



## March 20, 2014 Meeting Assignments

Greeters	Josh Sprague & Michael Stanzak
Front Desk	Dan Mott
Invocation	Diane Solmonson
Guest Introduction	Gordy Lewis
Barker	Mary Hustad
Program Host	Ann Platt
Thank the Speaker	Matt Mattis

**Program:** Brad Moore, PolyMet Mining, "Copper, Nickel, and Precious Metals in the U.S."

**Menu:** Edina Rotary Big Buffet featuring soup, salad, and sandwiches

## Upcoming Events and Schedule

March 20	<b>Evening at the theater</b> at Old Log Theater, "Almost Maine," 6:30 p.m. cocktails and appetizers, curtain is at 7:30
April 8	Joint meeting with EMRC at Edina Country Club, 7:30 to 8:30 a.m.
April 10	No meeting
April 17	Committee sign-up for Edina Rotary Fundraiser Gala "Rendez-vous in Paris," Edina Country Club, 12:15 to 1:30 p.m.
April 24	Vocational Ethics Day, Edina Country Club, 12:15 to 1:30 p.m.
May 2	<b>District 5950 Annual Conference,</b> Radisson Blu Hotel
May 8	<b>Vocational Day,</b> Minneapolis Media Institute, 12:15 to 1:30 p.m., hosted by Paul Peterson
June 1-4	<b>Rotary International Convention,</b> Sydney, Australia
June 19	Transition Day meeting

**Blue** is for special Rotary Club of Edina events.

**Purple** is for District 5950 events.

**Orange** is for Rotary International events.

## In Review

March 13, 2014

By Peter Hoffman

Today we were warmly greeted by **Bob Solheim** and **Diane Solmonson**. Due to being somewhat under the weather, Diane introduced us to the Kenyan elbow pump to avoid passing any germs.

The front desk was handled by front desk professional **Audri Schwarz** and **Jeff Ohe**. Since Jeff is in finance, things were in good hands and he only charged us his standard 10 percent commission.

Around 12:42 p.m. **President Steve Slyce** rang the bell to begin the meeting. He reminded us that even though we have eleven feet of snow still on the ground, spring officially begins March 20. The Minnesota Twins home opener is also right around the corner, Thursday April 7. On this day in 1889, Tower, Minnesota, was incorporated. Tower, the oldest city in the Arrowhead region, also holds the record for the coldest temperature in Minnesota, set Feb. 2, 1996, when the temperature dropped to -60. We were reminded of this statistic later by our speaker, Belinda Jensen, commenting on one of her favorite websites. This is the first time Tower has been mentioned twice in the same day anywhere outside of Tower.

Pulling double duty, **Bob Solheim** gave the invocation. He told us the story of a young English boy who was abducted from his home by Irish pirates at 16. The boy was enslaved for six years before finally escaping and returning to his family in England. The time during his captivity was critical to his spiritual development and he converted to Christianity. Legend credits him for teaching followers about the doctrine of the Holy Trinity by showing people the shamrock, using it to illustrate the Christian teaching of three persons in one God. We celebrate the death of this Saint in 464 each March 17.

**Barbara Born** introduced guests—Annie Coyle and Lindy Crawford, guests of **Scott Neal**; Ryan Nolte, guest of **Tim Fargo**; David Clynes, guest of **Bill Clynes**; Mike Ogle, guest of **Thom Winner**; Ian Nemerov is checking out the club and was guest of **Wooj Byun**; Caroline Bottiglieri and Kathy Stine, guests of **John Buttolph**; Liam Harvey (OLG third-

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Jennifer Garske, Club Administrator

grader and aspiring meteorologist), guest of **Bob Harvey**; and former member Bill Jadcowski also joined us. Visiting Rotarians included: Amy Hagen (who reminded us we are too old to go to any of her super hip South Metro Rotary happy hours); Brad Turner, a Rotarian from Los Angeles; Jeff Hames, a member of the Bloomington Noon club; and Joe Hellkamp and Lori Hellkamp of Shakopee Rotary Club. Another guest was Axel Steuer, whose application to join the #1 Club in the Universe is being reviewed by the board.

**Wayne Harmon** reminded us that April 24 is our Vocational Ethics meeting. The meeting is at the Edina Country Club and we will be joined by 150 high school students. Jermaine Davis will be speaking on “value-based leadership.”

On March 20 “Almost Maine” will be playing at the Old Log Theater. Cocktails and appetizers at 6:30 p.m., curtain is at 7:30.

**Past President Jon Barnett** introduced our speaker. Jon joined our club in 1991 and has had perfect attendance since day one. Due to some administrative error Jon was put in charge of our club from 2010–2011. Jon and his wife, Mary Jo, live in Edina. They love to travel across the country visiting their friends and children. Jon is a local business owner, member of some important security organization and active in local politics. He enjoys riding motorcycles, helping this club and his community, spending time with friends, and making fun of me each year during the live auction at our annual Gala.

KARE 11 Chief Meteorologist Belinda Jensen is a Badger, but she was born in Minnesota. The daughter of parents who have been married for 54 years, Belinda grew up in Apple Valley. When she was still living at home, her father accepted a job with Control Data and the family moved east to live on the St. Croix. It was living there Belinda credits her love of the outdoors to flourish. Belinda and her siblings were encouraged to play outside and explore nature. And her mom really wanted them out of the house. In tenth grade Belinda was writing a term paper on meteorology, and she picked up the phone and called Paul Douglas for some insight. She interviewed Paul for the term paper and her career in weather was born. She graduated high school and enrolled at Mankato State University. Soon she transferred to University of Wisconsin–Madison to pursue her dreams in meteorology. Junior year she called up Paul again and landed an internship at KARE 11. She loved working there and waiting tables at Red Lobster on 494.

