

District Messenger
www.rotary6250.org



Governor's Message

Rotary is a fellowship of people who share certain qualities: strong ethical convictions, generosity of spirit and a willingness to do what needs to be done. For generations, Rotarians have been leaders in their communities. Today's troubled world cries out for Rotary leadership.

We have the responsibility to affect a better future by living according to the long held Rotary values. True leaders lead by example in their professions, clubs and daily lives. Showing caring, respecting others, having compassion – this is how all of us can strengthen Rotary.

As we all know, our responsibilities go far beyond our weekly meetings. We are all responsible for making our communities and our world better places. There can be no boundary between Rotary and the rest of our lives. Everything we do must live up to the high standard of Rotary.

This year, I ask you all to LEAD THE WAY as Rotarians, with integrity, steady effort and practical good sense. Together, we can help create a better future through the simple values of Rotary.

Hal Keitel

Attendance Contest – here's the scoop from Earline

Rotary Club in District 6250 will have the opportunity to win the Attendance Award competition at the District Celebration in May 2007. The purpose of the attendance award is to encourage membership attendance at the club's weekly meetings. Governor Hal and District Membership Committee Chair Earline Orndorff have established the following guideline for the award:

- 1 The District's clubs will be divided into two categories:
 - Category A – 70 members or less as of July 1, 2006

- Category B – 71 members or more as of July 1, 2006
- 2 **The award will be based on average percentage of attendance by members** from July 1, 2006 to March 1, 2007 as reported to the District Secretary by the 15th of each month.
 - 3 Clubs must report attendance in accordance with guidelines set by the District Secretary.
 - 4 **The winning club in each category will receive \$1000 to use in its local scholarship program.** If the club does not have a local scholarship program, the club can use the award for a worthy community service project.

Contact Earline at 608-825-1590 if you have questions about the award, would like to discuss ideas for improving attendance or have ideas for increasing attendance that you are willing to share. After March 1, we plan to publish a list of these creative attendance ideas.

International Service – an article from PDG Sharon Imes

When we join Rotary one of the commitments we make is to work toward world peace and understanding and to improve the quality of life for others. We fulfill that commitment in many ways – by volunteering, by donating money and/or in-kind gifts or services, or by seeking grants from the Rotary Foundation that improve the quality of life of others by providing health care, clean water, food, education and other essential needs in developed and developing countries. Sometimes, however, because of other personal commitments, our club size and/or lack of knowledge about World Community Service and how to use the Rotary Foundation to help meet the needs of others, our fourth avenue of service, international service, is slighted.

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Featured Clubs – Sparta, from AG Jim Crubaugh

The Rotary Club of Sparta is a typical club....30 some members, two fundraisers each year (spring golf outing and a fall sportsman raffle), and everyone having families and careers in progress. A weekly meeting featuring good food, a joke or two, The Pledge, great hospitality, business conducted, and camaraderie. But this is where the “typical” stops and “CAN DO” takes over...as ROTARY-SPARTA LEADS THE WAY...

read the rest of the story

Jefferson Fundraiser – skydiving! – from AG Sue Johnson

Jefferson Rotary club members and area residents are once again going to great heights to raise money for a worthy local cause -- a permanent band shell for Jefferson’s Rotary Waterfront Park. “Chutes for the Shell” will be held from 8:00 a.m. until dark on Saturday, September 9, at Atmosphair Skydiving Center, Fort Atkinson airport.

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Menominee Sunrise- Speaker Gifts – from PP Kaye Krave

Are you tired of giving (receiving) coffee mugs and pens? Menominee Sunrise has combined their speaker gifts with a literacy project. **read more...**

LaCrosse Valley View – Project in Haiti

(Reprinted from the LaCrosse Tribune)

The trip started with a book.

Marcia Naber read “Mountains Beyond Mountains,” a nonfiction story about an American doctor working in Haiti and other developing nations.

“It’s one of those books,” said Naber, “that makes you think, ‘Hey, maybe we can do something to change the way things are.’”

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June Membership Report –

One of the District Goals this year is have all clubs regularly report their attendance by the 15th of every month. The report can be emailed to District Secretary Alan Selene at alanselene@ryansigns.net, or mailed to Alan at One Ondossagon, Madison, WI 53719. The most recent report is posted on the district website, on the **Member Clubs** page

2007 District Conference

May 4-6, 2007 at the Kalahari Resort, WI Dells. The theme will be ‘Literacy Leads the Way Out of Poverty’

Alphabet Soup?

DG – District Governor

PDG – Past District Governor

AG – Assistant Governor

PP – Past President

The District Messenger editor is Julie Keitel. Send info to jkeitel@new.rr.com, or 9 W. 18th Ave, Oshkosh, WI 54902. The monthly deadline for articles is the 7th of the month, and the newsletter will be published by the 15th. The newsletter is emailed to club presidents and secretaries, assistant governors, and district committee chairs. Please copy and distribute to your club members, or post on your club website. More detailed information is available on the district website.

