



ROTARY CLUB OF APPLETON

GUSTO

Service Above Self

June 17, 2014

Leadership in Life: A Panel Discussion

Upcoming Programs

June 24

Salon A

Deborah Wetter's Induction
Thought of the Day: Marta Weldon

July 1st

Salon A

Mary Harp-Jirschele-
Honduras Mission Trip

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Meets Tuesday Noon

The Rotary Young Professional Committee asked four panelists selected from the club about leadership. The four panelists chosen were Curt Detjen, Mary Harp-Jirschele, Karla Blair and Peter Kelly.

The first questions were about mentors. "Can you name a person who has had a tremendous impact on you as a leader? Maybe someone who has been a mentor to you? Why and how did this person impact your life?" Peter Kelly responded that a fellow Rotary member has made an impact on his life, and it was O.C. Boldt. As a volunteer for United Way, Peter got to know O.C. He really learned that it's not about an amount; it's about telling a story. You want to get people engaged, and then they will give what they can give. It's more about being a storyteller. Curt mentioned Tom, a City of Appleton Engineer. He recognized something in Curt before Curt saw it. Tom would invite Curt to sit down in his office for a half-hour to share a cup of coffee and pass on some wisdom. Tom also shared with Curt how to get things done and how to ask the right questions.

The second set of questions was about continuing one's education. "How do you go about learning and growing as a leader? How do you ensure you don't stagnate?" Karla answered that she sought out strength in others that she did not have. For instance, her assistant would help her with technical issues, and Karla would use that new knowledge to continue to grow. Mary leaders need to try something new, something out of the box. Her mother tried skydiving six months before she passed away. If she didn't try something new, she would have never had the chance. Also, Mary recommended hanging out with someone "old." You can learn so many different things from their experienced perspectives.

The next question was about mentoring. "What do you see as the biggest challenge facing young professionals today?" Mary mentioned that many young professionals are getting pulled in too many directions. Karla agreed and said young professionals really need to take time for themselves. There are so many different devices out there that young professionals feel pressure to work 24/7. Young professionals should take time to balance work and family. Peter interpreted the question differently: "How do we as older professionals learn to work with younger professionals?" It's harder for experienced professionals to accept change, but they need to be open to new ideas. They need to learn how to incorporate the young professionals into the workplace. Curt mentioned that young people need to seek out wisdom. They need to keep their skills sharpened and continue to learn and grow each and every day. Young professionals need to invest in personal growth.

Finally, the Young Professionals Committee asked the panelists, "How have you handled times of criticism, opposition or failure? Can you tell me about a time you've handled it well and one that you've handled not so well?" Karla said when she notified Thilmany's that she was leaving and going to Schenck, her boss told her she did not have the ability to make it or survive in a public accounting firm. If she got anything out of that it was the drive to succeed. When she had made shareholder at Schenck, she could not wait to email to her former boss. Peter mentioned that it takes guts for the person making the criticism to approach you, so you need to respect that. You need to continue to listen and not jump to conclusion. It's best to sit back, listen, process everything, and think before you open your mouth.

The floor was opened up to questions. "How do you suggest leaders handle the challenge of lack of "face-to-face" interactions? For instance emailing and texting people 15 feet away." Mary said Keller took individual printers away. The walk to the printer gave her a chance to engage people she would not have seen otherwise in conversation. This opened up a line of communication within her organization. Peter said he makes a point to call people at least once a week. He wants to make sure he stays engaged and connected with people.

The last question focused on what keeps leaders motivated? Curt said his value system and spiritual side. "You need to know who you are as a human being." Karla said she puts a happy face on each and every day. Mary said she had to learn the hard way. "You need to find a way to keep it together and be strong because others will see it." Peter said

a leader must be true to oneself and live by these words.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

- The Membership Committee is holding a membership drive. Invite friends/colleagues to come and see what Rotary is all about. Free lunch tickets are available. Please see Trey Neher, Dawn Doberstein or Jon Kester for a free lunch ticket.
- SAMP will NOT be packing supplies at the Ralph Shiner Center on June 24th due to Deborah's induction.

- Levi Cross, outbound student, is back from Brazil. He will be attending the August 12th meeting to give a power point presentation.
 - On July 15th RYE Students Abbie Skorzewski and Isiah Higgs will be presenting their outbound presentation
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HAPPY HOUR AT APPLETON'S YACHT CLUB!

The next Rotary Happy Hour, sponsored by the Family of Rotary Committee, is:

Tuesday, June 24th, 2014

Appleton Yacht Club

1200 S Lutz Dr. Appleton, WI 54914 (near Pierce Park)

(920) 733-9848

5-7 p.m.

Cash Bar

Continue the induction celebration of President Deborah Wetter with good fellowship, good conversation and a great place to relax and unwind.

GUESTS, VISITORS AND MAKE-UPS

Guests today were Danielle Picard, Mary Downs, Kent Zaretske, Alex Haas, Lorraine Chibanda, Laura Begy Boehm and John McCollins.

Making up with this week was Nancy Leipzig.