

EDINA

MINNESOTA DISTRICT 5950 USA FOUNDED 1957



# THE BARKER

## ROTARY CLUB OF EDINA

### Rotary Holiday Party is Thursday at the ECC

This Thursday, Dec. 19, please join your fellow Rotarians at the **Holiday Party at Edina Country Club from 6 to 8:30 p.m.** Significant others and adult children are welcome. There will be heavy hors d'oeuvres and a cash bar at the event. Celebrate the season with your Rotary family!

Rotarian Jean Morrison will also give members one last chance to donate gifts to the annual **Edina Rotary Holiday Giving Program** at the Holiday Party. Bring an unwrapped gift for children of any age (infant all the way through teens) as well as gifts for mom, dad and families. Cash donations are also welcome. This year, the organizations benefitting from the Edina Rotary Holiday Giving Program are **VEAP, Oasis for Youth and Veterans' Family Group**. Thank you to all who have already donated gifts for those in need in our community this holiday season.

### Upcoming Events and Schedule

- Dec. 19 No regular Club meeting  
**Club Holiday Party, 6 to 8:30 p.m. at the ECC, hors d'oeuvres and cash bar**
- Dec. 26 No regular Club meeting
- Dec. 31 Deadline for Rotary Local Grant Applications
- Jan. 2 No regular Club meeting
- Feb. 8 **Bowling night at Lariat Lanes, 7 to 10 p.m. (note date and time change)**

*In Review*

*Dec. 12, 2013*

**By Greg Hanks**

On Thursday, Dec. 12, we were joyously greeted by the festive **Matt Boockmeier** and **Gordy Lewis**, both in bright sparkling holiday regalia, though I believe that is Matt's typical business attire.

Also welcoming us at the door, to remind us it is the season of giving and collecting gifts to share with youth and families in our community, was **Jean Morrison**, wearing a becoming Christmas tree costume that certainly accentuated her cheery disposition, and **Tom Pirsch**, as her less dapper but very trusted sidekick.

The front desk was staffed by head elf, **Audri Schwarz**, and an elf-in-training, **Bob Stehlik**.

President **Steve Slyce** began our meeting at 12:37 p.m., after a couple of minutes of technical adjustments in which Steve applied some of his eighth-grade AV class education to solving the technical issues—by turning on the microphone.

**Paul Peterson** shared a thoughtful invocation and led us in the Pledge of Allegiance. **Ann Platt** introduced our visiting Rotarians and guests and then took a minute to take us all way back in history to share a comment on her tennis career.

**Jennifer Bennerotte** noted that the 125<sup>th</sup> anniversary, or as she so eloquently said the Quasquicentennial Celebration, (yeah, but can she do it without her notes in front of her) of the founding of Edina was being held that evening. Jennifer shared that 60 people voted to form the city of Edina 125 years ago. The Founders' Day Celebration also recognized more than 70 relatives of Edina's founding families, with many of them traveling to Edina from various locations around the world. The celebration included an open house at historic Cahill School and the Minnehaha Grange Hall at 5 p.m. and then moved activities to Edina City Hall at 6 p.m. for social hour and music by the Edina Chorale, culminating in a 7 p.m. program which featured short readings and songs that "celebrate the people who have created our community over the past 125 years."

**4801 W. 50th St • Edina, MN 55424**  
**Jennifer Garske, Club Administrator**

[www.rotary.org](http://www.rotary.org)

[www.edinarotary.org](http://www.edinarotary.org)

[www.rotary5950.org](http://www.rotary5950.org)

The Edina Noon Rotary Club served cake after the program (though the cake was not 125 years old).



**Dan Hallberg and Wayne Harmon**

reminded Rotarians that from 2 to 6 p.m. this week, Dec. 16 through 20, the Edina Noon Rotary Club will be ringing the bell for the Salvation Army at the Byerly's on France Avenue. The goal is to raise \$30,000 during the week. Any person that would like to volunteer some time and support a good cause contact Dan or Wayne and stop by to place some money in the red kettle and support the Salvation Army and more importantly people in need.

President Slyce then stepped back behind to podium to share our slate of officers for the coming Rotary year 2014-2015. Past President **Scott McDonald** introduced:

- Club Service: **Barbara Born**
- Community Service - Projects: **Mary Swendsen**
- International Service: **Gary Pedersen**
- Membership (Recruitment): **Josh Sprague**
- Youth Service: **Heather Hansen** (second term)
- Secretary (2017-2018 President): **San Asato**

Jennifer Bennerotte made a motion for approval of this slate of new officers. It was seconded by Steve Slyce and approved by a majority voice vote.

