

# Rotary District 5960 Monday Musings

Notes from District Governor, **Marlene Gargulak**, 2015-2016  
October 11-17, 2015

## Greetings Rotarians,

On 24 October, Rotarians, clubs and districts around the world will come together to fight polio. Register today for [End Polio Now: Make History Today Livestream](#) event to receive a global update on the current status of polio eradication, hear inspiring stories, and performances.

The event will begin [at 18:30pm CDT](#) and will be streamed live at [endpolionow.org](#). I encourage your club/district to have a viewing party for the event, or incorporate it into your existing World Polio Day plans. Invite local government officials and use this opportunity to encourage them to support the global commitment to a polio free world. On World Polio Day, wear your End Polio Now pin and encourage your friends and family to do the same.

Resources to help you spread the word about your World Polio Day event can be found on [endpolionow.org](#). The materials include:

- Sample Tweets and Facebook posts
- Graphics for posting on social media and online
- Tools to help you reach out to local media
- Tools to help you engage local political leaders with World Polio Day

Before or after World Polio Day, consider [sharing your polio story or event photos](#).

If you are unable to watch the event live, consider viewing the recording at your next club meeting and discussing how you can help fulfill Rotary's promise of a polio free world. You can also make an impact on World Polio Day by contributing to PolioPlus. Remember that your contribution will receive full recognition points and – better yet – it will be matched two-to-one by the Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation. [Contribute today](#).

We are 99% of the way to a polio-free world – truly, “this close” to eradicating polio forever. Help us get closer by spreading the word about our fight to End Polio Now with our communities and the world.



**14<sup>th</sup> Foundation Celebration**

The **Rotary** Foundation  |  Celebrate our gift to the world

**Saturday, November 7, 2015**

For more information go to: [Rotary5960.org](#) and [register](#). (Account name: **future** Login **yourhands**)

October 14, 2015: **Blaine Ham Lake Rotary**

**Doug Johnson** is the president of the Blaine Ham Lake Rotary Club. This active, engaged and successful club received the Presidential Citation for 2014-2015 and is an EREY Club (**Every Rotarian-Every Year**) **During session this club feels like a family in action.**



Noel Lutsky, DG Karel Weigel, Doug Johnson Presentation of the Presidential Citation



Blaine Ham Lake Rotary Club's most successful fundraiser is a **GOLF EVENT**. This club's **FACEBOOK** page is one of their **Best Practices**. It is complete, and up to date on all activities and filled with photos and dates of events. (See photos on left)

This club has an active **STRIVE** program. New concept for the students will be to attend a get-to-know-you breakfast at the beginning of the school year and a banquet at the end to award scholarships.

Internationally the Blaine/Ham Lake club has traveled to Guatemala to help Common Hope with hospital and school projects and teamed up with Maria Pacheco and the Wakimi Project to help with economic development and the empowerment of women, helped out the El Amor De Patricia

orphanage and mentored coffee farmers.

Members volunteered when the **Convoy of Hope** determined a pocket of need and set up a street of vendors to offer free groceries, clothing, family portraits, hair cuts and basic supplies, including shoes, clothing, health screening and more.

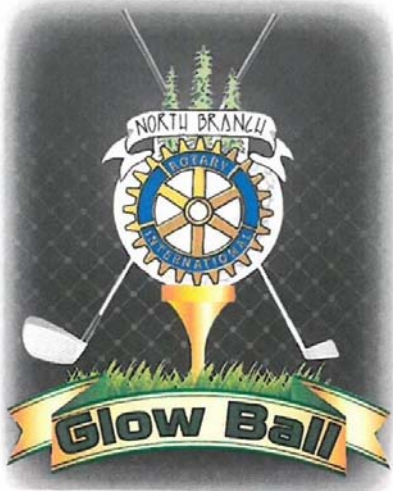
Dennis Bakken was installed as a new member. When asked: Why did you choose Rotary? He responded with this comment: *" I had searched a lot of groups to see what would be a good fit, not for what they could do for me, but where did I feel I could serve the most and be humbled. Looking in my back yard has not occurred to me as I originally was looking for the best referral business in a specific area. When I walked into the Blaine/Ham Lake Rotary (my 3<sup>rd</sup> location to look at) I was immediately friended by Becky and her heart. With the pledge and a prayer, I knew I was where I was supposed to be. The company I'm with has very strong values as does the Rotary."*



Becky giving new member Dennis Bakken  
a BIG HUG

## October 21: North Branch Rotary

“The Rotary Club of North Branch is a service club made up of business professionals to promote community and international causes in the North Branch area.” **Brandon Lindahl** is the President of the club.



