



ROTARY CLUB OF APPLETON

GUSTO

Service Above Self

June 23rd, 2015 Upcoming Programs

June 30th, 2015
Radisson – Salon CD
Sridhar's Induction
Thought of the Day: Marta Weldon

July 7th, 2015
Radisson – Salon A
Sridhar's Induction
Thought of the Day: Andrew Dane

Officers 2014-2015

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Sridhar

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Jon Kester

Rotarians of the Year
Tony Gonzalez/
Kathy Dreyer

Admin. Assistant
Meghan Warner
Phone 205-5255
rotaryappleton@gmail.com

Membership – 170

Downtown Gusto
Meghan Warner, Editor
Dist. 6220, Club 2656
P. O. Box 703
Appleton, WI 54912
www.appletonrotary.org
Meets Tuesday Noon

EXHIBITION CENTER UPDATE

Peter Stueck gave an update on where the city is at with the Exhibition Center. In 2011 negotiations began. In June 2012 the negotiations were put on hold due to Radisson going in to Receivership and in January 2013 they began again. In June 2014 Outagamie County votes and passes resolution allowing land sale a little over \$2,000,000. The contingencies were the City provide 103 parking spots plus additional 50 if and when needed. The deal must close by November 30, 2015 and the room tax resolution must be passes by the other communities involved acceptable management agreement negotiated between city and Radisson. In December 2014 a similar resolution moved onto the City Council. The mayor was going to present the Offer To Purchase, The Management agreement and the room tax resolution all at the same time to the common council, but doe to unforeseen circumstance this was impossible and the Mayor presented only the OTP. After a few information sessions, the resolution was finally voted on by the Common Council in January of 2015. They said NO and the vote was 8-6 against the agreement. The following council meeting the item was asked to be re-considered and the Council agreed. They then asked the mayor to refer this item to the committee for further review, which he did and the committee scheduled the public information meeting in February 2015. On March 4th it was voted on again and this time it passed. So now what?? Negotiations are currently underway with the new owners of the Radisson for an acceptable management agreement. Discussions are also underway with the following communities: City of Appleton, Kaukauna, Neenah, Grand Chute, Menasha, Neenah, Little Chute, Kimberly and Sherwood and the CVB regarding the financing of the exhibition center and the room tax resolution that will be used to pay for the construction. Oversight of the exhibition center will be the Appleton Redevelopment Authority with input from an Exhibition Center Advisory Committee (made up of members of all the community stake holders). The anticipated sale date is before November 2015. Also, since the council agreed to the land purchase 2 very big developments have begun. Luna was purchases by Hero Nakishima to be converted into a high end Japanese restaurant and Park Central was purchased by Jay Batra and Chadd Scott to be converted in to additional office space. And this is just the beginning....

BRIAN PIERCE-THUMBNAIL

Brian is the 4th out of 5 sons from the Pierce team. He was born in Illinois but his family moved to Johnston, Iowa, which is what he calls home. He is married to his wife, Brenda, for 26 years. They decided to create their own "team" and they have 4 children. Their oldest graduated from Stout and is in the US Navy. The second oldest graduated from University of Stevens Point and lives in the area and works for Jewelers Mutual. The next son is a machinist in the Marin Corps and his youngest, a girl, attends the University of Oshkosh and is pursuing a degree in Social Work. Brian works at Nielsen at the Director of Category Management. He lives next door to John Parker, who mentioned Rotary to Brian a few times which spiked his interest in becoming a member. Brian believes in Community Service and doing what is right and paying it forward. Welcome to Rotary, Brian!

ROTARIAN OF THE YEAR

This year's Rotarian of the Year epitomizes service above self in her job, her volunteering and in her Rotary activities.

She has served on the Invocation, Program Committee, Community Service and World Service Committees, Arts and Arts Awards Committee and the Courtesy Awards Committees. She chaired several of the committees over the last several years. She is an active recruiter of new members for Rotary and has been a mentor to many new people to our community. She regularly helps new folks find who to talk to, where to go, and spends significant time encouraging them and helping them to be successful.

Our Rotarian of the Year loves the arts. She is an avid volunteer for Art in the Park (Appleton Art Center), was very involved in the beginning stages of creating the Performing Arts Center and serves on the Symphony Board (and has served as it's president) as well as being a participant and recruiter for Sinfonia (the delightful symphony fund-raiser earlier this year). She is a past recipient of the Kretchmeyer Award for Excellent in the Arts for her work with the Appleton Art Center and the Symphony.

Our Rotarian of the Year is also concerned about people who are struggling with homelessness. She leads several groups of volunteer cooks and servers and the Homeless Connections and delights the residents with her amazing recipes/meals. She can take any group of ingredients and make a tasty, home-cooked meal. And her desserts are awesome. At Christmas this Rotarian makes Christmas stockings for all the children staying at the shelter and recruits folks to donate gifts to stuff the stockings so each child will have gifts at Christmas.

Our awardee serves on multiple boards in the community – Girl Scouts, Symphony, Affinity, and the Mielke Family Foundation grants committee. And she is a long-time supporter of the Women's Fund.

She has a gift for organizing people to get things done for the good of the community and never does anything half way. When she asks someone to help, they never say "no" to her. This Rotarian is thoughtful and sees the big picture. Anytime there is a need in the community you can be sure this Rotarian is in the middle organizing and helping to make the effort successful.

In her job she encourages and insists on collaboration among groups in the community. She was instrumental in getting coursework put together through Marquette University for Non-Profit Executive Director training. She is always working with non-profits in our community to help them find the best executive leadership. This Rotarian has a talent for bringing in good people. She is part of the basic needs giving partnership in Oshkosh, Green Bay and the Fox Cities and sits on each of the committees. The Dental Clinic Bus exists primarily because of her efforts to make it happen – and she is very proud of their success.

And she spends several weeks each year in Central America assisting the VOSH group to help people who have never had access to eye exams or glasses to see clearly for the first time.

It is my great privilege and pleasure to present this year's Rotarian of Year Award to Mary Harp Jirschele.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

- Bimal Rajbhandari, Rotaract student from Lawrence University, is raising money for the earthquake victims in Nepal, his home. Please follow him on his Facebook page if you are interested in helping. <https://www.facebook.com/pages/Nepal-Relief/1431020890533768>
- Our website is live so please go check it out and let us know if you have any thoughts, concerns or questions. Please visit www.appletonrotary.org.

GUESTS, VISITORS AND MAKE-UPS

Today our guests were Dawn Nowakowski with Jennifer Stephany, Lucy Valitchka with Roy Valitchka, Dori Sterkenberg with Andrew Micheletti, Dnyanesh Parker with Sridhar, Alyce Dumke, Jeff Jirschele with Karen Laws, Peter Stueck and June Stueck with the club, Laura Leimers with Paul Hillmer, Lee Parker with John Parker and Brenda Pierce with Brian Pierce.

There were No Visiting Rotarians this week

There were No Make ups this week

JULY 7TH MEETING-CAP SERVICES

Discouraged about poverty in America? Don't despair. The cycle has been broken in our own backyard. On July 7th, come and learn about CAP Services (Community Action Programs) and their programs in Outagamie or 4 other counties that help people move toward self-sufficiency.
