

*Editor Rhonda Huber
If you have any comments or questions, please contact the editor.*

Speakers

Jan 16, 2012
Katrina Hinsberg, Director of Community Relations
Chicago Express Hockey Team

Jan 23, 2012
Steve Townsend
Rotary Action Group on Microcredit Lending

Jan 30, 2012
John Kosiba, Executive Director of the IMRF
Illinois Municipal Retirement Fund

Feb 06, 2012
Jerry Turnquist
Elgin - Days Gone By

Feb 13, 2012
Ellen Miller
Rotary's Foreign Exchange Program

Feb 20, 2012
State Senator Chris Lauzen
25th District
State of the State

Feb 27, 2012
OPEN

Mar 05, 2012
Cherie Murphy, City of Elgin
City of Elgin's New Vounteer Program

Mar 12, 2012
OPEN

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Newsletter for December 2011

WELCOME

Posted by Rhonda Huber on Dec 31, 2011



WELCOME

As the year draws to a close, the words in John Lennon's **"Happy Christmas"** song come to mind when reflecting on the **Elgin Noon Rotary Club**.

"So this is Christmas, and what have you done. Another year over, and a new one just begun."

Members of our club did a lot this year and really demonstrated **Service Above Self**.

Thank you to everyone who rang a bell to raise money for the Salvation Army, distributed food to hungry families at a mobile food pantry, got their hands dirty cleaning up debris from yards during the United Way Day of Caring, paused to value someone else with a kind word or or happy dollar, or the many other ways as Rotarians we demonstrate value to our community.

With December such a busy month but a short Rotary month with only three meetings, this newsletter will highlight December in full. We will get back to weekly newsletter in the new year. *The editor apologizes in advance if items are missed but she's been away getting to know her new grandbaby!*

ATTENDANCE

- December 5, 2011: Thirty-two (32) of the Club's seventy-two members attended or 44%;
- December 12: 2011: Thirty (30), or 42% attended;
- December 19, 2011: Twenty-seven (27), or 38% attended.

REFLECTION

- **John Shales** gave the reflection on December 5. *"A rich man's wealth is his fortified city. In his imagination, it is like a high wall."* Proverbs 18:11
- On December 19, **Paris Donehoo** shared a wonderful Christmas poem written by his grandmother, **Ruth Paris** in 1959 when teaching a Sunday School class of 4-year olds, for the children and their parents.

"We hope that on this Christmas eve,
You'll draw your small one near
And tell him again of the Christ Child
Who came that midnight clear.
Tell him it is his holy birth
We honor on Christmas day.
Tell him He's God's precious gift
And then go on to say,
*For God so loved the world
That He gave His only Son.*
And when he is older, be very sure
He knows this holy one.
And now we wish for you and yours

A happy gladsome day
And hope a year of blessings
Will soon be on its way."

GUESTS AND MAKEUPS

- **John Nyuli** of the Saint Charles club visited on December 19.
- **Jackie Hoonjan** was the guest of the Club on December 5 and December 19. **Jackie** is a former Rotarian before moving to Illinois from Massachusetts.
- **Ben Brown's** wife, **Jeannine** was a guest on December 19, as was **John Regan** and five members of the local Interact Club (**Megan Buttermore, Emily Thompson, Emma Bono, Tom Gradlowski** and **Sandy Hayes.**)
- **Jerry Cain** had a make-up at in Natori, Japan and **Dave Underwood** had a make-up in Waunakee, Wisconsin.



