

DISTRICT 6270 CALENDAR

(Calendar not complete. Please check website for up-to-date calendar.)

April 24, 2010 - SPRING ASSEMBLY at the HARTFORD MIDDLE SCHOOL. Registration 7:15 - 8:00 am Program starts 8:15 am.

May 14-16, 2010 – District Conference, Radisson Hotel, Green Bay, WI

Rotarians help Youth Exchange kids

One of the best features of District Conference is the chance to see all our Youth Exchange kids. They always do a flag ceremony and then sit and have lunch with Rotarians. It is impressive to see how well they do, and fun to hear from them. One of the problems we face is that conferences are pretty expensive. There are hotel costs and meal costs, and they come at a time when RYE costs are already rising pretty fast because of ever-higher insurance costs. So clubs are struggling to help meet these costs. Last week Nancy Rhodes put out a call to club presidents to see if non-hosting clubs would be able to help some of these kids get to our district conference. As you would expect, the response was positive and immediate. Fred and Betsy Wittenberger will sponsor one child, as will Rick Luedke. And both the Elkhorn and Milwaukee Amigos Rotary Clubs have committed to helping sponsor a RYE student. Very impressive, folks. Thank you!



Rotary District 6270

Newsletter

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Oshkosh Southwest Rotary's Battle on 'Bago'



The goal was to raise \$90,000 for kids' programs and area recreation efforts. The means was Oshkosh Southwest Rotary's third annual "Battle on 'Bago," a fishing contest held on Lake Winnebago February 26 and 27. As you can see from the picture below, the tent was filled both days. With the world's largest fish fry on ice the first night and \$60,000 in contest prizes the second day, folks from 14 states and three countries gathered on the ice for a great deal of fun.

One of the first beneficiaries of the contest was a family whose father had drowned on Lake Winnebago a few weeks earlier. While trying to take a truck load of gravel out to a fish bed a conservation group was trying to create, his truck went through the ice and he was unable to escape. The club gave his children a \$5000 scholarship from the contest proceeds.

Who got the biggest fish? According to the anglers, dozens of them did. In the meantime, Rotarians earned a great deal for charity and provided Oshkosh with a major community event. Way to go, folks.



TIME DATED MATERIAL

Rotary District 6270
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FUTURE ROTARIAN



(L-R Cassidy's mother, Sue Giese; Cassidy; Fred Anderson; and Cassidy's teacher, Heather Nelson)

Cassidy Giese isn't your typical fifth-grader. Sure, she does well in school, is fit and active and likes to play. But, the 11-year-old Central-Denison student also has a compassion and understanding that school administrators say is not typical. Giese showed that when she organized Hike for Haiti, a fundraising effort that took place on February 6. About 50 to 60 people joined Giese for a walk around downtown Lake Geneva in an effort to raise money to purchase a ShelterBox for people in Haiti. The effort raised nearly \$770. "I was so excited when I saw how many people were there," Giese said. "I want to do something maybe in summer for Haiti – anything to help them again. I want to keep helping them." A few weeks ago, shortly after the 7.0 magnitude earthquake, Giese came up with the idea while hiking with her family at Lake Lulu. She said the family was talking about what had happened in Haiti and that's when she decided she wanted to do something to help. She came up with the name, "Hiking for Haiti." Giese told her teacher and then was guided to school administrators to work more on the concept. Giese also came up with the ideas for raffles and went to local businesses to collect items for the raffle. "It's very unusual for a fifth-grader to be that moved with compassion after watching a news broadcast," Central-Denison Principal Samantha Polek said. Polek said Giese's efforts are in line with the school district's mission of character education. "A huge part of that is developing the notion that it's just not about me, myself and I," Polek said. "They need to understand they are responsible to each other and to give to others. What is our responsibility to others." Polek said Giese had taken that lesson and run with it. "This is as a school what we hope to have happen with our kids," Polek said. But Giese looked at it as just helping people from another country in need. Assistant Principal Jackey Syens said the event was well-organized. Syens said Giese knew exactly how much she wanted to raise and what it was

for. It couldn't have been a more perfect afternoon, Syens said.

Lake Geneva Rotary and a few others rounded out the \$770 that Cassidy raised to \$1,000. Our club is going to make her an honorary member for the great deed she has done. We'll present this to her in the near future.

