



LaCrosse Area President's Meeting

Friday – December 14, 2018 – 12:00 p.m. at Grizzly's – La Crosse

Group 3 – Assistant Governor Patricia Boge

Holmen- Pres. Barry Ploessl – The club's community garden produced over 7000 lbs. of veggies, some of which was donated to Holmen's Hope dinner event. Club has applied for a Rotary Works grant and a Lion's grant to benefit the community garden. The club will be having a holiday party and they will be hosting Rotary & A Pizza on 12/20. The club is also in the early planning stages of a Peru water project.

La Crosse Valley View – Pres. Julie Keitel – The club provided Christmas gifts to 124 foster children and they had their holiday party this past week. The club will be re-writing their bylaws and they will be forming a public relations committee. The club has added 1 new member.

Onalaska Hilltopper – Pres. Jessica Himmer - The Thanksgiving Dinner event went well with 1300-1400 people served. This was a joint project coordinated by the Onalaska Hilltopper club and the Onalaska Rotary club. The club sponsored a family thru New Horizons. The club will be volunteering at Rotary Lights next Tuesday and the club is planning their Spring Fling for 3/28/19 at the Country Club. The club has added 2 new members. They have a PE but they're working on filling the PEN position.

Onalaska – Pres. Lori Raabe – Lori could not attend but she reported that the community Thanksgiving Dinner, which they hosted with the Onalaska Hilltopper club, was a great success. On 12/10, the club presented the 8th Annual Santa's Breakfast with about 50 children and families present. The club's Winter fundraiser is underway (see separate attachment for more info).

Sparta – Pres. Tony Polkoski – It was great to have Tony and Sparta PE, Andy Kuene, join us for the meeting! The Sparta club was founded in 1937 and they currently have 18 members. They recently held their Kris Kringle Mart which helps to support the local food pantry. The club has been active in Bikin' Park which includes a 500' sidewalk project. The club will be getting involved in Youth Exchange and there will be a new interact club at Sparta High School.

Group 12 – Assistant Governor Dave Ebner

La Crosse Downtown – Pres. Todd Restel – The club completed their fruit basket fundraiser last week. The club will be having a social on 12/18 beginning at 5:30 p.m. at the Radisson and then they'll walk thru Rotary Lights. The club is also busy planning for their 100th Anniversary which is scheduled for 6/20/19.

La Crosse After Hours – Pres. Keith Lease – Keith couldn't attend but he reported that the club completed their Ugly Sweater 5k and it was a great success with about 500 participants. The club's next meeting will be in January.

La Crosse East – Pres. Natalie Olsen – Natalie couldn't attend but she reported that they are ringing bells for the Salvation Army on 12/15 and they will be volunteering at Rotary Lights with the Holmen club on 12/22. Club member Jon McKenzie will be joining Global Partners on a trip to Costa Rica 3/30/19-4/07/19 to provide vision care to Nicaraguan refugees/migrants in Costa Rica. The club will be submitting a Rotary Works Foundation grant request to help fund the vision supplies. A mid-year survey has been sent out to club members. Planning is underway for Lobsterfest.

Caledonia – Pres. Joe Hammell – The club PE is Nancy Runnigen and the PEN is Ashley Wiebke. The club recently concluded their annual rose sale and their holiday party is scheduled for 12/15. The club is also working on a revised grant request for the Nicaraguan library project.

La Crescent – Pres. Darren Winkers – Darren wasn't able to attend but he reported that the club had an off-site meeting on 11/30 at the elementary school. The club will be volunteering at Rotary Lights on 12/30 and the holiday party is scheduled for 1/19/19.

Bill Hoel, DG – shared with the group that *The Exchange* in La Crosse (a community organization that provides furniture and household goods to people in need) will be in need of new warehouse and office space by 3/01/19. They need approx. 3000-5000 sq. feet of space, on the ground level, with parking space for up to 6 vehicles and a trailer.

Bill Pritchard, DGND (Did I get that right??) – Bill is in the district leadership queue and he'll be serving as DG for the '21-'22 Rotary year. Bill reported that the Youth Exchange students had a great time participating and volunteering in La Crosse this past weekend.

Please promote these upcoming events:

Star Meetings at Radisson Hotel (Wisconsin Room) – promote to new members- RSVP to 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.
2/06/2019	5:00 p.m. – 8:00 p.m.	Sheraton South. Madison.

PETS 3/01-3/03/2019 Itasca, IL. **Registration to open 1/01/2019.**

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: January 11th, 2019 at 12:00 p.m. – Grizzly's.