



ROTARY CLUB OF APPLETON

GUSTO

Service Above Self

June 24, 2014

Upcoming Programs

July 1st

Salon A

Fox Cities Exhibition
Center Update - Walter
Rugland
Thought of the Day: Amy
Flanders

July 8

Post Polio Syndrome – Bob
Williams
Thought of the Day: Greg
Linnemanstons

Officers 2014-2015

President

Deborah Wetter

Vice President

Sridhar

Past President

Peter Kelly

Secretary

Jennifer Stephany

Treasurer

Chad Hershner

Directors

Rosie Canizzo
Michelle Devine-Giese
Ruth Ann Heeter
Gary Hermsen
Dennis Hietpas
Egide Nimubona
Shana Shallue
Marta Weldon

Sergeant-At-Arms

Jon Kester

Rotarians of the Year

Tony Gonzalez/
Kathy Dreyer

Admin. Assistant

Meghan Warner
Phone 205-5255
rotaryappleton@gmail.com

Membership – 182

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

ROTARY YEAR IN REVIEW – 2013-2014

Peter Kelly reflected on this year as president. We began this Rotary year with a survey, asking you to help shape the direction for our Club. With that and input from the Board we made some small changes to our meetings in an effort to make them more efficient – reorganized meeting format, omitted “Happy Birthday” ... but still in the Gusto, inductions/thumbnails will be done on a quarterly basis. The theme committee presented a series on the Universe and Its Limits. We found out that like Protagoras, we had no idea, and that to capture neutrinos one must go to the end of the earth. Rotary on the Road was held at Gardens of the Fox Cities, Paper Discovery Center, Valley Packaging and several of you dined with me at the Wastewater Treatment Center. The Program Committee presented two Nonprofit Roundtables and the Young Professionals took control for a meeting ... young or old, it was well received. Last year, excluding Rotary Shines, we gave away \$39,992.97. Kaitlyn Pritzl and Syndee Eckberg were each awarded \$5,000 scholarships. U. W. Fox Valley Foundation and Fox Valley Technical College Foundation were also each awarded \$2,481.09 for nontraditional scholarships. The Youth Services and Education Awards Committee presented 11 Bright Future Awards and 4 of these recipients applied for and received scholarships of \$625 to attend Fox Valley Technical College. The committee also awarded 10 Youth Recognition Awards to outstanding seniors and 10 to outstanding juniors. The Arts Scholarship Committee awarded 3 scholarships to students totaling \$2,552.87. The World Service Committee awarded grants to the Ghana Sanitation Project (\$2,000), the Volunteer Optometric Services to Humanity (\$825) and PowerFlour (\$250). The Community Service Committee awarded a \$3,206 grant to Neighborhood Partnership and Sustainability Fox Valley. The Children with Disabilities Committee distributed \$23,053.01 to area organizations. In addition, Rotary Shines was held on Friday, April 11 at the Outer Edge. It raised over \$28,000 to benefit Catalpa Health, Kenya Works Makini Initiative (benefiting Kenyan adolescent girls); Solar Sanitary Project in India; and a high school sanitation project in Burundi, Africa. In addition we sent money to RI to support PolioPlus. Your generosity didn't stop there. I received personal gifts such as coffee, a bus pass, empty cans of exotic beer, chop sticks, candy, shot glass, playing cards, commemorative coins, other fun trinkets, and directions to a pancake restaurant to Bangkok. The club hosted Rotary Youth Exchange student Flora Prada from Buenos Aires, Argentina. Our outbound student Levi Cross went to Brazil. Six students to attended Rotary Youth Leadership camp at Camp Manito-wish YMCA in Boulder Junction. The Family of Rotary held a series of social events called Rediscover Appleton. (A reminder that that fun continues this evening at the Appleton Yacht Club.) The Courtesy Awards Committee awarded 4 Courtesy Award for exceptional service in our community ... and is already asking all of us to be on the lookout for remarkable customer service that we can recognize this year. The Membership Committee held 2 membership drives and 12 members were inducted. Perhaps one of my bigger regrets is not growing our membership numbers and failing to continue our pretty consistent history of receiving Presidential Citation. This disappointment is easily overshadowed by our club sponsoring the Rotaract Club of Lawrence University, which did receive a Presidential Citation. This year was also very challenging for Sharing Around (the World) Medical Project ... I would even say the future of the SAMP looked bleak at one point. The Project collected, packed and sent 3 shipments to Pakistan. Thanks for the hard work of a core group of Rotarians; SAMP also formed partnerships with the Salvatorian Center, the International Coalition of Independent Living and the International Children's Fund. A total of 210 gaylords were sent out this year. The Board of Directors and the incoming board members held Strategic Planning Sessions facilitated by Shipra Seefeldt and Sridhar. We will have more to report on this at future meetings. The Club thanked Kathy Dreyer for her 16 years of service and welcomed our new administrative assistant – Meghan Warner. We awarded Charles and Adele Heeter Outstanding Community Leadership Awards and Paul Harris Fellows to Dawn Doberstein, Mary Harp-Jirchle for their wonderful work in our community. Tony Gonzalez was recognized as our Rotarian of the Year. This award was accompanied with a Paul Harris Fellowship. We also gave an Honorary Rotarian of the Year award to Kathy Dreyer. That brings us back to today ... and one year ago. Stunts Committee inducted me as President and the club found out that while we're all very cheerful, Rotary is not a place where everyone knows your name. Over the past twelve months I don't know that I've made any progress. So let me conclude and just say, “Hey you ... all of you, it was fun. Thank you for all you do. It has been an honor to serve as president of the Rotary Club of Appleton.

