



Sonny Brown Business of the Year Award

Established in 2005, Rotary's Centennial Year, to honor Past District Governor Sonny Brown for his many years of service to Rotary International, District 5520, his outstanding leadership skills, and on-going support.

Criteria

The Award recognizes businesses in District 5520 that exemplify **The High Ethical Standards of Rotary**. The business must demonstrate excellence in the following areas:

- Employee relations
- Quality of product and/or service representation
- Community involvement by both management and employees

Categories

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- * **Small Business Award** from 1 to 10 employees
- * **Medium Business Award**—from 11 to 50 employees
- * **Large Business Award**—more than 50 employees
- * **"At Large" Business Award**—includes companies that may have principals or employees belonging to a Rotary Club. **(New for 2012)**

Nominees must be non-Rotarian businesses located within the District except for the **"At Large"** Business Award.

Individual Rotarians and Rotary Clubs may make nominations from the community-at-large within the District.

Participating Rotary Clubs may submit one application in each category. Nominees must receive Club endorsement before submission to the District 5520 Selection Committee.

Application must be submitted no later than April 1, 2012, to District Selection Chair Paul McQueary, 4429 Bella Vista Circle, Farmington, NM 87401.

Selection

The District Selection Committee will review the nominations, choose the recipient for the award and notify the sponsoring Club.

The recipients of the District awards will be invited to be guests at the 2012 District Conference in Albuquerque, New Mexico, May 17, 18, 19, 2012, where the awards will be presented.

The sponsoring Rotary Club must make the arrangements for its recipient to attend the presentation.



IRVING J. "SONNY" BROWN

Sonny is Chairman and Founder of Sonny Brown Associates, an international commercial and industrial real estate consulting firm. He was born in Parral, Chihuahua, Mexico. Spanish is his first language. He is an active member of the Society of Industrial and Office Realtors and other regional and national real estate organizations.

He has served his community as director of the El Paso Industrial Development Corporation, as a commissioner on the Housing Authority of El Paso, and as vice president and director of the El Paso Chamber of Commerce. For his service to the El Paso Community, he was awarded the Distinguished Service Award, an award given annually by the Rotary Club of El Paso.

A Rotarian since 1960, Sonny has served RI as club president, district governor, RI director and RI vice-president. In addition he has served as an international Assembly training leader, vice-chairman of the World Community Service Resource Network, Chairman of the First International RYLA Committee and chairman of the 2001 San Antonio Convention. A Trustee of the Rotary Foundation, 2000-04, he served as General Coordinator of The Family of Rotary Task Force in '04-'05. He is currently the Moderator of the Regional Rotary Foundation Coordinators Institute and Advisor to the International RYLA Committee. Sonny also served as Chairman of the Rotary International Leadership Development and Training Committee in 2006-07.

In 2009 Sonny was the Moderator of the International Assembly in San Diego, Ca. and was responsible for the training of the 2009-2010 District Governors from around the world.

Along with other outstanding Rotarians in the El Paso area, he helped develop the "Institute for Leadership". It is a unique Rotary leadership program more easily recognized when described as "RYLA for Rotarians". Graduates from over 30 separate Institutes total more than 425 Rotarians, many of whom have become Rotary Club Presidents and District Governors.

Sonny has received the Rotary Foundation's Citation for Meritorious Service and the Distinguished Service Award and his District named their new vocational service award "The Sonny Brown Business of the Year Award".

Both he and his wife, Ann are Major Donors of the Rotary Foundation and Members of the Bequest Society. They are proud parents of four children, all Paul Harris Fellows, along with most of their ten grandchildren.

Revised 5-11-2011 by MP