After graduating from Madison with a B.S. in meteorology, Belinda accepted a job with KTVX in Salt Lake City. Her parents had moved there as well as her father’s career had also taken



Rotarians John Flynn (left) and Bill McReavy (right), members of the “Belinda Jensen fan club,” pose with the program speaker at the meeting March 13. Flynn and McReavy presented Jensen with a photo of the three of them from a previous event, signed by both Rotarians. As Flynn said, “Belinda was a good sport with a couple of goofballs.”

them west. Belinda had a behind-the-scenes role at KTVX, but got her big break when the weatherman didn’t show up for work. He had dreams of being a game show host, but we’re not sure how that turned out. Belinda was thrown in the fire but took to TV like a fish to water. She recalls some mail criticizing her for pointing to the maps with her hands shaped like claws, her Canadian accent, and for wearing pants instead of skirts.

Three years later Paul Douglas called and asked Belinda to come to Minnesota and audition for an opening at KARE. She hesitated as she was not ready to be on TV in front of old boyfriends and English teachers, but Paul was persuasive and she agreed to try out on Friday the 13<sup>th</sup> in June 1993. During her tryout she was given only three maps and was all alone in the studio as producers watched from the control room. As part joke, part test, the producer just let her talk without interruption. After 14 minutes of talking about three maps she was offered the job.

Belinda and her husband, David, have a son, Tanner, born in 2003, and a daughter, Tori, born in 2007. They have lived in Edina for 21 years. Her father’s friends, who have deep St. Paul Harding roots, still can’t believe Belinda is a cake-eater.

## Like Rotary on Facebook!

Go to the **Rotary Club of Edina Facebook page** ([www.facebook.com/EdinaRotary](http://www.facebook.com/EdinaRotary)) and give it a “Like”!

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

President Steve Slyce  
Secretary Ann Platt  
Public Relations Doug Johnson  
The Rotary Foundation Will Steinke

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

Past President Scott MacDonald  
Membership Mary Hustad  
International Service John Flynn  
The Rotary Foundation Will Steinke

Treasurer Jennifer Bennerotte  
Club Administration Marty Kupper  
Youth Service Heather Hansen

## Meet our new member...

*In the spirit of getting to know our new members, the Barker will feature a profile and photo of new members periodically. This week, we meet:*

**Name:** Susan Spalding (most people call me Sue, but either is fine)

**Age:** 47

**Classification:** Non-Profit Administrator

**What was your first job?** Baby sitter

**Who was your first role model and why?** Kay Ahrens (one of my bosses growing up, I worked for her for years). She owned her own business and was very successful. She truly enjoyed what she did. She worked hard and played hard and she was involved in the community. But mostly because she was caring and nurturing of me.

**Why did you want to join Rotary?** One of my former board chairs at a different non-profit got me involved and I realized what a wonderful way it was to meet people. I also love the mission of Rotary and the amazing projects it does and how it gives back to the community.

**What do you like best about being part of the Rotary Club of Edina?** It's a large and diverse club with many active people. I'm looking forward to getting to know everyone more.

**What one piece of advice do you offer other business leaders?** I always try and treat people like I would want to be treated. I think that respectful customer service always comes back to you.



## Time to register for the District 5950 Annual Conference May 2

**The District 5950 Annual Conference “Celebrate Lives Changed” is set for Friday, May 2, at the Radisson Blu Hotel at the Mall of America in Bloomington.** The Conference starts at 7 a.m. with registration, and the District Awards breakfast starts at 8:15 a.m. until 10 a.m. Events continue throughout the day, including the Signature Luncheon from 12 to 1:30 p.m., and dinner from 6:30 to 9 p.m.

District 5950 wants to make sure you've heard about the engaging speakers, including Sylvia Whitlock, first female club president in all of Rotary International.

You've heard about the motivating breakout sessions, where you can learn how to expand your club's service opportunities and hear life-changing Rotary stories.

You've heard about Rotary at the Rotunda, in which we showcase the local and global spirit of Rotary. You've heard about our Rotary Parade, led by District Governor Diann Kirby

and the Jefferson High School Pep Band, in which we march donated food down to the Mall of America Rotunda to pack in into bags for hungry local kids.

But have you heard the latest news? Our evening entertainment will be provided by the one, the only, Nicholas David! You know him as a fan favorite on NBC's singing contest *The Voice*. Nicholas is a vibrant, dynamic and multi-talented singer/songwriter from St. Paul with a powerful voice and a liquid piano style. Best yet, like us Rotarians, he is community-minded: he has raised more than \$50,000 to support music programs in Minnesota public schools

**The registration deadline is April 25. Please let Rotary Club of Edina Administrator Jennifer Garske know if you would like to attend by Thursday, April 24,** so our Club registration can be compiled and sent to the District on time. The club will pay for one meal at the District conference for any Rotarian who wants to attend. The Rotarian can choose which meal (breakfast, lunch or dinner). Please let Jen know which meal(s) you plan to attend. Members will be billed for additional meals when necessary. Go to [www.rotary5950.org](http://www.rotary5950.org) for more information on the District Conference.

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