ANNOUNCEMENTS

Posted by Rhonda Huber on Dec 31, 2011

CLUB ANNOUNCEMENTS

- **Fatima** and **Tim Moore** hosted a wonderful holiday gathering at their home on Sunday, December 18, 2011 in the late afternoon. Thanks **Fatima** and **Tim** for hosting!
- Thanks also to **Dave Underwood** for coordinating bell ringers for a very successful Salvation Army Kettle Drive. This was **Dave's** last year as Kettle Drive chair--**Brian Borkowicz** will be coordinating in the future. And thanks to everyone who volunteered as a bell ringer.
- The **Rotary Community Challenge - Beach Party** is scheduled for March 2, 2012 at the Holiday Inn in Elgin. All proceeds will fund community needs including vocational scholarships, food pantries, literacy programs and many other charitable programs. For more information or to download a registration form, visit [Rotary Community Challenge](#). For event tickets, contact **Laurie Bitter** at (847) 888-2555. Call **Randy Brittain** at (847) 212-1528 or **Mike McKay** at (847) 812-8786 to purchase Rotary 5000 raffle tickets.
- **Stu Howes** is selling National Ski Patrol emergency kits. Cost for a kit is \$15 with \$10 going directly to the National Ski Patrol and \$5 going to the wounded warriors fund to help blind or disabled skiers.
- **Mike McKay** is organizing a fellowship event at a Chicago Express Hockey Game on Friday, February 17, 2012 at 7:30 p.m. Discounted adult tickets are only \$15 and children (2-12) and seniors are only \$13. Plus, each ticket purchased provides lifetime immunization for six children against polio. The Sears Centre is also offering \$1 beers and \$1 hotdogs that night as well. Contact **Mike** for more information at (847) 841-1550 or michael.mckay@edwardjones.com.
- **Laurie Bitter** reminded everyone that it is that time of year-time to make your donation to the Rotary Club of Elgin Foundation. Invoices were sent in early December.

NEW MEMBER PROPOSALS

The Rotary Club of Elgin Board of Directors will be considering membership applications from the following individuals listed below. Any concerns about these proposed members should be made in writing to the Secretary of the Club by January 7, 2012.

John Regan

Classification: Attorney
Employer: Early, Tousey, Regan & Wlodek
Sponsor: Randy Brittain

Rick Reigner

Classification: Nonprofit
Employer: Prairie Valley YMCA
Sponsor: Randy Brittain

Jackie Hoonjan

Classification: Banking
Employer: Valley Bell Credit Union
Sponsor: Randy Brittain

HAPPY DOLLARS AND FINEMASTER

Posted by Rhonda Huber on Dec 31, 2011

Club members were extremely generous with happy dollars in December.

On the chance they were not generous enough, fine masters **Sue Moylan** and **Craig Stokely** fined for birthdays and anniversaries, sometimes twice in the same month, missing pins and badges, for being late, or not wearing holiday red or green! Double fines were given to members who did not ring a bell for the Salvation Army or attend the Moore's holiday gathering.

Below are a few reasons Rotarians were happy during this holiday season:

- **John Cooper** was happy for a successful Elgin Academy Madrigal Feast 2011 and that the school choral group entertained our club members at a meeting this month;
- **Terry Dunning** was happy that Ron Santos made the Hall of Fame;
- **Mike McKay** gave a dollar for **Brian Borkowicz** and a successful Random Rotary;
- **Dave Considine** was happy that Tiger Woods finally had a win;
- **Rhonda Huber** was happy for her new grandson;
- **Carl Lundstrom** and many others, were very happy that Fatima and Tim Moore hosted a holiday open house;
- **Mike Warren** was happy for the BarlowGirl "Hope for the Holidays" concert at the Hemmens, and especially happy that the proceeds went the local food pantries.
- **Jaime Garcia** was happy for the donations to Centro that funded holiday dinners for 100 families and gifts for 400 children;
- The president of the local Interact Club, **Megan Buttermore** gave one dollar each in honor of each of her board members;
- **Stu Howe** was happy for the recent marriage of his son;
- **Leo Nelson** was happy to announce his retirement and for **Carol Gieske** stepping up to take his role at the Chamber;
- President **Randy Brittain** was happy that he has turned the corner and completed the first six months of his presidency.

NEWS FLASH

Posted by Rhonda Huber on Dec 31, 2011



THIS DAY IN HISTORY

John Cooper provided this day in history.

