

EDINA

MINNESOTA DISTRICT 5950 USA FOUNDED 1957



# THE BARKER

ROTARY CLUB OF EDINA

## Jan. 16, 2014, Meeting Assignments

Greeters	Tim Palm, Bob Perkins & John Buttolph
Front Desk	Matt Mattis
Invocation	Ann Platt
Guest Introduction	Wooj Byun
Barker	Wayne Harmon
Program Host	Steve Slyce
Thank the Speaker	Ken Andersen

**Program:** Lisa Hannum, Beehive PR, "New Year, New Ideas: How PR and Digital Marketing Can Grow Your Business"

**Menu:** Edina Rotary Big Buffet featuring beef pot roast

## Upcoming Events and Schedule

Feb. 1	<b>Bowling night</b> at Tuttle's Eat Play Bowl in Hopkins, 6:45 to 10 p.m.
March 20	<b>Evening at the theater</b> at Old Log Theater, "Almost Maine," 6:30 p.m. cocktails, curtain is at 7:30
April 10	Joint meeting with EMRC
April 24	Vocational Ethics Day
May 2	<b>District 5950 Annual Conference</b> , Radisson Blu Hotel
May 3	<b>District 5950 District Assembly</b>
May 8	<b>Vocational Day</b> , Minneapolis Media Institute, 12:15 to 1:30 p.m., hosted by Paul Peterson

## Farewell Party for Police Chief Jeff Long

Edina Police Chief Jeff Long, also a Rotary member, is leaving the Edina Police Department after 25 years! Come say goodbye to Chief Long at a cake-and-ice-cream reception in the lobby of City Hall this Thursday, Jan. 16, from 2 to 3 p.m. Long is leaving to be the police chief in Lakeville.

## In Review

Jan. 9, 2013

By Mike Kallas

Jan. 9 marked the beginning of the end of a long deep freeze for the Edina Rotary and Minnesota generally. That date also marked the day the Edina Rotary Club members met again after their long holiday break.

President **Steve Slyce** opened the meeting with a "small world" story. Steve was traveling on a ski trip, and one of his traveling companions mentioned that he had recently been to Sierra Leone and found a functioning water well with a manual pump used by village residents. On the well was a plaque designating "Donated by the Edina Rotary." Steve was able to share a photograph of the well in use.

The club members were warmly greeted by **Mike Opitz** and **Ed Padilla**, while **Kaylin Marin** was at the front desk along with the ever-present **Audri Schwarz**.

**Dr. Tom Pirsch** supplied an inspiring and thoughtful quote from Maya Angelou as our invocation and also led us in the Pledge of Allegiance. **Joe Arends** introduced our guests and visiting Rotarians.

President Slyce had happy news to announce:

- Aaron Klein and his wife, Randi, are proud parents of a new daughter, Scarlett Klein. This announcement was complete with a photograph of the beautiful new baby.
- The Rotary Foundation received a \$1,000 donation from the Estate of **Lee Heutmacher**, a long-time member and our club's twentieth president in 1977.
- Thanks to the organizing efforts of **Wayne Harmon** and **Dan Hallberg**, Rotary bell ringers collected \$4,764 for the Salvation Army this year.

**Nate Wenner**, chair of Rotary Rocks the Y Program, introduced Kristin Reither. Kristin described how the program works with students from Cornelia Elementary School. They are seeking volunteers to work with the elementary school children on Tuesdays and Wednesdays from 4 to 5 p.m. The program will run over the next three months.

4801 W. 50th St • Edina, MN 55424  
Jennifer Garske, Club Administrator

[www.rotary.org](http://www.rotary.org)

[www.edinarotary.org](http://www.edinarotary.org)

[www.rotary5950.org](http://www.rotary5950.org)

**Michael Stanzak** announced the upcoming bowling event. Michael dressed as a ninja turtle to help people remember that bowling will be held at “Turtles” in Hopkins, only to learn that the establishment is named “Tuttle’s.” Tuttle’s is located at the intersection of Shady Oak Road and Main in Hopkins, and the event will be held on Saturday, Feb. 1. SIGN UP NOW! PRIZES!! Members are welcome to bring guests.

