NorthStarMastFinal

October 31, 2013

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:*

Keith Krings

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John Arenz

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Tamra Ward

*Director,*

*Service Projects:* Manish Mehta

*Director,*

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Bryan Schindel

Polio Returns to Syria

President Keith Krings announced the sad news, that ten cases of polio have been reported in war-ravaged Syria. All are children. Many observers believe polio cases are under-reported in Syria, because of the civil war. We have much work to do.

Visiting Rotarians and Guests

Tamra Ward was our greeter. She welcomed Paul McVey, of Lakes Rotary Club, and his guest Bob Greenland, Claire Zepeda, Victor Rose, Marion Podowski, John Rasmussen and our speaker, Dr. David Cole.

Upcoming Fundraising Events

Don’t Forget:

November 2 is the Hawaiian night fundraiser for the Milan Rotary Club. It will be held at Milan Community Center. Tickets are $35. Dutch Nie is also selling tickets for the Milan Club’s raffle, chances to win a 7-day Carnival Cruise. Tickets are $50 each, with only 50 tickets being sold.

Paul McVey, our guest from Lakes Area Rotary Club, told us about their fundraiser on Friday, November 8, a wine tasting and art auction at Farmer John’s Greenhouse, 26950 Haggerty Road in Farmington Hills. Advance tickets are $35, or $45 at the door.

The Ann Arbor Rotary West fundraiser, the Michigan International Festival, is set for November 23 at Saline High School. Our club is a Gold Sponsor for the event and our Tamra Ward is helping with the silent auction. Tickets are $15/person, or $50 for a family four-pack.

Rotary Songs and Traditions

Jeff Crause offered our invocation; Laura Van Steenis led the Rotary 4-Way Test and Scott Nelson led us in singing “America” and “Raindrops.”

B.A.B.E.S.

President Keith saluted Laura and Dan Van Steenis’ wedding anniversary and his own daughter’s birthday.

50/50

Sophia Franciscus sold the winning ticket to Phil Zepeda.

Green Baxter Halloween Party

President Keith and Tamra took the kids from Green-Baxter Court to the pumpkin patch in Northville last Saturday and had a great time. Cider and donuts, pumpkin-picking and a petting zoo were enjoyed by everyone. Thanks, guys!

Ron McDon Dinner Nov 2

Our next dinner for the families staying at the Ronald McDonald House is 5 p.m., Saturday, November 2.

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Poker in Jeopardy

Char Luttrell and Lisa Hudy reported that proposed new state regulations are threatening to severely curtail our club’s ability to raise funds through charity poker nights, limiting poker to 30 days/year for all charities. Our president and Foundation president are sending letters to the governor and state representatives. Char will share a draft letter with the membership. RCAAN members can use the draft to compose their own letters to their own state legislators and the governor.

Katie Copeland is Home from the Hospital

Laura announced that Katie Copeland (Matt’s wife) is recuperating at home from her treatment for leukemia. Laura still has a few bracelets to sell. The $5 per bracelet will go into a fund for the Copeland family to help them with future needs.

Happy Dollars

Laura was happy to announce that husband Dan surprised her with a wedding vow renewal ceremony on the beach during their recent 25th anniversary trip. How romantic! Way to go, Dan!

Jeff Crause was happy that he ran into Eric Cantor, R-Virginia, the majority whip in the U.S. House of Representatives, while working out at the rec center recently. Apparently Cantor has a child attending the University of Michigan. And, yes, Jeff reported that Cantor had Secret Service personnel with him at the gym!

Upcoming Programs

Nov 7 Media/Communications

Geoff Larcom

Nov 14 RI Foundation

Gail Scott

Nov 21 Solar Energy Research

Rachel Goldman

Nov 28 THANKSGIVING

No Meeting

Dec 5 EMU Women’s Soccer

Michael Miller

Dec 12 Trinity Health Breast Cancer

Janet Burns

Auto Industry: Fast and Furious

Don Patterson introduced our guest speaker, Dr. David Cole, an expert in Michigan’s auto industry. Dr. Cole, who holds a doctorate in engineering and taught at the U-M with Don, now heads up “Auto Harvest,” an organization that recruits new talent for the industry.

Dr. Cole maintains that manufacturing is key to the success of our economy because one manufacturing job creates ten additional jobs; one job in finance or IT creates only one additional job.

The challenge is that people do not understand how high-tech modern manufacturing jobs are. Parents do not want their children to “get their hands dirty” in auto plants, but today’s factories are filled with computers and today’s factory workers must be completely comfortable with interacting with computers. The old-school foreman is gone and a high school diploma isn’t enough.

Our speaker said that we will need more and more skilled tradespeople and technicians and engineers with electro-mechanical experience, particularly as the boomer generation retires in the next ten years.

Technology is moving so quickly that US manufacturing is just not keeping up.

Dr. Cole praised Alan Mullally, CEO of Ford Motor Company, for being a true business coach and a team leader. Dr. Cole said the day of the CEO as “king” were over; today’s industrial leaders must know how to coach a team. He credited Bill Ford for knowing that Ford Motor Company needed a leader outside of the Ford family to survive and succeed.