- **December 5, 1945: Aircraft Squadron Lost in the Bermuda Triangle.** At 2:10 p.m., five U.S. Navy Avenger torpedo-bombers comprising Flight 19 take off from the Ft. Lauderdale Naval Air Station on a routine three-hour training mission. Flight 19 was scheduled to take them due east for 120 miles, north for 73 miles, and then back over a final 120-mile leg that would return them to the naval base. They never returned and were assumed lost in the Bermuda Triangle.
- **December 7, 1941: Pearl Harbor Bombed.** At 7:55 a.m. Hawaii time, a Japanese dive bomber bearing the red symbol of the Rising Sun of Japan appears out of the clouds above the island of Oahu. A swarm of 360 Japanese warplanes followed, descending on the U.S. naval base at Pearl Harbor in a ferocious assault. It was Sunday morning, and many military personnel had been given passes to attend religious services off base, thus, the Japanese air assault came as a devastating surprise to the naval base. Much of the Pacific fleet was rendered useless: Five of eight battleships, three destroyers, and seven other ships were sunk or severely damaged, and more than 200 aircraft were destroyed. A total of 2,400 Americans were killed and 1,200 were wounded, many while valiantly attempting to repulse the attack. Japan's losses were some 30 planes, five midget submarines, and fewer than 100 men.
- **December 8, 1941: Day of Infamy Speech.** The **Presidential Address to Congress** (known as the **Infamy Speech** or **Day of Infamy Speech**) was delivered at 12:30 p.m. that day to a Joint Session of Congress by United States President Franklin D. Roosevelt, one day after the Empire of Japan's attack on Pearl Harbor. The name derives from the first line of the speech: Roosevelt describing the previous day as "**a date which will live in infamy**". Within an hour of the speech, Congress passed a formal declaration of war against Japan and officially brought the U.S. into World War II. The address is regarded as one of the most famous American political speeches of the 20th century. The American contribution to the successful Allied war effort spanned four long years and cost more than 400,000 American lives.
- **December 11, 1911: Marie Curie Award Nobel Prize.** Marie Curie was awarded the Nobel Prize for Chemistry for the discovery of the radioactive metallic elements of radium and polonium. She had previously been awarded the Nobel Prize for Physics in 1903, along with her husband and collaborator Pierre Curie and Henri Becquerel, for the discovery of radiation. Curie coined the term radioactivity from *radius*—the Latin word for ray. She was the first person to win two Nobel prizes in separate fields and was the first woman to win a Nobel Prize.
- **December 12, 1911: National Poinsetta Day.** The poinsetta's association with Christmas began in 16th century Mexico, where legend tells of a young girl who was too poor to provide a gift for the celebration of

Jesus' birthday. The tale goes that the child was inspired by an angel to gather weeds from the roadside and place them in front of the church altar. Crimson "blossoms" sprouted from the weeds and became beautiful poinsettias. Since the 17th century, Franciscan friars included the plants in the Christmas celebrations. The star-shaped leaf pattern is said to symbolize the Star of Bethlehem and the red color represents the blood sacrifice through the crucifixion of Jesus.

- **December 19, 1941: Thomas Paine publishes the American Crisis.** *"These are the times that try men's souls; the summer soldier and the sunshine patriot will, in this crisis, shrink from the service of his country; but he that stands it now, deserves the love and thanks of man and woman. Tyranny, like hell, is not easily conquered; yet we have this consolation with us, that the harder the conflict, the more glorious the triumph."* When these phrases appeared in the pages of the *Pennsylvania Journal* for the first time, General George Washington's troops were encamped at McKonkey's Ferry on the Delaware River. In August, they had suffered humiliating defeats and lost New York City to British troops. 11,000 American volunteers gave up the fight and returned to their families. General Washington could foresee the destiny of a rebellion without an army if the rest of his men returned home when their service contracts expired on December 31. He knew that without an upswing in morale and a significant victory, the American Revolution would come to a swift and humiliating end. Thomas Paine was similarly astute. His *Common Sense* was the clarion call that began the revolution. With *American Crisis*, he delivered the words that would salvage the revolution. Washington commanded that the freshly printed pamphlet be read aloud to his dispirited men; the rousing prose had its intended effect. Reciting Paine's impassioned words, the beleaguered troops mustered their remaining hopes for victory and crossed the icy Delaware River to defeat hung-over Hessians on Christmas night and on January 2, the British army's best general, Earl Cornwallis, at the Battle of Princeton.

GUEST SPEAKER AND PROGRAM

Posted by Rhonda Huber on Dec 31, 2011



Club programs included on December 5, **Jerry Cain** providing an update of his visit to Natori, Japan. Large portions of the coastal area including the Sendai Airport are still devastated by the tsunami and earthquake. The March 2011 earthquake was the largest in Japan's recorded history. **Jerry** shared the tsunami and earthquake destroyed more than 3,000 acres--buildings displaced and farmlands filled with so much salt that weeds cannot even grow. Boats are everywhere--in fields, on top of buildings--the people have left them alone because they do not know who the owners are/were.

In true Rotary tradition, the **Rotary Club of Natori** sent **Jerry** back with a small banner/flag as a token of friendship. The exchange of banners is a significant tradition of Rotary and serves as a symbol of our international fellowship.