DEBORAH WETTER'S INDUCTION

My name is Debbie Driver and I'm your bus driver today. We're here to travel all over the club to celebrate the induction of Deborah Wetter. Because she's the new president she'll be the first passenger on the Rotary Transit Express. But before we get going, we're going to have some traveling music as we make our stops. For those of you who don't know Deb, she's the top man, er, woman at Valley Transit. Deb, get on the bust and let's not be late for our first stop...but remember: you cant' get on the bus without sharing a story about Deborah. Robb: You can call her Deb, but never Debbie—she prefers Deborah. This Wausau native hasn't stayed too long in one place. She was one of the long line of family members who are actually all Ivy League. Deb has a degree in business from Radcliffe—the all girl companion to Harvard. So you can call her a “Cliffe.” But don't call her Debbie. Caroline: Transportation is a big theme in Deb's life. Her working life included jobs in Mississippi, San Diego (where she met her hubby Jerry), New Orleans, San Jose, Batavia and now the Fox Valley. When she was in the Bay area she worked for the Bay Area Rapid Transit or BART as it is called where she managed buses, trains, trolleys...Deb, is there any truth to the rumor that light rail and space shuttles are next for the Valley??? Rich: Deb LOVES music and regularly attends symphonies here in the Valley and in Stevens Point, NewVoices concerts, and she's a cellist—all of this love for music and she married a guy who was told to go outside and play rather than participating in music class! Ruthann: Life is all about anything that sparkles. Deb LOVES shiny, glittery, bling—from the baubles she wears to the ones she puts on for Rotary Shines announcements. She also loves anything with Meryl Streep in it including, “The Devil Wears Prada.” This all seems to work because her favorite song ever is Dancing Queen. Who doesn't love a little ABBA now and then—but we hear Deb has it on a RING TONE? Really Deb? Peter: Hey...I got a free pass last year so I can get on the bus without a story...Mary: Right you are, but please do us a favor and don't sing! Trey: According to co-workers, Deb is a leader who always sees the big picture, she's collaborative and thoughtful. But there must be something about this Rotary office because she can always remember faces, but has a little problem remembering names. She's traveled around the country and has picked up a few words that retain the accents from the places she's lived. In New Orleans, the word “ask” and “axe” come out as “axe” in her accent. One time she was telling her assistant here in Appleton that she had to “axe” a co-worker something...and the poor woman thought someone was getting fired. Chad: Well Deb, we thought you didn't have any secrets...but we understand you are addicted to Starbucks. So addicted that you have an app on your phone set for automatic re-load every time your Starbucks card gets below \$25. And we know you enjoy the best things about Wisconsin: a happy hour now and then, cheese...but HOLD THE FISH FRY. Jerry had to pick you up from a company luncheon years ago because fish was on the menu—after a trip to the doctor he confirmed that if it has fins, you're allergic to it. Tom: As you know, Deb was just in Australia for the Rotary International conference and she stayed for a vacation to New Zealand. While there she fell in love with the honey. She tried to bring honey from New Zealand to Australia and it got confiscated. So...she decided to ship some home to herself back here in Wisconsin. Her son confirmed it arrived at home, but it had a sticker on it that said “DHS.” She asked if it stood for Department of Human Services, but her son said no, it was Department of Homeland Security. She immediately freaked out thinking she had violated international customs law—her son let her freak out. Until he told her he was only kidding.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

- We had a moment of silence for Bob Rahn who passed away June 21, 2014. Bob was a member for almost 55 years, a past president and Paul Harris Fellow. Our condolences to his family.
- 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.
- 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.

GUESTS, VISITORS AND MAKE-UPS

Guests today were Clarice Belling, Rosemary Cummings, Kathy Dreyer, Marion Anciaux with Bill Anciaux, Laura Begy Boehm with Hugh Begy, Nikki Voelzke with Chad Hershner and Jerry Wetter with Deborah Wetter, Bill Cassen, Shawn Quella, Mary Downs, Jenni Eickelberg and Kevin Rust.

There were no **visiting** Rotarians today.

Making up this week was Mary Harp-Jirschele in Kaukauna.