

Rotary District 5960 Monday Musings

Notes from Marlene Gargulak, District Governor, 2015-2016
January 29-30, 2016

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The Leadership Academy focused on “**Community Service**”. *Chris Wright, Director of the Minnesota Timberwolves and Minnesota Lynx* gave us some words of wisdom.

Here are my notes:

The four attributes of a leader include:

1. **Character:** “Want people to come along beside of me.”
2. **Humility:** Humble Servers of people.
3. **Consistency:** Everyone is treated the same. A leader stands by and makes decisions based on core values.
4. **Integrity:** If you don’t have integrity, you can’t be a leader.

One of the most compelling parts of Mr. Wright’s story was the change in attitude of the whole organization based on *team versus individual* attributes. It was not about passing the ball to Kevin Garnett. It is about developing a culture with the organization to be successful. Based on the theme “**WE over Me**”, basically a tribute to Flip Saunders, former coach and president of the team, a new culture is being created, with renovation of Target Center and business policies. The Timberwolves management created a new tee shirt with the symbol of **WE over ME**. The team wore these as warm-up shirts during an opener against the Los Angeles Lakers. This concept was to drive home to a young and impressionable core the importance of valuing team achievement over individual statistics. **“It is not about the five best players, but how the five best players can play together. “ It is also not about the name on the back of the jersey as the name on the front.”** These lessons can be applied in our life, business and Rotary.



Kyle Haugen, District Governor
Nominee/Referee

Mary Beth Growney Selene, Past Rotary International Director, spoke about her life in Rotary. Her journey continues to be: “**Eat- Sleep- work- Rotary**” She quoted incoming Rotary International President, John Germ: “**The only difference between a small opportunity and a great one is what you do with it!**”

Following the speakers, each person was divided into one of 9 teams featuring all Minnesota Sport Teams and the Green Bay Packers. Their job was to develop a strategy about an issue relating to the organization of Rotary. Of course, the referee was none other than Kyle Haugen, DGN. The groups had lots of time to network, and work out a solution to the issues of the club. Presentations were given on Saturday morning with a panel of judges, consisting of PDG Karel Weigel, Jim Hunt, DGE, Angela Eifert, District Trainer, and Mary Beth Growney Selene. PRID. The teams were creative, had fun and networked together to solve many issues.



Olivia Bastian, Anoka Rotary; Joe Dols, Prior Lake Rotary, PDG Gary Campbell, Anoka Rotary and Jon Gargulak, Rice Lake Rotary solved the problem

Mid-Term:

Best Practice: Use a generic prayer or invocation for your event/meeting.
Here are the words spoken by Jim Gargulak at the event:

“It is good to recognize how different we are: Our talents, our dreams, our backgrounds, and our occupations. And it is good to know that when you created each of us, you broke the mold. No one is exactly like anyone else. Even our thumbprint and our voice track tell us how unique we are. Yet, we are thankful we can take these differences and mobilize them for the good of Rotary, and our community. In our differences we can think the same thoughts and move together toward a common goal. Bless us as we meet together and continue our work to be a GIFT to the World. Thank you for your individuality and also for our common bond of Rotary.

Let me conclude with a Native American Prayer for Peace:

*For as long as the moon shall rise,
For as long as the river shall flow
For as long as the sun will shine
For as long as the grass shall grow
Let us know PEACE.*

Guest Speaker: John Rosengren, author of eight books including the short story collection *Life is Just a Party: Portrait of a Teenage Partier* and the nonfiction expose:

Blades of Glory. His story was about our subtle bias as it relates to equality for blacks, gender and age. Compelling and inspiring as we look at this month’s theme for PEACE



Fast for Hope Update

PDG Cathy Smith encouraged us to continue our efforts to for the District’s International Project called Fast for Hope. The FFH committee has spent hundreds of hours developing a sustainable community design with the concept of fostering leadership in the communities. At the present time we are collaborating with El Corozo village, AKF School and Opportunity International. The model used in the Nicaragua project was duplicated in the Ghana Project started by Kathy Stutzman. Progress is slow and the virtue of Patience is a challenge.