Jerry told a touching story of his last night in China, when ten little Chinese children, all blind, sang Christmas carols to him in the hotel restaurant in both Chinese and English. Surprisingly, in this communist, atheist country, it was not offensive to say the word Christmas during the Holy Season.

Jerry was to bring the day's special guest, **Ben Calhoun** with him. While **Ben** was running late, **Jerry** stepped up and entertained the members by dramatically reciting the complete baseball poem, "*Casey at the Bat*." It was unanimous that **Jerry** must return in the near future and provide a full program of poetry recitals. **Ben** did arrive and led the members in singing several Christmas carols.

On December 12, the members were entertained by the **Elgin Academy Upper School Chorus** singing songs for the holidays.

President Randy Brittain provide a recap of how the Elgin Rotary Club supported the community in 2011.

- Gave the Gurnee Club 2,500 Foundation Recognition points to help construct a playground in Bangkok, Thailand
- Sponsored a tree at the Ecker Center Festival of Trees
- Provided volunteers for the United Day of Caring
- Financially supported and volunteered for several mobile food pantries and received a district grant to support Feeding Greater Elgin (**Sue Erikson** attended the meeting as well and **President Randy** presented her a check for \$1,000; Sue in turn presented the club a plaque of appreciation for its support)
- Grew the Random Rotary fellowship opportunities--the last Random Rotary had more surrounding club members attend than Elgin members
- Had two social events--a fall football Sunday hosted by the Brittain's and a holiday event hosted by the Moores
- Provided volunteers for four shifts at the Salvation Army Kettle Drives
- Grew the scholarship program--several grants received from local Foundations to support the program including \$10,000 for the EFS Foundation and \$5,000 from the Dauemer Foundation)
- Provided several grants (Riverwood, Elgin JSB)
- Supported the Barrington Club's initiative for the Kenya Water Project

Meghan Buttermore, President of the South Elgin Interact Club updated the membership on the work her club has done over the past year. The Interact Club has helped with Special Olympics, had a winter social, raised money through restaurant fundraisers and has a upcoming sumo wrestling fundraiser planned. **Meghan** was joined by her four members of her board.

JANUARY BIRTHDAYS AND ANNIVERSARIES

Posted by Rhonda Huber on Jan 01, 2012



BIRTHDAYS

January 4
Stephen Laird

January 18
Carl Lundstrom

January 19
Roger Bear

January 30
Kelly Brown Lonis (Dale)

WEDDING ANNIVERSARIES

January 2
Kelly and Dale Lonis (2 years)

January 6
Vera and Ralph Helm (44 years)

January 8
Patty and Craig Lamp (18 years)

January 12
Sharon and Rick Jakle (32 years)

January 21
Pat and Terry Dunning (45 years)

ROTARY ANNIVERSARIES

January 3
Ted Heise (48 years)
Carole Medal (7 years)

January 7
David Sam (7 years)

January 10
Siddique Mumtaz (1 year)

January 18
Gregory Mistak (2 years)

January 23
John Juergensmeyer (45 years)
David Mengler (45 years)

January 24
James Johnston (39 years)

January 26
Steven Adams (18 years)

DID YOU KNOW?

Posted by Rhonda Huber on Nov 07, 2011

Did you know that past *Nairator* newsletters are archived on the Club's website? Visit www.rotaryclubofelgin.org and scroll down the menu on the left hand side to Site Pages and click on [Nairator Newsletter Archives](#).

Did you know the Club has a new Facebook page? Thirty-two friends have liked the Club's new Facebook page and now two are talking about it! The new page is different from our Facebook group and allows for greater communication between members and friends. To become a friend, enter Rotary Club of Elgin in the Facebook Friend search field and choose the page with the Rotary wheel. Next, click "like." Or click here, [Elgin Rotary Club Facebook Page](#)

Did you know Rotary is on Linked-In—and that there are two Rotary groups you may want to join? District 6440 has a group as well as Rotary International. Join at <http://www.linkedin.com/>

Did you know you can access the District's Web site at www.rotary6440.org?



Club Links

- » [Beach Party - Rotary 5000](#)
- » [Our Club's Business Directory](#)
- » [Our Club's Facebook](#)
- » [District 6440 Website](#)
- » [Interact Club - South Elgin High School](#)
- » [Nicole's Blog - Ambassadorial Scholar in Bogota](#)
- » [BocaJump Elgin](#)