When we join Rotary one of the commitments we make is to work toward world peace and understanding and to improve the quality of life for others. We fulfill that commitment in many ways – by volunteering, by donating money and/or in-kind gifts or services, or by seeking grants from the Rotary Foundation that improve the quality of life of others by providing health care, clean water, food, education and other essential needs in developed and developing countries. Sometimes, however, because of other personal commitments, our club size and/or lack of knowledge about World Community Service and how to use the Rotary Foundation to help meet the needs of others, our fourth avenue of service, international service, is slighted.

This coming year, Governor Hal has asked me to generate greater awareness of the Rotary resources available to us and to our clubs and to provide club assistance in whatever way is needed to advance our commitment to international service. In that role, I hope to accomplish several goals. Among them are the following:

- to create greater awareness of the types of international service we may provide;
- to identify the international service projects our clubs are currently working on; to share that information with all of the clubs in our district so that clubs doing similar work or wishing to work on one of the current projects can coordinate their efforts, and
- to provide clubs interested in taking on an international project any assistance they may need to identify a project; to make appropriate contacts with those in other parts of the world and to apply for a grant.

To accomplish these goals there will be an article in the Governor's newsletter each month on a specific type of international service we may undertake. I will also be contacting each club president with a request for information concerning any international service projects they may be working on or considering and sharing that information with you. And, finally, I am making myself available to any of you who wish assistance in undertaking an international service project. You may reach me by calling me at my office, 608-782-0835, or e-mailing me at sharonimes@charter.net. If you do not reach me when you call, please leave word and I will call you back.

I am looking forward to working with you this year!

BACK TO NEWSLETTER

The Rotary Club of Sparta is a typical club....30 some members, two fundraisers each year (spring golf outing and a fall sportsman raffle), and everyone having families and careers in progress. A weekly meeting featuring good food, a joke or two, The Pledge, great hospitality, business conducted, and camaraderie. But this is where the “typical” stops and “CAN DO” takes over...as ROTARY-SPARTA LEADS THE WAY...

Some clubs say “we are too busy” some clubs say “We’ll put it on the agenda for discussion”, and some clubs say “we’ll try to get to it”. Sparta says “hell yeah, we can do it!” I saw this very “CAN DO” attitude just this past spring once again, when the club just decided to build a much needed building, without any money in the checkbook or budget...because it needed to be done NOW. And as a result of this can do attitude, 120 days later the building is almost completed, with all Rotary member labor while providing training for the Challenge Academy volunteers (The academy, at Fort McCoy, is a place for at-risk teenagers to have a chance to learn and develop into good and productive citizens). Funding for the building is paid for through community donations. It will provide storage for the Club’s and other community groups’ equipment and serve as a concession stand at the Evans-Bassard Sparta City Park. The new Rotary building allows the Sparta Rotary Club to now store a multitude of items, including all their Christmas lights equipment at one place and also room for their Rotary Float that is used for parades and other activities.

The club is always involved in their community is some way or another. They provided parking support for the Annual Butterfest again this year, adopted a family ravaged by a tornado last year in Viola, operated an archery booth at various times, is a major donor to the local hockey association and other youth activities, and provided high school scholarships totaling \$2000 this year. In the coming month they will operate a BBQ Grill wagon for the hockey association, teaching the kids to operate a concession stand fundraiser for themselves. Rotary-Sparta also sponsors an archery program in the Sparta middle school. And guess what happened this year? They took state championship, after only the second year in operation. As if this wasn’t enough, Rotary-Sparta is also initiating help in funding and training for an archery program for the Wisconsin Challenge Academy. This past spring Monroe County had special hearings on a law enforcement spending issue....Rotary-Sparta saw the significance of it and re-scheduled their meeting to not conflict with the importance of county residents getting informed thru these hearings. Not much gets by them at Rotary-Sparta. They cover their community and areas around and do what is needed. And then some...they are leading the way every day.

Rotary-Sparta Club President Bob Olm, President-elect JP Schaller, Past-President Tony Polkowski, and Club Secretary Bruce Wanlass provided assistance in this article’s production.

Jim Crubaugh. 7/23/06

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE, July 31, 2006

CONTACT: Gary Myers, 920-674-6235

Jefferson Rotary to host “Chutes for the Shell” fundraiser

JEFFERSON – Jefferson Rotary club members and area residents are once again going to great heights to raise money for a worthy local cause -- a permanent band shell for Jefferson’s Rotary Waterfront Park.

“Chutes for the Shell” will be held from 8:00 a.m. until dark on Saturday, September 9, at Atmosphair Skydiving Center, Fort Atkinson airport.

In addition to skydiving, the Jefferson Rotary will provide food, family games, and other entertainment throughout the day. The band “Live Bait” (formerly the Vaneskes) will perform from 3:00 p.m. until 6:00 p.m.