Fred Anderson, President
Rotary Club of Lake Geneva

SECOND HARVEST SPEAKER



Second Harvest Food Bank President Dan Stein speaking to Delavan-Darien Rotary

Dan Stein, President/CEO of Second Harvest Foodbank in Madison, WI, spoke to the Delavan-Darien Rotary Club on Feb. 15, 2010. The Second Harvest Foodbank serves 16 counties in Southern Wisconsin and is one of 205 Foodbanks in the U.S. Second Harvest Foodbank ships 20 tons of food to 240 different locations every day. A hunger study in 2010 shows that nearly one in ten grocery store shoppers rely on food stamps. In 2006, Second Harvest served 78,000 different people during the year. In 2009, that number increased to 141,000! 43% of the people receiving food assistance are children. Dan stated that hunger today is not a catastrophic problem (like Haiti), but a chronic problem. Each month, 5000 hours of volunteer time are donated to Second Harvest—equal to 30 full time equivalents!! An example of volunteer help was last fall when an apple grower donated 175,000 pounds of apples at the end of the apple season. Volunteers—in a 4 hour shift—bagged 45,000 pounds of apples for distribution to needy people. Dan reported that 80% of the food distributed to needy people is donated. Big food companies like Kellogg, Wal-Mart, Sentry and Pick-n-Save donate large quantities of food each year to Second Harvest. A great example of a big donation was from a Sam's Club Store. The store had a 2000 pound block of cheese that was used for a sales demonstration. When Sam's was finished with the cheese, they were going to throw it away because of a little mold on the outside, but Second Harvest was able to use all but 100 pounds of the block. That block of cheese was able to serve 2200 needy families! 94 cents of every dollar donated to Second Harvest goes to food for needy people. Second Harvest is rated a four star charity, an honor only 7% of charities nationwide receive. Their web site is: www.secondharvestmadison.org

Larry McCarren to Speak at District Conference Friday Night

Sports Director at WFRV TV in Green Bay... 12-year center for the Green Bay Packers... The Rock... Color Analyst on the Packer Radio Network. Friday night's keynote speaker is all of those things and more.

Join Larry for a speech full of Packer stories, anecdotes and inside observations from someone who's been there, and who, as the host of his own TV show, Larry's Locker Room, excels at getting Packers players to open up and show their human side.

After playing 12 years as center for the Packers (1973-84) and making Green Bay his home, Larry later turned to television and began sharing his knowledge with viewers. He earned his nickname "The Rock" by playing in 162 consecutive games - the fourth-longest streak in team history - with the Packers while making two Pro Bowl appearances.

Larry is the 4-time winner of Wisconsin Sportscaster of the Year, was inducted into the Packer Hall of Fame in 1992, and the Chicagoland Sports Hall of Fame in 2005.



Dance at the Governor's Ball at Lambeau Field

Our big event Saturday night of District Conference will be the Governor's Ball up in the luxury suite area of Lambeau Field. Dance the night away to the Groove Hogs following a cocktail reception and elegant dinner inside the Legends Club Room.

Big sound, big fun – that's what you can expect from the Groove Hogs (www.groovehogs.com). This year marks the 15th anniversary for the group, now considered one of the Midwest's most iconic horn bands. Delivering show-stopping music with horn-fueled intensity, the band plays all the classic Soul, Stax and dance tunes that will have everyone dancing and singing along. Get ready to party! The Groove Hogs will perform from 8:30 until midnight.

The Packer organization also promises to keep the field lights on and open a couple luxury boxes so we can explore Lambeau at night. This should be an exceptional event for all.

A shuttle bus will be available to take Rotarians and their guests from the Radisson to Lambeau Field beginning at 5 p.m. and running every 30 minutes up until midnight.

Uppermidwest PETS Council Meeting, Holiday Inn Manitowoc



The Uppermidwest PETS Council, composed of Rotarians from Districts 6220 and 6270, met on February 19, 2010 at the Holiday Inn, Manitowoc, WI. The Chair of the PETS council is District 6220 PDG Judy Herlache. The program chair is D6270 PDG Mike Slawny. This meeting was the final tune-up for the President Elect Training Seminar (PETS) scheduled for March 19-20, 2010 at the Holiday Inn, Manitowoc, WI (just off I-43 at Highway 151). The PETS will feature keynote speaker RIPE (Rotary International President Elect) Ray Klingensmith on Friday Night March 19, 2010. There will also be a great talent show with Rotary Youth Exchange students on Friday Night. PETS is a fast-paced training event required for all incoming club presidents. PETS begins at 8:30 AM on Friday March 19th. PETS will conclude with an actual Rotary Meeting conducted at the luncheon on Saturday March 20th at 12:30 PM. Zone 29 RRFC (Rotary Regional Foundation Chair) Dr. Stephanie Urchick will also be speaking at PETS.

Past Presidents Visit Club

In honor of President's Day, Feb. 15, 2010, The Delavan-Darien Rotary Club invited its past presidents to their regular meeting at Lake Lawn Resort. In attendance were 13 past presidents dating back to 1970-71's president and still current member Wally Rouse. 1971-72's president Dave Austin was also in attendance. Dave is 90 years old and a Marine World War II veteran who enlisted just after Pearl Harbor. The club also celebrated the 105th Anniversary of Rotary International. Rotary International was founded on Feb. 23, 1905 in Chicago by Racine native Paul P. Harris. The meetings were rotated amongst the 4 founding members' offices and that is where the name Rotary came from. Rotary today has 33,475 clubs and 1.2 million members worldwide.



