



THE BARKER

ROTARY CLUB OF EDINA

July 31, 2014 Meeting Assignments

Greeters	Charlie Barer, Don Hutchison & Axel Steuer
Program Chair	Bob Gubrud
Front Desk	Ann Platt
Invocation	David Wohl
Guest Introductions	Joe Hayes
Barker	John MacLennan
Thank the Speaker	John Flynn

Program: Craig Lamothe, Southwest LRT, METRO Green Line Extension acting project director

Menu: chicken Olivia or turkey chop salad

Rotary Clock Dedication and Happy Hour Celebration Aug. 12

Join your fellow Rotarians Tuesday, Aug. 12, at the Hughes Pavilion at Centennial Lakes Park in Edina for the dedication of the clock the Rotary Club of Edina donated to the city. The dedication is set to begin at 5:30 p.m., with a few words from Rotary Club of Edina Past President Scott MacDonald and Edina Mayor Jim Hovland.

After the dedication, everyone is welcome to happy hour at Pinstripes to celebrate the clock dedication. There will be a cash bar.

Please register online at www.edinarotary.org so that we can plan for the dedication and happy hour! An email reminder will be forthcoming. See you there!

Proposed for Membership

The Rotary Club of Edina's Board of Directors recently approved the applicant below for membership:

Name: Joseph Graca
Classification: Mortgage Banking
Sponsor: Mike Optiz

Written objections to the application must be submitted before 4:30 p.m. Wednesday, Aug. 6, to Rotary Club of Edina, 4801 W. 50th St., Edina, MN 55424.

In Review

July 24, 2014

By David Clynes

Your scribe today is a new member of this auspicious organization and I just returned from being away for three months. I have to say, "Wow, this really is the greatest club in the universe!" Prospective Member Day and the parking lot was packed full! Twenty-five guests were in attendance and today's speaker delivered a very special message to all of us present that will certainly also be a true gift to those who watch Ward Brehm's presentation on Community TV, Channel 16. This is one Rotary talk you do not want to miss and will want to share with others.

Greeting us at the door were **Buzz Bainbridge**, **Steve Slyce**, and **Wade Thommen**. Handling the busy front desk were **Marty Kupper**, **Tom Pirsch**, and **Audri Schwarz**.

Our fearless leader **Jeff Ohe** inspired us with Rotary wisdom and rang in the meeting precisely on time. **Terry Stevens'** invocation touched our hearts with his story of witnessing the Rotary heroes in the Edina parade with his grandson. As you can imagine with 25 guests, introductions took a while. Suffice it to say that our new member effort is in good health and we are very fortunate to have such quality people considering joining us in our Rotary walk.

Margaret Kvale is one guest that I do want to highlight. Daughter of our new member **Deirdre Megley Kvale**, Margaret is on her way to spend her junior year of high school in Riedlingsdorf, Austria, as a Rotary exchange student. Her host family, including their cat, Felix, is anxiously awaiting her arrival and Margaret's eyes clearly showed that she is very excited about her upcoming year. Safe travels, Margaret, and we look forward to hearing all about your year abroad adventure when you return.

Brad Hepp beamed with pride presenting **Don Hutchison** and his sponsor, **Joe Arends**. Don joined the Rotary Club of Edina in April and was officially inducted into the Club with rousing and enthusiastic applause.

Something new...in his role as our president for only a few weeks, and already **Jeff Ohe** has introduced a new feature to our Rotary community. Those present witnessed the premiere

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

www.rotary.org

• www.edinarotary.org

• www.rotary5950.org

viewing of “My Edina Rotary Experience.” In interview format, this is a series of videos of current Edina Rotarians sharing what Rotary means to them and why others might consider membership. In this episode **Bob Solheim** narrated and interviewed **Tim Murphy**. Tim did a fine job as always. Describing what he called a “Rotary moment” from an international service trip, Tim described returning a small child to the arms of its mother right after the child received cleft palate reconstruction surgery. Seeing this video, it is quite evident that “My Edina Rotary Experience” will be yet another helpful tool to grow our Club and community.

