience at each meeting and the friendships that I have made over the years has had a very positive impact on my life.

Cheryl Rust