

District Grant Report

Rotary Club: Rotary Club of Chicago Little Village

Project Title: Monarch Butterfly Box Car Project

Progress Report Final Report

1. Briefly describe the project. What was done, when and where did project activities take place, and who were the beneficiaries?

This project was international and involved a train box car painted with Monarch butterflies which traveled from Windsor Canada to the Rosario Monarch Butterfly Sanctuary in Mexico. There were many events along the way and several in Chicago. The purpose was to 1) raise awareness of the importance of pollinators and pollinator gardens and 2) to raise awareness of the importance of the Monarch Butterfly habitat and the fir trees in the Rosario Sanctuary. This project included 2 District Grants: \$325 for P-4405 and \$750 for P-4593

2. How many Rotarians participated in the project? Our club's 15 members, the Chicago Northwest Club of 6 members and actually our whole District 6450 was involved. Also the Rotary Club of Monterrey, whose members came to accompany the train car all along the route. Many other US Rotarians participated all along the route, as well as Jennifer Jones and her Windsor Club in Canada, and several clubs in Mexico. Chris Stein from the National Forest Service, who is also a Rotarian was also very involved but in a non official capacity. He was able to connect many other Rotarians in the US who are involved in pollinator projects.

3. What did they do? Please give at least two examples. We participated in the annual Little Village Fiestas Patrias Parade in September. We attended the pre-parade breakfast and met with Chicago Mayor Lori Lightfoot, IL Governor Pritzker and other politicians and told them about the project. At the parade, our club members handed out information about making a pollinator garden in English & Spanish and seed packets of milkweed. We rented an antique fire truck and made a banner describing the project that we displayed on the firetruck. Before this Len Dominguez and Pam Brockman were interviewed about the project on Channel 9 WGN's Adelante TV segment. There was also a signing of a Pollinator Pledge by our District Governor in Bensenville with other officials and another one with him and RI President Jennifer Jones in Evanston. Current RI Vice President Pat Merryweather also attended the Evanston event. We also made a Monarch Butterfly Bingo card, but were not able to promote it as much as we would have liked to because I got Covid and was not well. Hunter Byington also made a lovely video about the project which he will show at District Governor Ade's farewell.

4. How many non-Rotarians benefited from this project? It is estimated that 10,000 people attend the Little Village Parade annually. It was also broadcast on Ch. 7 WLS TV, and all the Spanish Language TV stations. 2 club members were interviewed on WGN TV channel 9: Here is the link to the Adelante show with Lourdes Duarte, host, and Len Dominguez and Pam Brockman: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=RVDqOF9-IJA>. I am emailing the final report from the Monterrey, Mexico Rotarian, David Eaton, whose idea this whole project was. You can see photos from every event along the way from Windsor, Canada to the state of Michoacan, Mexico.

5. What are the expected long-term community impacts of the project? Greater awareness and participation in pollinator gardens and in protecting & increasing the Monarch Butterfly habitat. We also used this opportunity to do outreach for our club membership and awareness building of our club and Rotary in general.

6. If a cooperating organization was involved, what was its role? Kansas City South Railroad they organized some of the events and provided the box car. They also raised money to plant 60,000 Fir trees that the Monarch Butterflies overwinter in, in the Rosario Sanctuary, in Michoacán, Mexico. Our member, Mario Galindo, who owns Dot Press, donated the banner. We gave the banner then to David Eaton a Rotarian in the Monterey Rotary Club and a VP at Kansas City South Railway, to take with him to use at the other stops along the way to Mexico.

Financial Report – Be sure that Income equals Expenditures!

7. Income

Amount

1. District Grant funds approved by the District (see photo)	750
2. District Grant funds approved by the District (P-4405)	325
3. Club contribution (plus \$800 for pollinator garden postcards, but receipt not valid so not added, just noted here)	1339

4. Other funding (specify) From Kathy Rak (see photo)	50
Total Project Income	\$2,464

8. Expenditures - please be specific and add lines as needed - receipts must be attached

1. Participation in LV Parade & Breakfast	2,000
We also rented an Antique Fire Truck, but it was an informal transaction and we don't have an invoice. It cost \$1,000. It always attracts a lot of attention at the parade! We have rented it many times.	—
3. Purchase of 1000 milkweed seed packets	464
4. Printing of pollinator garden directions postcards in English & Spanish \$800 (not added here as receipt not valid but I wanted to record it because we did spend it.)	
5.	
6.	
Total Project Expenditures	\$2,464

9. By signing this report, I confirm that to the best of my knowledge these District Grant funds were spent only for eligible items in accordance with Trustee-approved guidelines, and that all of the information contained herein is true and accurate. Receipts for all grant-funded expenditures have been provided to the district. I also understand that all photographs submitted in connection with this report will become the property of RI and will not be returned. I warrant that I own all rights in the photographs, including copyright, and hereby grant RI and TRF a royalty free irrevocable license to use the photographs now or at any time in the future, throughout the world in any manner it so chooses and in any medium now known or later developed. This includes the right to modify the photograph(s) as necessary in RI's sole discretion. This also includes, without limitation, use on or in the web sites, magazines, brochures, pamphlets, exhibitions and any other promotional materials of RI and TRF.

Certifying Signature

Pamela A Brockman

Date: May 8, 2023 & corrected
June 1, 2023

Print name, Rotary title, and club

Pam Brockman, Foundation Chair, Rotary Club of Chicago Little Village