June 24, 2013

The Impact of Vouchers on School Choice

Kathy Candioto was the featured presenters at Rotary on Monday. Representing NEIFPE – Northeast Indiana Friends of Public Education, Kathy provided an overview of “Choice Scholarships”, which are what vouchers are technically referred to here. The scholarship is issued by state of Indiana through an online application or by visiting the school of choice. Funding is based using the same criteria as the free and reduced lunch program. This program was established in Indiana in 2011 through House Bill 1003, which was expanded during the last legislative session.

The Four-Way Test
of the things we think, say or do:

1. Is it the truth?
2. Is it fair to all concerned?
3. Will it build good will and better friendships?
4. Will it be beneficial to all concerned?

Mission Statement for the Fort Wayne Rotary Club
To maintain its preeminent position as a fellowship of business and professional leaders dedicated to service above self, and committed to provide direction and resources in the four areas of service.

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THE DOWNTOWN ROTARY CLUB
Next Meeting: July 1, 2013

“OPENING DOORS THROUGH SERVICE”

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Greeters</th>
<th>TBD</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Cashier</td>
<td>TBD</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Invocation</td>
<td>Bruce Haines</td>
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<tr>
<td>House</td>
<td>Dick Sievers</td>
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<tr>
<td>Song Leader</td>
<td>John Alexander</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sergeant</td>
<td>Kenn Kunze</td>
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<td>Spin Editor</td>
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</table>
| Program      | Marc Lewis, I & M
               An Update of American’s Electric Power Industry |

Upcoming Programs

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Speaker/Topic</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>July 8</td>
<td>Paul Helmke, Former Mayor</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Guns in America</td>
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<tr>
<td>July 15</td>
<td>Joe Dorko, CEO</td>
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<td></td>
<td>The Lutheran Health Network</td>
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<tr>
<td>July 22</td>
<td>Dean Peter Alexander, Indiana Tech</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>The new Law School at Indiana Tech</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>July 29</td>
<td>Stephanie Jentgen, GM</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Building Bigger and Better GM Trucks in Fort Wayne</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Club Contact Information

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Jane, Wilks Secretary
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fwrotarysecretary@gmail.com

Website Information

Fort Wayne Rotary Club
www.fortwaynerotary.org
www.clubrunner.ca/fortwayne

Rotary International
www.rotary.org

Rotary District 6540
www.rotary6540.org
Clubs Announcements

**June 24**
NO MEETING at Parkview Field
Canceled due to Annual Celebration Dinner.

**June 25**
Annual Celebration Dinner
At Pine Valley Country Club
$30.00 per person
You must attend to find out how the Rotary Club of Fort Wayne will celebrate and honor its 2015 Centennial!
Double attendance credit!!

**June 30**
2013-2014 Dues are due

**July 10**
Farewell Party for Lisa Obata
Sharon Pohly’s Home
10817 Sandpiper Cove FW IN 46845

**August 17**
Start Getting in Shape!
Anthony Wayne Club
5K Walk/Run for Polio Plus
See Bill Harris to sign up and for a training plan!

**August**
Rotary Friendship Exchange
Rotarians from Australia District 9710. See Kim Wagner for information.

**September 16**
Annual Golf Outing at Cherry Hill

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**Nearby Club Meetings**

**Tuesday**
Angola: 12pm, Elks Lodge
Auburn: 12pm, Bridgewater Golf Club
Bluffton: 12pm, Timer Ridge Golf Club
Churubusco: 12pm, St. John Busco Church
Columbia City: 12pm, Parkview Hospital
Garrett: 12pm, Railroad Inn
Huntington: 12pm, LaFontaine Center
Kendallville: 6:15pm, Pizza Hut
Ligonier: 7pm, UMC Church, Townline

