

Through the generosity of the Vista Hi Noon Rotary Club and the Rotary District 5340 Literacy Grant Program our club has, during November and December 2016, read books to first grade students in the Vista Unified School District and given the students their very own copy of the book to take home. The district grant, in combination with the discounted availability of books through Scholastic Press, made the project possible. The project budget totaled \$6,105 (\$3,105 of club funds and \$3,000 in district matching funds) and the project reached 1,600 students in 16 schools in the district.

Club volunteers visited school sites in teams of two to four Rotary volunteers (including Rotaract members from Cal State San Marcos) during classroom hours to read one of three books: "Pete the Cat: A Pet for Pete," "Pete the Cat: Pete's Big Lunch," and "Pete the Cat: Too Cool for School." The reading was followed by the distribution of a new book to each first grade student. Several students said that this is the first book they have ever owned "all by themselves." This project makes a real difference in the lives of many students.

After distribution of books to all students, we had a small amount of money left in the project budget. We made those funds available to Maryland Elementary School, one of the lowest SES schools in VUSD, to supplement their school library. They were able to purchase 29 new books that will enrich the reading experiences of students at the school for years to come.

Invoices for book purchases are included with this report, along with five project pictures. We want to express our sincere appreciation to Rotary District 5340 for their support of this project, which is now completed for the benefit of 1,600 wonderful students.