**Val Burke** introduced Henry Jessen, son of member **Mark Jessen**. Henry is a senior at Edina High School and has served as captain of the swim team, cross country team and track and field team. Henry shared his gratitude for having the honor of attending the “Nike Cross Nationals” held in Oregon. Henry predicts running in his future at the collegiate level.

**Chuck Agan** introduced our speaker, Bill Levin. Bill is a member of the development staff at Gillette Children’s Specialty Health Care. Before joining Gillette, Bill spent 24 years in institutional sales with Piper Jaffrey’s bond department. Bill is also a Rotarian and a member of the Minneapolis City of Lakes Rotary Club.

Bill described the good work performed by Gillette Specialty Hospital, serving children with disabling conditions. (By the way, Gillette has no affiliation with the razor company. It is named for Dr. Arthur Gillette, a physician back in 1897.) Bill explained that Gillette Hospital serves 25,000 patients per year and 130,000 out-patient visits per year. Trends for treatment and care by Gillette are increasing. Gillette has 1,300 employees, including 52 full-time doctors and many more doctors with treating privileges. Gillette operates in a new facility in St. Paul consisting of three floors. The building is constructed so that three to five more floors could be added in a future expansion.

Bill was joined by a Gillette patient, Brandon Wittrock. Brandon was accompanied by his parents, Jerome and Sheri Wittrock. Brandon and his parents and his sister, Brittany, live in Burnsville. Brandon suffers from cerebral palsy and hydrocephaly. The condition began at birth. Brandon’s birth weight was 1 pound 13 ounces. When he was born his father’s wedding band fit around Brandon’s arm.

Brandon has undergone 34 surgeries, including three surgeries in four months during 2013. Despite these trials, Brandon is positive and inspirational to everyone. His spirit, optimism and gratitude for his blessings were a marvel to see.

Brandon described an opportunity he had as a sixth grader. At age 12 he represented Gillette Hospital and Children’s Miracle

Network in the Children’s Miracle Network Champions Across America. One winner from every state was selected. All of the winners traveled to Orlando, Florida, and to Washington, D.C. Brandon relayed with enthusiasm stories of meeting music stars and the President of the United States, Barack Obama.

Brandon explained that he was not afraid to speak of his condition and to answer any questions presented. Brandon happily reported that he has received good news recently that he will be able to complete his therapy at home, instead of in the hospital.

Brandon left the membership with words to live by: “Never give up” and “never lose faith.” The club membership left the meeting better off for having met Brandon and heard his message.

**Penny Kodrich** thanked our speaker and the meeting was adjourned at 1:20 p.m.

## Volunteer for Rotary Rocks the Y

As mentioned in the meeting notes, each winter/spring, Rotary Club of Edina sponsors a program at the Southdale YMCA in Edina called Rotary Rocks the Y. This program benefits students from Cornelia school in Edina academically, physically, and socially; as a result of their positive participation in a homework help program, they come to the Southdale YMCA as a reward for some recreational activity. Each Tuesday and Wednesday from 4 to 5 p.m., one Rotary member is needed to volunteer to go to the Y and assist the YMCA staff with the program.

Rotary Rocks the Y runs from Jan. 22 to March 26. If you would like to volunteer your time, please contact Rotarian Nate Wenner. Right now, he is mainly looking for members that can volunteer one time on a Wednesday, since the Tuesday spots have been tentatively filled (thanks, Rotarians!). **Currently, the Wednesday dates most in need of a volunteer are Feb. 19, and March 5, 12, or 26.**

To sign up to volunteer for one of these dates, or with questions about the program, you can reach Nate Wenner at 952-548-3404 or [NWenner@wipflihewins.com](mailto:NWenner@wipflihewins.com).

Thanks!

