

# Rotary District 5960 Monday Musings

Notes from Marlene Gargulak, District Governor, 2015-2016  
December 20-26, 2015

## Greetings Rotarians,

It's Christmas week! Celebrate the joy that will come your way this week and enjoy every moment as though it was the most precious second of your life. This is the time to think about what is important and be especially thankful for the gifts we have been given.

Although Coke is not my beverage of choice, I found this commercial and it makes me think of Rotary and how important our work is. It brings back the Belgian horse metaphor, which I shared at your meetings. It says how much we can make a difference if we choose. Please take a moment and watch it: Here is the link:

<https://youtu.be/eOPhBWIF5bo>

During this week I searched your websites and Facebook pages for content to share. So this issue of the newsletter is what I found:

## GIGGLE A LITTLE:

**The Anoka Rotary Club** has a White Elephant fun Christmas Party. All members are asked to bring a gift worth about \$5.00. The gifts are then auctioned which creates fun and excitement. This year they raised \$121.00.

Here are just some of the pictures I found:

## Anoka Rotary Christmas Party”



AG Judy Rolow has a real treat! A Cookie JAR?



Rotarian LuAnn Hogan is happy with a hammer



Seriously! Two Candles? Olivia Bastian, President

## Roseville Rotary Club

**JINGLE** IN JAIL with Don Craighead. What is that about? Looks suspicious!



Coon Rapids High School entrepreneurial/ business students Mark Daml (left) and



Emerson Badio presented to the **Coon Rapids Rotary Club** about their "**Camp Enterprise**" experiences as part of the DECA Program. Mark (who is also a District 4 DECA President) led a camp project called, "Snow-Problem" (It's No Problem?)--Which featured a spray for car tires, increasing traction on snow; Emerson's project was called, "World Wide Water"--which featured a filter for transforming sea (salt) water into fresh water. The Rotary Club contributed to DECA, to help with the camp costs. (Coincidentally, both young men are considering going to St. Thomas College! Hence, the \$2 bills...)



**Rotary  
Camp  
Enterprise**

Helping to Develop the Next Generation of Business Leaders  
120 students from 60 high schools discovering the Free Enterprise System  
YMCA Camp Ihduhapi, Loretto, Minnesota  
November 5 - 7, 2015



**Rotary Club of Farmington** enjoyed the Madrigal Singers during their Christmas Event. On the left is a sign from kids in Uganda saying thank you to the club. Touching??

The **Belle Plaine Rotary Club** and Boy Scouts were busy putting up the community's Nativity scene on the police department lawn along East Main Street this morning, and did so in the warmest temperatures in 12 days (mid-30s). This marks the 63rd year that the scene, comprised of many of the original pieces, is on display in Belle Plaine,

**St. Paul Rotary** updated its Picture on the website/facebook page: Click on The Rotary Club of St. Paul to find the site and like the page



## Austin Rotary Club

Assistant District Governor Scott Anderson and his wife, Janet rang bells for the Salvation Army.

Austin Rotary has its big Christmas luncheon today, December 21, and will present the High School Music group as entertainment.



**HASTINGS ROTARY CLUB** will soon give its big gift to the Hastings Community. This pavilion will be a real treasure for this community. Can you picture attending a concert sitting on the hillside with the view of the River and the band under this great pavilion as the background? It is so exciting and the Hastings Rotary Club should be congratulated and thanked over and over again for initiating and implementing this awesome project.



**Prior Lake Rotary** gives to worthy organizations and projects. But another part of our giving involves giving to other Rotary Club projects and programs. By participating in their initiatives, the receiving Club is able to receive more in matching funds from our Rotary District. Here Prior Lake Rotarian Gerry Wersal (l) presents a \$1,000 check to New Prague Rotarian Matt Goldade (r) for their project - Take Home Literary Kits. [#priorlakerotary](#) [#doinggood](#)

**Greater Mankato Rotary Club:** Jo Bailey, Rotarian received a suggestion from Mankato's City Manager that old style clock in the downtown needed restoring. A bit of the past became part of downtown Mankato's future a few weeks ago with the addition of an old-style public clock to the new grand lawn in front of the Mankato

Intergovernmental Center, courtesy of the Greater Mankato Rotary Club. The clock has long been on the city's wish list and became a higher priority when plans surfaced to turn the parking area between the government building and the civic center into a grass-filled public square that would serve as a gathering spot and home to free summer concerts.

The clock is nearly 17 feet tall, is backlit with LED lighting that automatically comes on at dusk and is synchronized with the atomic clock of the U.S. Naval Observatory — the official timekeeper of the United States.



### **New Richmond Rotary Club:**

Lisa Woletz, President of the New Richmond Rotary Club presents Jonathan Moore from the National Park Service a "Certificate of Appreciation" for speaking on the Pollinator Project at one of their October Meetings. The pollinator projects is a program that recognizes and strives to protect and create pollinator natural habitats on public and private lands particularly within the St. Croix River Watershed area. For more information go to: [www.nps.gov/pollinators](http://www.nps.gov/pollinators).



**Opportunities for YOU!**

## **Leadership Academy: January 29, 2016**

By **Kyle Haugen**, District Governor Nominee

“The 2016 District Leadership Academy is for any Rotarian who wants to learn more about Rotary meet and interact with other Rotarians and enhance their leadership skills. With a customer service theme featuring presentations by Minnesota Timberwolves President Chris Wright and Former Rotary International Director Mary Beth Growney Selene, attendees will come away with strategies easily applied to their personal, professional and Rotary lives. Most importantly, attendees will have fun!” Click here for registration through Survey Monkey!

## **MIDTERM: January 30, 2016**

Don't miss this: The day will be filled with ideas for projects and opportunities to participate in Activities of the District. Guest speaker will be author John Rosengren who will give a talk on Diversity. At noon, we will feature a **Rotary Showcase** including water projects, literacy, visioning, pollinator projects, peace projects and more. How can you get involved? This is guaranteed to be a take-away opportunity.

## **PRESIDENT ELECTS' Orientation January 30, 2016**

We are calling all president-elects for 2016-2017 to the event. This meeting will be held in the afternoon and provide you with an opportunity to meet **Jim Hunt**, District Governor Elect. Click Here for Registration through Survey Monkey!

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## **My Christmas Wish For YOU:**



From my family to yours, I wish you a very Merry Christmas and Happy New Year.

For those who have lost a loved one this year, I wish them peace in their hearts to know that life is still full for them.

For those suffering from disease and other health issues, I wish healing and comfort.

For all who lack the basic needs of life, I wish for them a full glass of water and enough food to sustain them in life.

For our communities, I wish them to be safe and peaceful for all citizens.

**Rotary** offers us more opportunities than we can imagine. Enjoy the friendships and feelings of belonging to something bigger than yourself.

Be sure to give everyone in your family a Big HUG this week.

**Marlene Gargulak, District Governor**