Left to Right in picture: Mike Ettner, Wally Rouse, Dave Austin, Jim Conroy (current president), Dr. Tom Schuetz, Diane Gustafson, Jim Saer, Colleen Truckey, John Scherer, Mike Costoff, Mary Knipper, Marilyn Cayo, Dick Gifford and Judge Bob Read

ROTARY YOUTH EXCHANGE

January was an exciting month for sixteen high school students of Rotary District 6270. These young men and women had successfully completed the application and interview process for the Rotary Youth Exchange Program for the 2010-2011 school year and were eagerly awaiting their country of assignment. Our District is proud to sponsor fifteen young people as ambassadors of the United States, Wisconsin and their home communities for the next school year. These students will be assigned to South Africa, Brazil, Australia, Mexico, Turkey, Italy, Czech Republic/Slovakia, Finland, France, Spain and Germany. This program would not be a success without the support and sponsorship of the following clubs: Fond du Lac Morning, Elkhorn, Milwaukee Downtown, New Berlin, Oshkosh Southwest, Two Rivers, Ripon, West Bend, Slinger-Allenton, Berlin, Menasha, Milwaukee North Shore, and Kenosha West.

Congratulations to the students and a big thank you for the time and financial commitment of the clubs sponsoring these students.

To prepare these students for their venture, District 6270 holds two mandatory training sessions. The first session took place in Oshkosh on January 30. Led by Karen and Bob Stauffer and assisted by Dennis Swetlik, the students and parents were provided with information and tools about Rotary, cultural differences and the languages of their assigned countries. Thank you to Bill Wresch, District Governor, for taking time to present information on Rotary. The students not only had the opportunity to interact with the other students going abroad next year but with current inbound exchange students when Dana Kohlmeier brought six inbound students to visit. The next training session is scheduled for March 20.

Dennis Swetlik

IDEAS FOR SPEAKERS



Lt Colonel Tim Donovan, Public Affairs Officer for the Wisconsin National Guard, spoke to the Delavan-Darien Rotary Club on March 15, 2010 at Lake Lawn Resort. Col Donovan deployed, along with 3200 other Wisconsin National Guard Soldiers, to Iraq from May 2009 until January 2010 as part of the 32nd Infantry Brigade Combat Team (BCT). This was the largest operational deployment of Wisconsin National Guard Soldiers since World War II. Soldiers from all 72 Wisconsin Counties were involved, 90%

of them male and 10% female. Not one soldier was lost to combat action during the whole deployment reported Donovan. The 32nd "Red Arrow" Division has been in existence since 1916 and served in France in World War I, and in the Pacific in WWII, including occupation duty in Japan after the war ended in 1945. The 32nd Infantry Brigade Combat Team (BCT) had many missions in Iraq, including security inside the "Green Zone" in downtown Baghdad. Baghdad is the second largest city in the middle east, after Cairo, Egypt. Baghdad has a population of between 6 and 8 million people and is located between the Tigris and Euphrates Rivers, the "cradle of civilization". The 32nd BCT also help return property seized by Saddam Hussein to its rightful Iraqi owners. The 32nd BCT had about one year's notice before they deployed to Iraq and participated in training in Florida and Texas before flying to Iraq. Normally, Colonel Donovan explained, the 32nd BCT would be involved in the full spectrum of combat operations, but their mission in Iraq did not involve that. They also were responsible for guarding detainees and did an outstanding job, reported Donovan. In fact, Colonel Donovan said, "Wisconsin should be proud of their soldiers, who did an outstanding job in tough combat conditions" "Temperatures reached 120-130 degrees during the day in the summer". Lt. Colonel Donovan retires in 2 months after 38 years of service to the country. We can all be proud of our citizen soldiers who made it possible to conduct our businesses and lives in safety back here in Wisconsin.



Dave Bretl, Walworth County Administrator, spoke to the Delavan-Darien Rotary Club at Lake Lawn Resort on March 8, 2010. His message was a "state of the county" presentation. The good news, according to Dave, was that the 2009 levy was only up by 2.89%. With county investment income down, sales tax revenue flat and permit fees decreasing, the 2009 budget was very challenging. The total equalized value of all property in Walworth County was only up 1.22% from 2008 to 2009. Dave also reported that the county continues to meet the budget goals established in 2004 when the new Lakeland Health Care Center was built. Walworth County employees have decreased from 937 in 2006 to 847 in the 2010 budget. One of the biggest challenges going forward according to Dave is the cost of health insurance and retirement contributions for employees. Legislative changes would be required to significantly reduce those costs. Commenting on the possibility of furloughing county employees, Dave said he considered it a better strategy to eliminate positions as they have done, rather than keeping the same number of employees on board and still paying their health insurance costs, even when they're furloughed.