If all this was not enough, **Tim Murphy** then came to the podium to introduce the speaker. Inspired as a young man by another from our deep Edina Rotary bench, **Arthur Rouner**, Ward Brehm is a man with incredible accomplishments, both professionally and in service at the executive branch level of our national government to the people, and especially the poor in Africa.

Originally intending to talk about Africa, Ward shared very personal reflections about a topic he encountered over the past couple years after receiving a roller coaster of serious medical diagnoses...that is reflections on dying. Ward wanted to be clear that his recent visit to the doctor confirmed that all his ailments have either been successfully treated or are still indolent and that his health is stable and good. For this we are all very grateful. Ward is a gifted speaker and he definitely had our attention.

A 1969 graduate of Edina High School, Ward shared his story of clarifying what is really important in life and the benefit for all of us of facing that we are terminal and living our lives this way. Ward spoke from his heart about very frank conversations with his doctor, Bible study group, and his close friends and family. Paraphrasing his description of meeting with his good friend Doug Coe of the National Prayer Breakfast in Washington, D.C., Coe told him, “none of us need a 10-year life plan, what we all need is a three-day life plan.”

Five ears back, his family was beneficiary of a medical miracle when his wife had complete recovery from an inoperable tumor. Ward described this and the current outcome of his ailments as a huge lesson in thankfulness. He said, “Thankfulness trumps everything, it is impossible to be [negative about life] when you are thankful.” Ward reminded us: “We are told by our world to be busy, we are told by God to be relevant...Our culture is in denial of death...In our world, everything is urgent and nothing is important.” Ward is currently writing yet another book titled *Dispatches from the Heart*, which I for one am very much looking forward to reading and sharing with friends and family.



(Above) Ward Brehm spoke at the meeting. (Left) Brad Hepp welcomes Don Hutchison to the Rotary Club of Edina during his induction, with the help of Don's sponsor, Joe Arends.

Ward's presentation reminds me of what the priest in my church often prays at the end of our service, “Life is short and we have too little time to gladden the hearts of those who travel the way with us. So, be swift to love and make haste to be kind...”

Definitely a God-incidence, Bob Solheim, who is reminded daily of how precious life is, was on the roster to thank the speaker, which he did with “I can't remember a more relevant and inspiring presentation.” Well done, Bob.

ROTARY YEAR 2014-2015 — OFFICERS AND BOARD OF DIRECTORS

President **Jeff Ohe**
Secretary **San Asato**
Membership (Recruitment) **Josh Sprague**

President-Elect **Jennifer Bennerotte**
Club Service **Barbara Born**
Membership (Retention) **Michael Stanzak**
Community Service (Grants) **Michael Kallas**

Past President **Steve Slyce**
Public Relations **Doug Johnson**
Youth Service **Heather Hansen**
Community Service (Projects) **Mary Swendsen**

Treasurer **Ann Platt**
The Rotary Foundation **Will Steinke**
International Service **Gary Pedersen**

Music in the Park

Rotarians celebrate a night out while listening to the incredible Patty Peterson at Edina's Rosland Park



Rotarians enjoyed a night of Summer Music in the Park featuring Patty Peterson, sister of Rotarian Paul Peterson, at Rosland Park in Edina on July 18. Paul played along with Patty (shown above) during the concert. Rotarians were invited to arrive early and enjoy appetizers before the show. (Left) Ann MacDonald and Janet Stanzak enjoy the outdoor concert.

Top Five Reasons to be a Youth Exchange host family

Previously I wrote about our Youth Exchange Program. I had suggested you could volunteer on the YE committee or better yet—become a host family!

Here are the top five reasons to consider being a host family:

1. **Make lasting friends, build relationships that span the globe!**
2. **Introduce your family to a different culture, a different language, and more!**
3. **Make life-long friends who live outside Edina!**
4. **Its only for 3 1/2 months!**
5. **Better and less expensive than traveling to a foreign country!**

Next time: Fun Facts about Japan! One of our 2014-2015 inbound exchange students, Miyuki, is from Japan!