President Slyce then recognized the following people for their outstanding support and service in various capacities to the Edina Noon Rotary Club:

- Lori and the Edina Country Club staff who serves us so well every Thursday afternoon
- **Audri Schwarz** (Front Desk)
- **Mary Hustad** (Membership Director)
- **Barbara Born** (duty schedules)
- **Patti Ellingson-Solheim** (financial records)
- **Marty Kupper** (Club Service Director)
- **Brad Hepp** (program director)
- Aaron Klein (technical support)
- Jennifer Garske (Club Administrator)

**Mary Younggren** introduced our speaker, **Jim Holden**. Jim, who five years into his retirement felt the need to share his passion for the game of tennis, wrote a book about tennis in Minnesota titled "Tennis in the Northland: A History of Boys High School Tennis in Minnesota."

Jim first shared his background and how he became involved in the game of tennis. Jim stated that he grew up as a baseball and basketball player and became a tennis coach by default. With an English major from Augsburg College, Jim was just seeking a teaching career and in 1971, the athletic director at Northfield High School asked him if he would take the job as a tennis coach. Jim agreed and with no playing or coaching background in tennis, he started to learn the game by reading books. Jim coached the Northfield tennis team for 17 years and stated "tennis has the highest quality of youth in all sports."

Jim mentioned that the game of tennis has certainly evolved; noting that most coaches for tennis early on were not tennis coaches but were "care-takers." He also stated that players did not learn tennis in the same way as they do now, but instead went to parks and watched people play and learned by emulating what they saw. The movement of having tennis professionals help coach and develop youth has been a more recent trend in the game of tennis.

Jim shared that his decision to write the book combined his two passions of tennis and writing and he felt the need to give something back to the game of tennis. Jim stated that he first started thinking about the possibility of writing this book as he was teaching English at St Olaf College in 1997. In 2003 he became more serious about this endeavor and started interviewing people with tennis connections throughout the state, as well as visiting college archives in Minnesota. Jim stated that he met with at least 300 people and got first-hand stories that he shares in his book. Jim noted that the book is basically a comprehensive history of 75 years of Minnesota tennis beginning in 1929, which was the first year of the Minnesota state tennis tournament, and covers up to 2003.

Jim wrapped up his presentation by commenting on a number of outstanding Minnesota tennis players and coaches. Noting that David Wheaton may be the best male tennis player, and Jean Arth the best female player, and the winner of the 1959-60 women's double championship (which she achieved soon after she dropped her old doubles partner, Ann Platt).

Jim did highlight the rich history Edina has in tennis and acknowledged the tremendous coaches, players and teams they have had through the years. The Edina girls' team winning 32 out of 40 titles through the years. He stated that Edina is the program teams aspire to be and emulate.

**John Flynn** thanked our speaker and the meeting was adjourned at 1:30 p.m.

## ROTARY YEAR 2013-2014 – OFFICERS AND BOARD OF DIRECTORS

President Steve Slyce  
Secretary Ann Platt  
Public Relations Doug Johnson

President-Elect Jeff Ohe  
Membership (Social) Michael Stanzak  
Community Service Projects Tom Bach  
Community Service (Grants) Michael Kallas

Past President Scott MacDonald  
Membership Mary Hustad  
International Service John Flynn

Treasurer Jennifer Bennerotte  
Club Service Marty Kupper  
Youth Service Heather Hansen



**Edina Rotary Foundation Fundraiser & Gala**  
 Oct. 12, 2013  
 Hotel Sofitel Bloomington

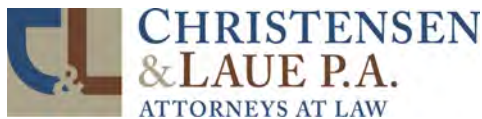
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 Membership (Social)  
 Community Service Projects  
 The Rotary Foundation

Scott MacDonald  
 Michael Stanzak  
 Tom Bach  
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A NIGHT  
AT THE

Sands

# Edina Rotary Foundation Fundraiser & Gala

Oct. 12, 2013

Hotel Sofitel Bloomington

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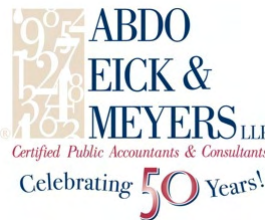
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