WALWORTH COUNTY LITERACY COUNCIL SPELLING BEE



The Walworth County Literacy Council hosted the first annual Adult Spelling Bee as a fund raiser for the Literacy Council. Almost 80 attendees enjoyed a great buffet dinner at Evergreen Country Club in Elkhorn and eyed silent auction items donated by County Businesses. All proceeds from the dinner and auction benefit the Walworth County Literacy Council (WCLC). The WCLC has provided literacy services since 2003. Meeting in libraries across the county, the Adult Tutoring Program provides free tutoring by trained volunteer tutors in Adult Basic Education and English as a Second Language. In August of 2008, The Literacy Council extended its tutoring to include inmates at the Walworth County Jail where more than 40 inmates benefitting from classes. Five teams sponsored by The Grand Geneva, Thrivent Financial Services, Delavan-Darien Rotary, Alliant Energy and Lake Geneva Rotary/Tracey's Tax Service and Kikkoman competed in the bee. Pam Ellis and Christina Grimm won the bee after words such as edelweiss, asphyxiated, strabismus and monomaniacal were served up to the five teams. Pam Ellis is a Lake Geneva Rotarian. The WCLC hopes to make this an annual event.

DELANAN-DARIEN ROTARY CLUB



Leroy Himebauch speaking to Delavan-Darien Rotary Club, City of Delavan Municipal Judge and retired FBI agent Leroy Himebauch spoke to the Delavan-Darien Rotary Club on February 22, 2010 at Lake Lawn Resort about his recent trip to Haiti. About a week after the devastating earthquake, Leroy heard from Hospice St. Joseph's, an organization he knew of in Haiti. This organization was forming a medical team to travel to Haiti and the Physicians in the group didn't feel safe going unless there was security. Leroy, a retired FBI agent, and Tom Reichert, a City of Delavan Police Officer, agreed to go. Both have travelled to Haiti numerous times. Leroy first went to Haiti in 1995, the year after the U.S. sent a number of troops there after a threatened invasion. He went again in 2002 and has been travelling

there regularly since. They were able to get aboard a chartered American Airlines flight to Port a Prince. The U.S. Air Force was running the airport in Port a Prince and their flight had a ten minute take-off window to be able to land. Leroy described the scene at the Port a Prince Airport as a "combat zone". Within a four mile radius of Port a Prince, Leroy said that all buildings were damaged or destroyed. Haitians were living in what he called "sheet" cities. Adding to the confusion was the collapse of the National Prison and the escape of 5000 prisoners. When at their work site, Leroy helped with triage, logistics and security. In 5 days of work, their team saw 1000 patients--many of them with untreated wounds from the quake and well-baby checks. Leroy closed with a couple of observations. He said that it will take 1000 trucks 1000 days to clear the rubble! Haitians are pleading to escape "misery" and get back to "poverty". Leroy recommended an organization "Tents to Haiti" as a place to make donations of good used tents. The website is: www.tentstohaiti.org



Walworth Fontana Rotarian Bob Klockars (L), Scott Walker and Walworth Fontana Rotary Club President Stephen Person

Milwaukee County Executive and Candidate for Governor Scott Walker spoke to the Walworth Fontana Rotary Club at Abbey Springs Country Club, Fontana, WI on Feb 25, 2010. Scott grew up in Delavan, WI where his father was pastor of the First Baptist Church. He graduated from Delavan Darien High School, was an Eagle Scout and attended Badger Boys State. He said that he was running for Governor to "do something great" and not "be someone great". Crediting his Grandmother with frugality, Scott said that he is often called "cheap" by his wife. He still drives his 1997 Saturn that has over 100,000 miles on it. He almost always brings his lunch to work in a brown bag. In his remarks about his Gubernatorial Campaign, Scott said that he has three guiding principles about government: 1. Don't spend more than you have. 2. Smaller government is better government and 3. People create jobs, not government. He has pledged that 250,000 jobs will be created--by the end of his first term--in the private sector should he be elected governor. When Tommy Thompson took office in 1986, 258,000 jobs were created by 1990 and Scott said that "he believed in Wisconsin" and this number of jobs could easily be created by the private sector once tax rates are reduced and government steps out of the way. Remarking on the proposed 800 million dollar "high speed" train between Milwaukee and Madison, Scott said that the state transportation budget is 1.3 billion dollars in the hole and that roads and infrastructure badly need work and that we do not need to spend money on this unneeded train.