The **North Branch Rotary Club** held its 13<sup>th</sup> annual Glow Ball Golf Tourney in August. Proceeds are used to support **STRIVE** scholarships. To date, 22 students applied to participate in the STRIVE program. **(Best Practice)** Activities for the STRIVE program include taking the students to a secondary education facility, meeting the admissions person and a tour of the college. Each mentor is encouraged and supported to keep in contact with the student other than at the regular scheduled times with Strive. Following up with the student provides building of a stronger relationship.

Other fundraisers include the annual Glow Ball Golf, held in August. Night golfing is lots of fun! Sale of 1500 Christmas trees starting in November. AND a Banquet/Social with auction

items during the annual Winterfest held in the Community. **(Great Presence)**



The North Branch Club is involved in Youth Exchange with an Inbound and Outbound students. Valentina from Chile is attending the North Branch High School and staying with Bob and Jeanne Walz.



The club meeting was held at the Lake State Credit Union boardroom. The catering is rotated between several restaurants in the community, providing for a variety of foods and supporting many business establishments. **(Best Practice)** If you have a meeting at a different, non-restaurant facility, use as many businesses as possible to show visibility in the community.



David Nordberg and Frank Gomes, with potential new member Susie Brooks.

## October 15, 2015: **Stillwater Rotary**

The President of the Stillwater Rotary Club is **John Rheinberger**, who believes Rotary clubs should create a smorgasbord of opportunities for all members. He states, *“If a club had a cafeteria of events/projects where members can sample and taste it, they will become engaged and involved. Rotary should be viewed as a “Chapter of LIFE”.*

The club’s vision is: *“We are a vibrant, inclusive club that demonstrates a passion for “Service Above Self”. To remain a vibrant club means we must seek our new members and engage in service projects that allow us to communicate the value of service to all in our community”.* That is what Rotary is about.

My visit with the Leadership Team (*shown below*) clearly identified why members stay in this club.



Bill Turnblad, Kathy Elbert, John Lennes, John Rheinberger, DG Marlene, Shelley Pearson, Molly O'Rourke, Keith Komro, Nathan Pearson, and Doug Brady.

Some of the comments included:

*“I was in a bigger club and when I came to this club, there was a world of difference. The collegiality and friendships were the difference. No comparison”*

*“I came because I was told to come- I stayed because of friendships.”*

*“We are a club that is alive and it spills over into the community through service projects”*

*“I didn’t know what Rotary was about, BUT I knew it was important”.*

Some **BEST PRACTICES** of the Stillwater Rotary Club include:

1. Presentation of the Henry “Hank” Sampson Memorial Award to an active Stillwater Rotary member who provides exceptional “service above self”.
2. Collaborated with the Woodbury and Stillwater Sunrise Club to raise money to help Washington County’s homeless youth population. As a result, they collectively raised over \$18,000.
3. Fundraiser includes the **“TASTE of STILLWATER”** held at the end of January at the Lowell Inn. Typical proceeds are around \$30,000. The local restaurants are in competition with each other to be the BEST! Each year a **SPOTLIGHT** organization is chosen. (i.e. Education Foundation) The spotlight is asked to participate and have a presence at the event, with the purpose of highlighting the beneficiaries and involving more people in the fundraising process.

Next Week's Visits:

October 21: *Princeton Rotary*

October 22: *St. Paul Sunrise Rotary*  
*Janesville Rotary*

**We are challenged by this theme: it is a call to action, a directive of service, an order to follow, a course to lay down, and a quest to pursue!**



**Join me during this exciting Rotary year to honor our journey together. Our time is short; it is fleeting already. We have just 8.5 MONTHS to respond to this challenge.  
This is our Time!**