



# The Sower

Official Publication of  
Lincoln South Rotary

Club #21799 - Chartered April 30, 1984



WEEK OF JUNE 24, 2011

## Lincoln South Officers and Directors

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## PLACES TO MAKE UP

**Tuesday morning**—Sunrise Rotary at International House of Pancakes at 4501 North 27th (27th and Superior Ave.) at 7:00 AM

**Tuesday Noon**— Lincoln #14-Nebraska Club at 13th & M.

**Wednesday 11:45 a.m.**—Lincoln East at Valentinos at 70<sup>th</sup> & Van Dorn

## CLUB SERVICE TEAM ON DUTY

Bob Vrana  
Bernie Poppe  
Brad Carter



## Lincoln South Rotary Clubrunner Links:

Meeting & speaker information:

<http://www.clubrunner.ca/CPrg/Home/speakers.asp?cid=6040>

Calendar of Events:

<http://www.clubrunner.ca/CPrg/Home/events.asp?cid=6040>



## Notes & Announcements

### Future LSR Programs

7/1/11 Barb Bartle— President Lincoln Community Foundation

7/8/11 Changing of the Guard

### Events & Projects

8/26/11 District Governor Bob Perrin Official Visit.

**Membership Dues**— Dues statements have been mailed and payment needs to be received before June 30th.

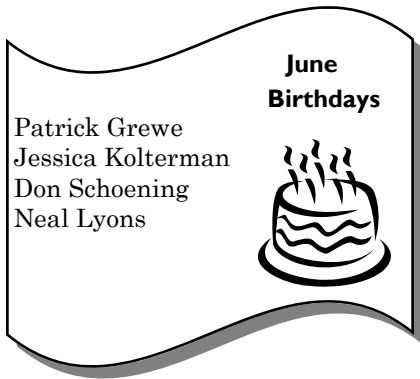
**District Simplified Grant**—It appears that the grant has been approved and will be used for the Voices of Hope Childcare Center.

**End Polio Now Event**—The Lincoln Rotary Cubs are again working on a project to raise money for the End Polio Now Campaign to help Rotary International meet the Gates Challenge. More information to come.

**Polio Fundraiser**—Aaron Babcock has contributed Husker Illustrated yearbooks to be sold as a fundraiser for Polio with 100% of the proceeds going to polio eradication.

## Visiting Rotarians and Guests

*Guests*— Our speaker Darren Macfee



### HAPPY DOLLARS (For Emergency Relief)

Scott Delisi, Bernie Poppe, Tom Cardwell, Bob Vrana, Nicki Klein & Roger Vicroy.



### Rotary is on the Web!

Rotary International— [www.rotary.org](http://www.rotary.org)

District 5650—[www.rotarydistrict5650.org](http://www.rotarydistrict5650.org)

Lincoln South Rotary—

<http://www.clubrunner.ca/CPrg/Home/homeS.asp?cid=6040>

## PROGRAM

### 2010-2011 Club Goals

1. *Club Strength– Leave the club better than when I took office.*
2. *Club Growth– Attain and maintain membership of 55.*
3. *Support Polio Eradication.*
4. *Support critical project in one of 3 areas; Health & Hunger, Water or Literacy.*
5. *Maintain 100% sustaining membership in the Rotary Foundation.*
6. *Achieve the Presidential Citation*
7. *HAVE FUN!*

**QUESTIONS?  
COMMENTS?  
ARTICLES?**

**Contact Newsletter  
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Darren Macfee - Executive Director  
Children's museum

<http://www.lincolnchildrensmuseum.org/aLCM.php>

Mission: The Lincoln Children's Museum invites children to create, discover, and learn through the power of play. Build, dance, play, climb, create, sing, and laugh at the Lincoln Children's Museum in Lincoln, Nebraska. Here you can be whatever and wherever your imagination takes you!

A quick survey of the Rotarians revealed that most everyone has been to visit the Children's Museum. It is well known as a hands-on facility unlike most museums which are hands-off.

The Lincoln Children's Museum has three floors- 23,300 square feet of hands-on exhibits and imaginative programs that allow children and adults to discover the adventure of learning through play together.

One of the reasons it is successful is because of public support. The Lincoln Children's Museum is a private non-profit, 501(c)(3), that receives no city, state or federal tax dollars. To encourage continued support, and to say Thank You, the staff enjoys opportunities to speak to groups such as our Rotary Club. In everything that they do, they keep the mission in mind. They want to create experiences for children. As adults, when we learn, we relate what we are hearing and seeing to our past experiences. Children don't have those experiences yet – so this helps to create them.

A recent article in the Lincoln Children's Museum newsletter "Fingerprints" discussed the Creativity Crisis that the world is in right now. It is believed that if we get children away from the TV, computers, hand-held games and such and get them active, this can be turned around.

Children are having trouble figuring out problems, finding new solutions. Learning through discovery fosters creativity which is one of the most important skills children should have to succeed.

At the Lincoln Children's Museum, children learn cause and effect, collaboration – exhibits are built to promote kids working together. There are activities even starting with early childhood development such as stacking blocks and working on balance.

The museum is a resource for educators through field trip, camps. They are often a site visited by employers recruiting new employees.

Lincoln Children's Museum moved into their current building in October, 2000. There have been 1.5 million visitors since then with a

continued pattern of strong visitation. The Museum is currently in the process of renovation. They surveyed their audience for input – educators, members. The question was posed as "if we would make changes, what could we make better". The response indicated that the current exhibits work well for 4-6 year olds, but they could use more from birth to 3 and also early elementary (7-10). Older kids have fun, but the content is not as engaging for them. For the renovation work, there isn't a capital campaign. The visitor survey indicated that they did not want the museum to be closed. So the planned renovations will take 5 years, phased in. The projected cost is \$4 million with \$2 million committed from donors so far.

Some of the first exhibits to be worked on will be the Grocery Store and Farm. Farm bureau is helping develop the farm program to show how food starts on the farm and ends up in the grocery store. If the store is out of something, they can go to the farm to raise the item.

The store is going to have nutrition activities. They will use the new food groups concept (the plate) with the proper percentages. As a child is picking up items at the store and scan it, it calculates the groups. The child is encouraged to get a well-rounded basket full of food.

The new water exhibit will have a section molded to simulate the local terrain including the Platte River. They wanted to reflect the culture of Nebraska. They will include dams to show how they work.

There are also new ideas for the lunar lander, trains exhibit, etc. There may be more – the ideas for exhibits come from visitors, staff visits to other museums and other input.

The Lincoln Children's Museum has been nationally ranked. But, Darrin indicated that he would prefer to look at the reactions of people.

A recent visitor indicated that they frequent the San Diego Children's Museum (a \$20 million facility) and preferred the Lincoln Children's Museum. They indicated that the kids spent much more time in the Lincoln facility than they did in the museum in San Diego.

Another friend who lives in the Chicago area prefers the Lincoln Children's Museum to the four large museums in Chicago.