### ROTARY YEAR 2013–2014 – OFFICERS AND BOARD OF DIRECTORS

President Steve Slyce  
Secretary Ann Platt  
Public Relations Doug Johnson

President-Elect Jeff Ohe  
Membership (Social) Michael Stanzak  
Community Service Projects Tom Bach  
Community Service (Grants) Michael Kallas

Past President Scott MacDonald  
Membership Mary Hustad  
International Service John Flynn

Treasurer Jennifer Bennerotte  
Club Service Marty Kupper  
Youth Service Heather Hansen

**Board meeting notes**

Dec. 19, 2013

**By Ann Platt, Club Secretary**

The SIGNATURE project of a clock will be installed this spring at Centennial Lakes Park at the round-about. It is a two-sided clock in front of the Hughes Pavilion.

**Public Relations:**

- Working on a “how to” for members to access Facebook, our website, Edina Patch, city website for accessing meeting videos. Kaylin Martin will present something at one of the first two meetings in January.
- Membership has requested a brochure to be given to potential new members. Jennifer Bennerotte is working on and is to have a draft ready by the first of the year. It will be an 11-by-17 folded brochure.
- Ongoing need for photos and stories, awards, promotions should be forwarded to Doug Johnson so they can be featured Facebook.

**Community Service Projects:**

- The next Feed My Starving Children will be Saturday, May 3.
- Thanksgiving Baskets:
  - 75 families received baskets.
  - **THANK YOU Mary Hustad for putting together the routes and Michael Stanzak for doing the assignments!**
- Holiday giving program headed up by Jean Morrison. Gifts and money are being collected during December meetings. This year’s recipients will be VEAP, Oasis for Youth and Veterans Family Group. Tom Pirsch will deliver the items to VEAP and Oasis while Morrison will deliver items for service personnel and their families at Fort Snelling.
- Bach is checking into a potential project to park clean

***In memoriam...***

*We are sad to announce the passing of Jerome Thompson, father of Rotarian Sam Thompson, on Jan. 9. Funeral services were held Jan. 11 at Mary, Mother of the Church in Burnsville. Please keep Sam and the Thompson family in your thoughts and prayers.*

up. Pirsch has agreed to cook his infamous chili (but will not chair the project). Bach has approached new member Dave Wohl and Matt Boockmeier about chairing the cleanups.

**International Service Projects:**

- Flynn reported that the committee is looking at six different projects, but nothing to report now.

**Club Administration:**

- Holiday party is tonight and about 150 have signed up.
- Weekly Meetings/ Program: only two open dates for the remainder of Slyce’s year.
- Vocational Day will be May 8 hosted by Paul Peterson at Minneapolis Media Institute on 76th Street in Edina.
- Transition Day (passing of the baton to Ohe) will be June 19.
- Picnic is June 26.

**Membership Retention**

- Bowling will be Feb. 1 at Tuttle’s in Hopkins
- Evening at the Theater will be March 20 at the Old Log Theater. “Almost Maine” is the production

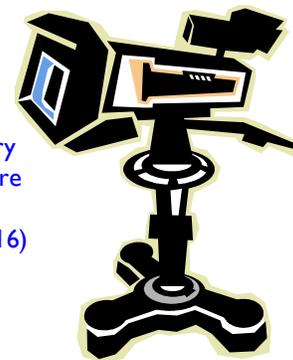
**Membership Recruitment**

- Mike Krmopotich and Nick Jerminov resignations were approved.
- Guest Day for potential new members will be sometime in February. All potential members will receive lunch on the club. All members are encouraged to bring a guest who might be interested in Rotary.
- Edina Chamber meetings: Hustad has five different members who will rotate meetings
- There are seven new members that are in the pipeline.

**Rotary Foundation:** Developing a new member emphasis to get each one to a PHF

**We’re on TV!**

The program portion of the Rotary Club of Edina’s weekly meetings are being televised and air on Edina Community Channel 16 (EDINA 16) daily at 1 a.m., 9 a.m. and 5 p.m. The programs are also available on YouTube.

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