Public Image Panel

What is the Story? How do you tell it? Why don't the newspapers publish my article/picture/story?



This was just some of the topics covered by the panel of experts on Public Image-Telling our Story. **Heather Holmes, Bob Timmons, and Laurie Hartmann** are all in media, including paper and TV. They are Rotarians eager to tell a compelling story. We just have to get one. What is the impact of your project? Yes, you might have given \$25,000 to an organization, AND how did it impact your community and your Rotary Club. The media receives hundreds of photos with faces and checks, so if your photo is not printed, don't feel bad. If you want to receive an electronic copy of the handouts send Kathy Hughitt e-mail.

Be sure to use the new logo and brand in all your Rotary Communications. You can find a logo at

www.rotary.org/media or brand. There are downloadable graphics to use in your stationary, clothing or project.

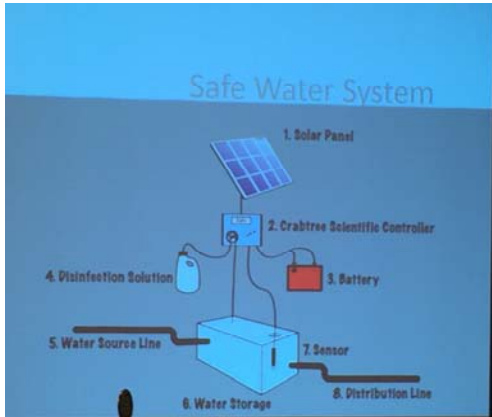
HAVING FUN IN OUR CLUB

Past Rotary International President Mary Beth Growney Selene shared how to have "FUN" in our meetings. Every club should have a fine master. What is the culture of your club? Is it fun or boring? Are all the members engaged? An idea used by Madison-Middleton West Towne club is whenever a person has a birthday, they bring a gift. It is typically worth about \$20-25.00. The gift is raffled and sometimes quite hilarious. Do you laugh? Do you celebrate successes? How? What inspires members to come to the meetings?



Community Service Projects and More

(Photos provided by Loren Swanson-Roseville Rotary)



Brian and Heidi Crabtree from Rochester, MN designed a water filtration system they are using to bring safe water to undeveloped countries. Currently they have completed two projects and are working on the third. The three Rochester Clubs are working closely with the Crabtree's for the purpose of doing a major Foundation grant to use these systems. If you are interested in learning more about the filters: here is the website: www.crabsci.com If you have any interest in contacting them to talk about their project and learn more about filtering water to make it safe, you can call them

Valerie Johnson, New Brighton/Mounds View Rotary Club is a Director of WASRAG- (Water and Sanitation Rotary Action Group) Her desire is for all Rotarians to become a member of this group. (Only \$25.00 annual fee) and have a District WALK-A-THON for Water related projects. To join Valerie in this initiative please contact her at (651-491-3364) To join WASRAG contact : info@wasrag.org

**SUPPORT WASRAG:
BECOME A MEMBER**

(NOTE) **White Bear Lake Rotary club** has a project in collaboration with H2o for Life that still needs financial support. Contact Jim Hunt, DGE for more information. They need to raise \$8,550.00 and will receive a matching grant for \$8,550. To raise the \$8,550 they need your help. Contact phall@h2oforliveschools.org.

There are 30 schools located for funding. This grant is to supply water to the Oreki Secondary School in Nigeria and will provide 2 new toilet compartments and nine urinals to separate male and females. (Currently they have one toilet for both). Additionally, they will provide 8 points of use water filters, and reticulate the boreholes that are located an unsafe distance from the toilet soak pit.



Lakeville Rotary \$200,000 goal for the Iringa Hope micro finance global grant project

This is fascinating project that will give micro-loans to start businesses. If you want more information about this amazing project, contact Jim Christian, jim@jcretire.com, Lakeville Rotary Club.

Ed Marek, St. Paul Sunrise Rotary talked about the Community Forum they present. This year the topic is RACE and will be held on April 14, 2016 at 7:30AM located at Town and Country Club, St. Paul, MN. The program will be recorded and telecast on MPR. The format is a panel discussion with dignitaries, experts on the topic as presenters.