Sonja Tengdin
Youth Exchange Host Family Coordinator
sonja@scoopypoo.net

Upcoming Events and Schedule

- July 30 **EMRC 23rd Annual Golf Tournament**, Braemar Golf Course, 11:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. registration, 1 p.m. shotgun start, 5:30 to 7:30 p.m. beer and wine reception, event supports the Edina Morningside Rotary Foundation grant recipients, visit www.emrc.org for more information and to register.
- Aug. 12 **Rotary clock dedication**, Centennial Lakes Park, Edina, 5:30 p.m., brief ceremony at clock, then join Rotarians at Pinstripes for happy hour.
- Aug. 20 **Women of Rotary Social**, 4904 Sunnyside Road, Edina, 6 p.m., all female members of Rotary are invited, as well as any female guests that might be interested in learning more about the Club.

Blue is for special Rotary Club of Edina events.
Purple is for District 5950 events.
Orange is for Rotary International events.

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Board meeting notes**July 17, 2014****By Doug Johnson, Public Relations Director**

Jeff Ohe called to order his first meeting presiding as President. He thanked Steve Slyce, outgoing president, and welcomed the new board members.

Financial Report

The 2014-2015 Club budget, as well as the 2014-2015 Foundation budget, were approved.

Committee Reports**The Rotary Foundation:**

- 100 percent of the Board participated last year and that is also the 2014-2015 goal.
- \$80,000+ was raised last year and that is the 2014-2015 goal.
- Nov. 20 has been selected as our Club's meeting to highlight The Rotary Foundation. A guest speaker will be talking about TRF.

Membership (Recruitment):

- Joe Graca, Mortgage Banking, was approved as a new Club member.
- Long-time member Sherm Hoyt resigned. The Board approved Sherm as an Honorary Member.
- John Neve's resignation was accepted.
- July 24 is Prospective Member Day. There will be three additional dates in October, January, and April.
- Don Erickson will be recognized at today's [July 17] meeting for his 57 years of membership and service.
- The goal for 2014-2015 is 170 members.

Youth Service:

- The board agreed to commit \$2,000 to VEAP for the Student Hunger Collaborative. This is to address a growing problem where many youth in our community do not have enough or any food during the weekend. Food will be sent home with these students.
- The committee is purchasing a sample of a children's book called the "Apple Dumpling Adventures." The book is geared to introduce third-graders to the principles of Rotary. After review, the committee hopes to approach the private schools in our area as well as Edina Schools to see if they would be open to using these materials.

- STRIVE will begin in mid-September.
- Work is being done to begin an Interact Club at Edina High School.
- Host families for youth exchange students are still being sought.

Membership (Retention):

- The picnic was a great success. One-hundred twenty-five people attended! Next year the group will be looking at June dates at Bryant Lake Park.
- Edina's Music in the Park on July 18 features member Paul Peterson's sister, the renowned Patty Peterson. Members can come as early as 5:30 p.m. for appetizers and then enjoy the show.
- Fireside chats will be occurring in the second and third weeks of September.
- Work is being done on the annual bowling night event. Tentative plans are to have it the last Saturday in January at Tuttle's.
- Work is also being done to secure tickets for Motown the Musical in December.

Community Service (Local Grants):

- Can-Do Canines requested a minor modification to the original purpose stated in that grant. The Board approved the change.
- Keith Benson will now be chair of the committee. Current chair Michael Kallas will continue to be the representative to the board and will be splitting his time between the Local Grants Committee and the Youth Exchange Committee.

International Service:

- The Committee is committed to seeking and developing partnerships with other clubs to leverage additional dollars at the District level.

Officers' Report:

- Steve Slyce would like to see the Club seek donations from local corporations.
- The District Governor will be speaking to the Club on Sept. 4.
- The dedication of the Rotary clock at Centennial Lakes will be at 5:30 p.m. on Aug. 12. The clock was a signature project of our Club and is a gift given to the City of Edina in recognition of Edina's 125th Anniversary and in recognition of our long standing partnership.

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