Money raised will be applied to a permanent band shell to be located at Rotary Waterfront Park, site of the Concerts in the Park series as well as other community events. The Fort Community Credit Union has already contributed \$15,000 to the project. The Jefferson Parks and Recreation Department is developing a final design and estimate for construction of the band shell.

“The new band shell will enhance the Rotary Park attraction,” says Jefferson Rotary President Chris Nash. “The new fish ladder, the pedestrian bridge and the newly reopened Depot Restaurant are all located adjacent to the park. It is becoming a popular riverfront destination.”

Chutes for the Shell is the second skydiving fundraiser staged by the Jefferson Rotary in as many years. Last year the club raised more than \$3,500 at the skydiving event as component of a larger \$45,000 campaign to build a shelter at Tensfeldt Park.

“Last year’s skydiving fundraiser was incredibly popular. After the event, people who had jumped, as well as many who did not, asked about signing up to do it again in 2006,” says Sue Johnson, co-chair of Chutes for the Shell. “We’re moving the event to a

Saturday this year and expect to sell out all of the skydiving spots well before September 9th.”

All jumps are tandem dives with a licensed skydiver, and each jump includes a training class as well as a DVD commemorating the event. Cost is \$275 and a reservation can be held for a \$50 deposit. To reserve a jump time or for further information, contact Sue Johnson during the day at 563-7305.

There is no admission charge for spectators.

Individuals wishing to make a tax-free contribution to the band shell should send checks to “Band Shell Fund, c/o Jefferson Community Foundation, P.O, Box 178, Jefferson WI 53549.”

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Menomonie Sunrise Rotary Donates Children's' Books to the Menomonie Public Library

The Menomonie Sunrise Rotary has donated 109 childrens' books to the Menomonie Public Library in the past 3 years. The Sunrise club was looking for a way to thank guest speakers that come to our weekly club meetings on Thursday mornings. The 2003 Rotary International President, Jonathon Majiyabe, helped with the idea. President Majiyabe and his wife Ade, from Nigeria, were involved in a Rotary literacy project providing youngsters in many countries with needed books and school supplies so they could attend school. In June of 2003, at the District Governors' training conference in California, Ade asked attendees to each bring 5 children's books. At the end of the conference 18,000 books were donated to the Anaheim Public Library! Rotarians were shocked to hear the next month that Ade suffered a stroke and died a few days later. The Rotary "family" was saddened. Our club decided to honor Ade's dream with a book project of our own. We contacted the Menomonie Public Library and through Jodi Bird, Youth Services Librarian, worked out the details. We have had fun working with Jodi on the project. She selects the books to be purchased and has been able to obtain a wide variety of books, including CDs for the first time for children to listen to at home. We have been presenting the books weekly, thanking our speakers for the time they spend with us. We place their name on a special Sunrise Rotary label placed in the inner cover of the book or CD box. The books are then ready for circulation in our community. Sunrise members and speakers have enjoyed looking over the books before they are donated. Since July of 2003 when the project began we have donated over 100 books to our community library. It has been a positive experience for the Sunrise Rotary and a great way to honor the memory of Ade Majiyabe (Nigeria).

Submitted by,
Kaye Krave (Past President 2003-04)

BACK TO NEWSLETTER

Rotary Club, UW-L build relationships in Haiti

By JOE ORSO | La Crosse Tribune

The trip started with a book.

Marcia Naber read "Mountains Beyond Mountains," a nonfiction story about an American doctor working in Haiti and other developing nations.

"It's one of those books," said Naber, "that makes you think, 'Hey, maybe we can do something to change the way things are.'"

On May 28, she and five others returned from a second trip to Pignon, Haiti, where they delivered computers and equipment to repair the city's water system, and made plans for the future.

The seven-day trip was part of a joint project between the La Crosse Valley View Rotary Club, of which she is a member, and people from the University of Wisconsin-La Crosse. The UW-L group included a professor of community health, a professor of French and a nurse practitioner.

Naber works as the senior student services coordinator in the Enrollment and Career Services Department at UW-L.

"Pignon is only two hours south of Miami by air," said Naber. "I think it's important that Americans realize there are lots of resources in this world, but sometimes the distribution of these resources is skewed."

The journey began last year.

After Naber had read the book, she got in touch with a Haitian doctor. In June 2005, she and others visited hospitals, schools and other places in Pignon to assess the community's needs. The trip was in conjunction with the Rotary Club in Pignon.

After that trip, a nurse from the Pignon Hospital came to La Crosse to study at Franciscan Skemp Medical Center and UW-L for a year.

From the needs assessment report, the project received a \$16,500 grant from Rotary International. The money helped purchase desks, buy equipment to repair the water system and improve cross-cultural communications. Students from Western Technical College restored

14 computers, which were delivered to eight schools on the most recent trip.

Hopes for the future include developing a distance education program to teach English to Haitians and bringing Pignon students to UW-L.

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