**Wednesday**
Anthony Wayne: 12pm, Hall’s Guesthouse

**Thursday**
Albion: 12pm, Asbury United Methodist
Berne: 12pm, 1005 S US 27
Butler: 12pm, American Legion
Decatur: 12pm, Back Forty
North Manchester: 12pm, Manchester College

**Friday**
Warsaw: 12pm, Shrine Building at Fairgrounds

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**District and International**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>June 23-26</th>
<th>Rotary International Convention</th>
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<td>2013</td>
<td>Lisbon, Portugal</td>
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<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>May 31-June 5</th>
<th>Rotary International Convention</th>
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<tr>
<td>2014</td>
<td>Sydney Australia</td>
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The new legislation now allows for schools that have received an F grade (as based on performance in standardized testing) to be eligible for participation in the program. Also, students who have a sibling who receives a voucher can access the program, along with those students who receive a tax credit scholarship of at least $500. These new provisions represent a significant change from the original legislation because now attendance at a public school is not required at all. Another change with this new legislation is that the maximum scholarships available have been increased.

NEIFPE is concerned that the expansion of the choice scholarship program in Indiana is drawing money away from public education and to school that are not held to the same standards. Additional Information about NEIFPE and its efforts are included later in this newsletter.

The NEIFPE focuses on three main areas impacting public education: the cost and influence of standardized testing on schools, charter schools, and vouchers. Pictured with President Dave are representatives from the group who were at Rotary (Kathy Candioto, Anne Duff, and Stu Bloom).

Rotary Foundation committee Update: Year in Review
The club’s 2012-2013 support for the Rotary International Foundation was reported on during the meeting. Accomplishments include:

- 29 members committed to the Every Rotarian Every Year (EREY) program at a level of $100 per year
8 additional members became Paul Harris Fellows (PHF) by contributing $1000 or funded to the next level as an additional Paul Harris Fellow.

The annual distribution from the “Kap” Kilbourne Trust was $5,589. These funds were used to award 4 PHFs in our club’s annual Community Excellence Award Program.

Giving to the RI Foundation for 2012-2013 Rotary year was 37 gifts totaling $15,665.

Committee Chair Dick Conklin also presented two more PHF awards at the club meeting. Win Moses and Randy Roberts (PHF +4). Please congratulate and thank these members for their contributions and support.

Special thanks to club’s Rotary International Foundation Committee. Committee members are Dick Conklin (Chair), Jill Gutreuter, Bill Harris, Zach Higgins, John Hoffman, John Kowalczyk, Jeff Krull, Rick Maples, Linda Ruffolo, and Randy Rider (Co-Chair).
President Dave has invited all club members to a farewell party for our 2012-13 Rotary Youth Exchange Student, Lisa Obata.

**Wednesday, July 10**

_6 p.m. – 9 p.m._

_Sharon Pohly Home_

_10817 Sandpiper Cove FW IN 46845_

Please join in the fun to wish Lisa well as she returns to her native Japan. We will miss her friendly smile and Rotary spirit!

**Rotary Friendship Exchange**

Kim Wagner updated the club on District 6540’s upcoming exchange program with District 9710 (Australia). She has firsthand experience with Australian Rotarians as she was a Group Study Exchange Team Member in 2007 to District 9710.

See the end of this newsletter for details. Please contact Kim with any questions at wagnerk@ipfw.edu.
Master Sergeant was our Sergeant!

Master Sergeant Darrin Hubble of the Fort Wayne National Guard attended the meeting to serve as our weekly sergeant at arms and update us on what is taking place at the local base.

Darrin is the public affairs superintendent at the base and reported that they 103% manned with 1200 people working on the base in some capacity each month.

The base is home to the 122nd Fighter Wing and has been involved in the following activities:

- Veteran’s Day Parade – enhancing the event to celebrate and honor our veterans.
- Fort Wayne Base Community Council – a base and community group formed to bridge the relationship between the two.
- Red Flag Alaska Program – sending the fleet of A10 Warthogs on a practice mission.
- Operational Readiness Exercise – spring 2014.
- Adapting to sequestration – dealing with furloughs resulting from government cutbacks.