Ellen Luepker, St. Paul Sunrise Rotary and chair of the Ethics committee is creating a video promoting the use of the 4-Way Test in your clubs and communities. The video will be available in late April. The St. Croix/Taylors Falls Rotary does an essay contest for promotion. What is your club doing? Ellen and her committee are interested in hearing your comments and ideas on using the Test, other than repeating at the beginning of each meeting.

Literacy

Melissa Kruesser, New Prague Rotary Club shared a literacy project completed through collaboration of the Rotary Foundation. This project created 80 bags of themed materials including books, toys and other stuff for Daycare providers to check from the local library. The idea is to encourage reading, and share cultural ideas. Many times Daycare Providers are too busy to create themes for their children. If you want more information about this project, give Melissa a call.





Burnell Hanson, Rice Lake Rotary spoke on the Dictionary Project. Many clubs are currently doing this project. If your club wants to order books, you can write to: The Dictionary Project, P.O. Box 1845, Charleston, SC 29402 or call 843-854-2706.

Did you know your club could receive an award for promoting literacy? Check out the District's website at www.rotary5960.org to see the criteria. **Merlin and Karen Rieklefs from the Rochester Rotary club** are co-chairs of the literacy committee. They will provide lots of information to your club to promote literacy because of their belief that if everyone in the world was literate, there would be no War.

Rotary Enhancements:



E-Club

Kirk Anderson, St. Croix/Taylors Falls Rotary Club is the Webmaster for the **Rotary5960E-club**. He spoke of the benefits to our club that can be provided by an e-club. Rotarians can do make-ups on the site. If a member is leaving because of a change in work, health, or other reason they can still be a part of Rotary through the e-club. If you know of anyone who wants to be part of Rotary, but can't afford the cost or make the regular meetings, suggest they join the e-club and help you with your projects. More information can be found at www.rotaryclub5960.org.

Visioning

Dave Schafer, Woodbury Rotary Club (*right*) promoted the concept of visioning. He is the chair of our District's Vision Facilitation committee and strongly suggests if you don't know where your club is going. Do a Visioning session. For more details, go the www.rotary5960.org and click Visioning.



Rotaract, Ryla, and Interact:

Philip Kalewoun, President of the Twin Cities Rotaract Club gave a presentation on how Rotarians can become involved with Rotaract. His presentation showed a slide with RYLA at the bottom and connecting to all the other youth Services. **Steve Gerber, St. Paul Rotary Club** has been the chair of RYLA and strongly urges Rotarians to become involved in the program, especially during ethics day. (Strongly suggesting having these as Rotary Programs.)



Youth Exchange

Rick Estenson, Northfield Rotary is the chair of the NorthStar Youth Exchange committee, collaboration with District 5950-(neighbors to the west). His presentation strongly suggested clubs continue involvement with this program because it changes lives. It is also a strong attraction for people to join Rotary. His commitment is based on real life experience because his son was a youth exchange student. Youth Exchange is a perfect way to gain understanding of another culture

and create peace.

BRINGING IT ALL TOGETHER Rotary Club Central

Elaine Case, Rochester Risers Rotary explained the importance of putting your goals in Rotary Club Central. If you want to receive the Presidential Citation, this is mandatory. Also, any club member can check the status of a project by visiting the site. The best reason is for history and continuity of leadership. YES, it might take a while at the beginning, however the benefits will outweigh the initial struggle.



Here is a brief summary of how to do it:

Go to: www.rotary.org Sign in! Or create an account. Click Manage on the blue tab bar- Scroll down to Rotary Club Central. Your club information will appear. There is a bar with three tabs. After clicking on one of them, scroll down. You will see a small button that says EDIT. This allows you to input information. If you want a cheat sheet on this, contact Kathy Hughitt at www.rotary5960.org.

Special thanks goes to **Clare Janty, Barron County Sunrise Rotary**, our cheerleader and timekeeper. We finished on time thanks to the promptness and cooperation of the speakers.



WE MISSED YOU!