



THE WINDJAMMER

More online at [Facebook.com/JuneauRotary](https://www.facebook.com/JuneauRotary) or www.JuneauRotary.org

UPCOMING

January 6
Community Dev.
Director Hal Hart

January 13
Chuck Bills, CEO
Bartlett Regional
Hospital

January 20
State Wildlife
Biologist Ryan Scott

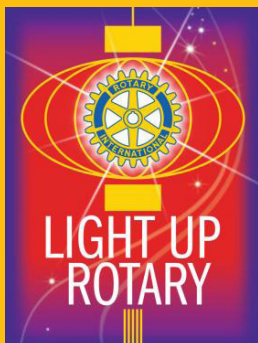
GREETERS

December 30
Peter Jurasz
Robyn Long

January 6
Charles Ward
Stacy Grummett



2014-2015 Rotary
International Theme:



This Week's Program:

Last Meeting of 2014!

Today's End of Year program highlights Charlie and our own Laurie and Doug Gardner.

Charlie will join us today and bring his sidekick Carlton Smith. Charlie might be called several things but it is better to say he is a model used by a ventriloquist – hand crafted to reflect a Tlingit Carlton once knew. Charlie is ready to entertain and surprise us as we welcome in the New Year. He will introduce himself; share a little Tlingit perspective on the world, and then he will charge into the wacky world of Alaskan politics and share his comments on Bill Walker and Byron Mallott's unity challenges. We are looking forward to a fun time with Charlie.



Our own Laurie and Doug Gardner will help us close out the year with a bit of history, festive music on the Scottish Small Pipes with some toasts and Athol brose and the clubs annual End of Year program singing of Auld Lang Syne. The title of the Scottish tune translates to “times gone by” and is about remembering friends from the past and not letting them be forgotten.



**ROTARY CLUB OF
JUNEAU BOARD**

2014-2015

President

Karen Morgan

Immediate Past President

Brenda Hewitt

President-Elect

John Blasco

Vice President

Bridget Lujan

Secretary

Robyn Long

Treasurer

Armando Deguzman

Administration

Sally Saddler

Community Service

Sharon Gaipman

Barbara Propes

PR/Communications

Andy Mills

Foundation Chair

Ann Metcalfe

Karen West

International Service

Warren Russell

Membership

Ruth Kostik

Youth Service

Caitlyn McLaughlin

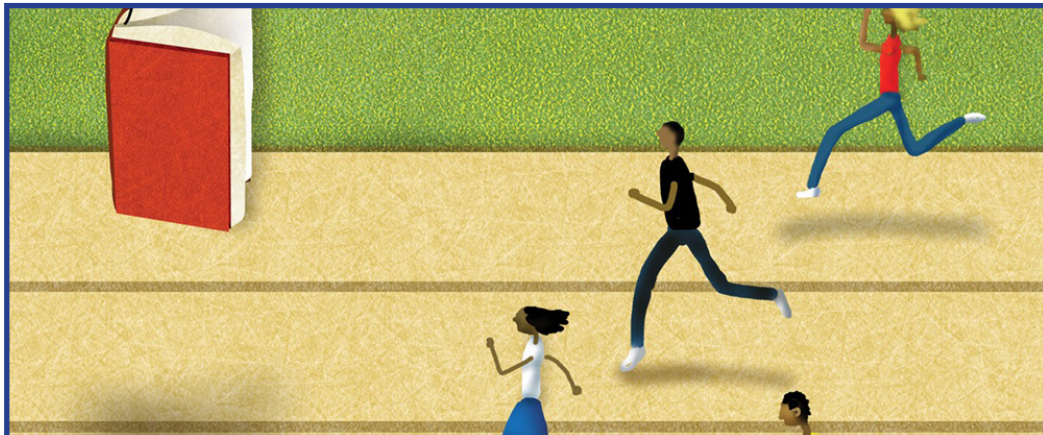
Virginia Stonkus

Vocational Service

Ruth Hamiton Heese

LITERACY: REAL PAGE-TURNERS

LAST SUMMER, CHICAGO HIT ON A WAY TO GET KIDS TO READ.



In June, Tonight Show host Jimmy Fallon accepted a friendly wager from Chicago Mayor Rahm Emanuel: If kids in Chicago could read 2.4 million books during the summer, Fallon would bring his show to the Windy City.

Public challenges to encourage reading have become as commonplace as elected officials placing wagers on their hometown teams' sporting events. But the first one I ever heard of was about 20 years ago, when a Chicago newspaper ran a story about an elementary school principal who had "lost" a bet with his students. Terry Murray had promised to spend a day on the roof of Haugan School in the city's Albany Park neighborhood if the kids read 10,000 books during the school year. The story featured a photo of Murray sitting on the roof, reading a book.

Murray, 71, who is retired but teaches an education course at DePaul University, is quick to point out that he did not invent reading challenges. But he's certain that the stunt was good for morale in an overcrowded school in a multiethnic neighborhood, where students were taught in seven languages. With weekly tallies posted on a bulletin board and parents required to verify that their children had read the books, the challenge engaged students, families, and teachers throughout the school year.

"I think all learning, whether reading or any other activity in life, is about motivation," Murray says. "And success motivates."

But kids are reading less these days. A white paper published in May by Common Sense Media reported that over the last 30 years, reading for entertainment has declined among all kids, especially adolescents. One-third of 13-year-olds and nearly half of 17-year-olds say they read for pleasure no more than once or twice a year. Although reading proficiency has steadily improved over the last 20 years, among fourth graders and eighth graders, only about 35 percent are considered proficient. Among black and Hispanic students in these grades, the proportion is about one in five.

The first reading challenge Murray issued was to his seventh-grade homeroom class when he taught social studies in the 1970s, he says. He brought in some of his paperback books and invited students to read on their own. He also invited those who read a book and liked it to eat lunch with him and tell him what they enjoyed about it.

"I knew if I didn't screw up the discussions, I could get them to read," he says. "The first discussion took place a week later, and most of the boys sat with us to hear about the book. The student who took a risk and read the first book seemed genuinely amazed that it held his interest. After that, the books began moving quickly. Within a month, we were meeting almost every lunch to discuss books. That year, the class average in reading went up almost three grade levels – among both boys and girls."

Read the rest of this story online at <http://therotarianmagazine.com/literacy-real-page-turners/>

Thanks to AK Litho/CopyWorks, for printing The Windjammer!