Future goals of the base were also highlighted. These include:

- A joint strike fighter mission being sought for the base. This is a new comprehensive jet with leading technology.
- Active Associates Program – as bases are shutting down due to government cutbacks in defense spending, this mentor program teams seasoned military with younger officers to increase their knowledge and skill.
- The success of the 2012 Air Show, where over 86,000 people attended, is being built upon for an enhanced Air Show, tentatively scheduled for 2016.
We are citizens, teachers, administrators, and parents united by our support for public education and by concerns for its future. Recent federal and state reform measures have created an over-emphasis on testing and have turned over public education to private interests. We believe that these reforms threaten the well-being of our children and jeopardize their futures. Our goal is to inform ourselves and to start community discussion about the impact of these measures on our public schools and, more importantly, on our children.

To build a school, family, and community partnership that fosters learning, creativity, critical thinking skills, and success among our children:

1. We believe tax money should support public education in the state of Indiana. All school districts in Indiana deserve equitable funding.

2. We believe tax dollars should not fund for-profit charter schools or vouchers for private/parochial schools.

3. We believe the use of high-stakes testing is harmful to students. The time and money spent on testing and test preparation should instead be spent on hands-on learning and creative problem-solving skills.

4. We believe test scores should be used as a diagnostic tool for instruction. Test scores should never be used to grade schools or to evaluate teachers.

5. We believe more tax dollars should be appropriated to pre-school and all day kindergarten. Research clearly shows that consistent early childhood education has positive long-lasting results.

6. We believe in the important role of the teacher in the classroom. All children should be taught by qualified instructors. Effective teacher preparation programs are vital, and teacher licensing should be based upon effective teacher preparation.

7. We believe the family plays a critical role, and parents must have a significant voice in the education of their children. A good educational environment is developed in the partnership between the school and the family.

8. We believe in a broad curriculum which includes the fine and performing arts, physical education, science, social studies, as well as math, reading, and writing. Such a curriculum is determined by the individual needs of local schools and their communities.

neifpe@blogspot.com or www.facebook.com/NEIFPE
D9710 (Australia) to D6540 (Indiana)
Rotary Friendship Exchange (RFE) 2013-14

What: Based on the Group Study Exchange relationship built between our district and Australia D9710 in 2007-8, we will host a group of 9-11 Rotarians in northern Indiana in August and September 2013 and they will host a group of D6540 Rotarians in their district immediately after the Sydney RI convention June 7-21, 2014 beginning in Canberra.

Hosting itinerary: The group will arrive independently at various times into Chicago—O’Hare on Thursday August 22 and stay overnight there. Elkhart County Rotarians will bring them to Indiana on August 23. The group will depart Indiana on September 6.

The tentative plan is to host the group in Goshen and Elkhart from August 23-27. The group would be in Fort Wayne August 27-30/31. No plans have been made yet for the Labor Day weekend but it may be that the group would travel to Michigan, Indianapolis, or elsewhere, either on their own or with Rotarians who might be interested in joining them. The Chesterton-Porter Club plans to host them September 2/3-6. None of these dates are fixed other than the arrival and departure date to and from Indiana.

The Rotarians are mainly well-traveled retirees who have been to the US previously. They have spent time in Chicago previously and prefer to experience other areas than Chicago.

There is a complete Rotary Friendship Exchange Handbook on the RI website. Search for “RFE” and you should find it.

Unlike GSE, RFE participants expect to cover most of their own costs other than accommodations in homes and meals with Rotarians. They appreciate as many opportunities to participate and interact in Rotary events as possible.

For more information, please contact Doug and Sharon Risser at DRisser@aol.com or 574 534-1521. Those who actively participate in hosting will have priority for participation in Australia in June 2014!

We’re going to have fun! Please join us.