

## **LaCrosse Area President's Meeting**

Friday – January 11, 2019 – 12:00 p.m. at Grizzly's – La Crosse

### **Group 3 – Assistant Governor Patricia Boge**

**Holmen- Pres. Barry Ploessl** – Barry reported that their club will be having a club social next week so there won't be a regular club meeting on Wednesday morning. The club worked the Rotary Lights with the La Crosse East club and they also helped with the tear down of Rotary Lights. The club is promoting their Service Auction fundraiser which is scheduled for 4/04/19 at the Lunda Center and they're also looking forward to announcing a new fundraiser at that time which will be something unique to our area.

**La Crosse Valley View – Pres. Julie Keitel** – Julie shared with the group that they have 2 new members. They recently had their holiday party and they've been working on their club structure to include a budget, club bylaws and a nominating committee. The Moon Tunes schedule for the summer has been announced and the club is looking at ways on how to develop a fundraiser that would be associated with Moon Tunes.

**Onalaska Hilltopper – Pres. Jessica Himmer** - Jessica reported that their club volunteered at the Smores station at Rotary Lights. The club will be hosting its **Spring Fling** fundraiser on 3/21/19 at the La Crosse Country Club. Cost is \$50 and there will be a cash raffle, wine pulls, a silent auction and table sponsorships are available. The club recently had a meeting in which those members who were present provided 2-minute classification talks.

**Onalaska – Pres. Lori Raabe** – Lori noted that their Santa's Breakfast event at Rotary Lights was a success with over 50 children attending. The club is also in the midst of their **Sink the Sled** fundraiser. Tickets are \$10 each or 3 for \$20 and they'll be selling tickets up thru the time that the sled sinks.

**Sparta – Pres. Tony Polkoski** – Tony reported that they have members interested in the STAR program but due to the timing of the program, it's difficult for them to get there from Sparta. Tony also noted that they're interested in the Interact program. Their club is considering an auction fundraiser and they also will be collaborating with the Waunakee club to provide them with some possible options to keep their sledding hill open.

### **Group 12 – Assistant Governor Dave Ebner**

**La Crosse Downtown – Pres. Todd Restel** – Todd noted that their club worked at Rotary Lights and they volunteered with the Salvation Army bell ringing campaign. Plans are underway for their Rotary Gardens project which is part of the club's 100<sup>th</sup> Anniversary event. The club is also doing a monthly fellowship/social which is scheduled for the third Tuesday of the month. This month they will be visiting and touring the chapel on the Viterbo campus. In February, they will be visiting the art studio of Eva Marie Restel.

**La Crosse After Hours – Pres. Keith Lease** – Keith couldn't attend but PE Brandon Harris reported that the club will be working on a service project with the Coulee Region Frost which will include the building of mobility sleds for skating. The club also has a social event planned at the 608 Brewery.

**La Crosse East – Pres. Natalie Olsen** – Natalie reported that club member Bill LaRue is reminding everyone that RYLA applications are now available and space is limited. Applications are taken on a "first come/first serve" basis so get your paperwork submitted ASAP. Cost is \$200 per student prior to 4/01/19 and \$225 after. Important change this year: In the past, the La Crosse East club paid for the registrations and then the area clubs reimbursed East. This year, your payment must accompany the application as East won't be fronting the initial fees. Transportations for RYLA is being discussed. If any questions concerning RYLA, contact Bill La Rue at [BLaRue@EOJohnson.com](mailto:BLaRue@EOJohnson.com)

Natalie also that their club worked the Rotary Lights with the Holmen club and it was a record evening with \$14,729 in donations. The club also volunteered on the Salvation Army bell ringing campaign and they recently completed a mid-year membership survey. The club has a social planned for 1/24 and they are holding monthly meetings to prepare for their Lobsterfest event which is scheduled for 6/14/19.

**Caledonia – Pres. Joe Hammell** – Joe is in AZ but he reported that they had a good night at Rotary Lights, collecting 4500 lbs of food for the Caledonia Food Shelf. Next year, they'll be working with the Caledonia Chamber to light up the Caledonia Gazebo in honor of the 25<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of Rotary Lights. The club had a great Christmas party and they've resubmitted their grant for the Cameroon library project.

**La Crescent – Pres. Darren Winkers** – Darren reported that the club had a good night at Rotary Lights. The club has their holiday party scheduled for 1/19/19 and the Super Event is scheduled for 1/27/19. The Super Event is co-hosted by the La Crescent Rotary Club and La Crescent Lions Club to acknowledge two outstanding volunteers in the La Crescent community. The club's newest member presented her classification talk last week.

**Bill Hoel, DG** – Bill provided an update on the District Conference. At this year's conference, there will be a Rotary Inspirational Award where each club will have the opportunity to recognize their most inspiring Rotarian.

**Bill Pritchard, DGND** - Bill shared reports with the group that are available online which provide feedback on Club Growth and Member Viability & Growth. The reports are available to the club leadership and AG's. Bill reported that 17 members attended the STAR presentation this week but they only represented 2 clubs. All of the area clubs are encouraged to utilize the STAR program to help engage new members in Rotary.

**Brandon Harris – Rotary Works Foundation President** – Brandon reported that they are concluding the very successful **Fight the Flood** fundraiser. The foundation is also seeking its next slate of officers for 2019-2020 Rotary year.

**Please promote these upcoming events:**

**Star Meetings** at Radisson Hotel (Wisconsin Room) – promote to new members- RSVP to [rotarylax@charter.net](mailto:rotarylax@charter.net). Meetings every other month, 6 different meetings to complete the course.

**Youth Exchange** – short term program for Summer of 2019. Applications now being accepted.

**Grant Management Seminars**

1/26/2019	9:00 a.m. – Noon	Ground Round. Tomah.	<b>Register now.</b>
2/06/2019	5:00 p.m. – 8:00 p.m.	Sheraton South. Madison.	

**PETS** 3/01-3/03/2019 Itasca, IL. **Registration now open.**

**RYLA** 5/17-5/19/2019 Upham Woods. WI Dells, WI. **Registration now open.**

**RI Annual Convention** 6/01-6/05/2019 Hamburg, Germany

**District Conference** 6/07-6/08/2019 La Crosse

**Next President's Meeting: February 8<sup>th</sup>, 2019 at 12:00 p.m. – Grizzly's.**