

December 20, 2012

Editors: Tammy Broderick and

Char Luttrell

Meeting Thursdays

at Noon at the

Holiday Inn

Near the University of Michigan

Service Above Self

RCAAN Board

of Directors

*President:*

Laura Van Steenis

*President Elect:*

Keith Krings

*Past President:*

Matt Copeland

*Secretary:*

Gail Scott

*Treasurer:*

Mary Gyorke

*Director,*

*Club Administration:*

John Arenz

*Director,*

*Rotary Foundation:*

Bob Overhiser

*Director,*

*Public Relations:*

John Copeland

*Director,*

*Service Projects:* Manish Mehta

*Director,*

*Membership:*

 Bryan Schindel

Bowling at Colonial January 17

Join us for an evening of Rotary fun and fellowship when we go bowling at Colonial Lanes, 6 – 8 p.m., Thursday, January 17. See John Arenz, our club administration director, for tickets.

Guests and Visiting Rotarians

Greeter Manish Mehta introduced our guests: Dick Rosenfield, Jackson Rotary Club; Brad Bowersox, Downtown Ann Arbor Rotary Club; and Lisa Spaulding.

Noah Copeland Recovering

Best wishes to Noah Copeland, son of Past President Matt Copeland, who is recovering from surgery. Get well soon, Noah!

Quote of the Week

This week’s quotable quote on the RCAAN website was, “The only gift is a prtion of thyself,” attributed to Ralph Waldo Emerson. Thanks, Eric, for keeping our website updated!

50/50 Drawing

Bryan Schindel sold this week’s winner to John Copeland (AGAIN!).

Thank You to Baha

President Laura Van Steenis thanked Baha for his wonderfully attentive service as our regular Holiday Inn waiter again this year and presented him with our holiday gratuity. Thank you, Baha!

Project Dignity Event A Success

Manish Mehta announced that the December 7 “meet and greet” event with the Indian author brought in $5500+ for Project Dignity, our sanitation project for Eastern India.

The Rotary Coin Returns

Kelly Mendenhall brought her friend Lisa Spaulding and turned the Rotary Coin over to Gail Scott.

An End in Sight

for RCAAN 3-H Grant

Thanks to the efforts of Assistant District Governor Eric Walz, Rotary International has accepted the final report for our Brazilian 3-H grant! Thanks, Eric, for bringing this six-year project to a close. All’s well that ends well!

Grant to Ms. Molly Foundation

President Laura announced that the RCAAN board had awarded $2500 to the Ms. Molly Foundation, to support local domestic violence shelters and to work to prevent and eliminate domestic violence. Gail Scott also presented a personal check for $1,000 for the foundation to Char Luttrell, development director.

UPCOMING PROGRAMS

Jan 10 Susan Lackey

 Legacy Land Conservation

Jan 17 Open

Jan 24 Open

Jan 31 Eric Jones

 Transamerica, speaking on

 Social Security

Feb 7 Natsu Oyobe

 Tea Ware & Print Collections

 U-M Museum of Art

PROGRAM RECAP

*This week’s speaker was our own Kelly Mendenhall, who told us about her body art.*

Kelly shared her personal story of loss and growth as she explained the meaning and purpose of several of her 18 tattoos, challenging us to look beyond tattoos to see the person and learn about the life they represent.

Kelly’s father died when she was four years old. Her mother had to start her own business to support the family. When Kelly got older, she learned that her father had been in prison for ten years before she was born. She contacted the Michigan Department of Corrections and received lots of information about her dad, including a photo, which is the basis the tattoo on her right forearm. Kelly said that every time she looks at her arm she thinks of her father.

Her anchor represents her mother, who has truly “anchored” her family through many ups and downs. Her butterfly is for her sister. Her ship is for her aunt. She wears a lighthouse on her arm to honor the people in her life who have guided her. A sparrow is in memory of a good friend who died during his third tour of duty in Iraq. All in all, Kelly has buried 15 family members and friends in her short life.

In what Kelly describes as her “quarter-life crisis,” she suffered depression following several losses. She decided, she says, “not to live in fear” but to press on with her life, going to school in London and completing her master’s degree at Eastern Michigan University.

 She urged us to get to know people with tattoos and see them as individuals with stories to tell. One reason she is in Rotary is because Rotarians have accepted her as she is, tattoos and all!

HAPPY DOLLARS

John Copeland Happy to be back at Rotary after traveling and happy that nephew Noah is doing well post-surgery

Dick Rosenfield Celebrating 59 years of wedded bliss

Phil Zepeda Like the Israelites, we need to pray a “demand prayer,” imploring God to give a a break from the violence in the world

Kate Vaughn happy that her avocation, geneology, was able to help a friend find her birth mother, her family and family heritage.

Kelly Mendenhall happy to do the shopping for the folks at Green Baxter Court this holiday season

Don Broderick happy to see wife Tammy in her festive holiday hat, happy for the Christmas season and happy to be associated with the people at Rotary.