

Rotary District 5960 Monday Musings

Notes from District Governor, **Marlene Gargulak**, 2015-2016
October 18-24, 2015

Greetings Rotarians,

October 19, 2015: **Rice Lake Middle School**

On Monday, October 19, we visited the Rice Lake Middle School to participate in a presentation from **Katie Spatz**, the youngest woman to row across the Atlantic Ocean,



entirely alone. She was 22 and the journey took 70 days. Katie shared her stories with students and challenged them to “*do something*” about “the water crisis” in the world. Katie’s book: “**Just Keep Rowing**” “*provides life lessons and inspirations for a generation of youth that will guide them to build the world we want to live in, as her*

focus on water, our essence of life is timely and important.” said **Patty Hall, President, H2O for life, and White Bear Lake Rotarian.** Patty and the White Bear Lake Rotary Club have submitted a Rotary District Grant to provide Water and Sanitation in three Nigerian schools. The project has a \$77,584 budget with \$3000 from White Bear Lake and **\$8,200** needed from participating clubs in the district.

Other Grant applications that need your support include:

1. Stillwater Sunrise: (Lakeview EMS Equipment):**\$2,298**
2. South St. Paul/Inver Grove Heights: Updating early Childhood Hearing: **\$750**
3. River Falls: Glen Park Signage: **\$3,000**
4. Waseca: Junior Achievement in Public Schools: **\$1,000**
5. Northfield: Outdoor Musical Plaza: **\$9,000**
6. St. Paul: Grind out Poverty-Microenterprise in Senegal West Africa: **\$5,000**
7. N St. Paul/Maplewood/Oakdale: Rotary Park Gateway Trail: **\$4,250**
8. Rochester: Guatemala Stove Project: **\$1,500**
9. WSP/Mendota Heights: Heart line Maternity Center in Haiti: **\$17,100**
10. New Prague: Sharing Bins (Learning for pre-school daycares): **\$4,500**
11. New Brighton/Mounds View: Sanitation in School in Niger: **\$1,100**

Please NOTE: This list will be on our District website: www.rotary5960.org
Your contributions make the grants possible. The month of November is Foundation Month. Each week we will highlight one or more of these projects. This is the fuel of Rotary. It is what joins us and makes the World Different.

This Week's Visits:

October 21: **Princeton Rotary**

The Princeton Rotary club is a small, but vibrant and hardworking club led by **Gwen Anderson**. The Rotary Club of Princeton (Club Number 2162) was chartered on October 14, 1980 with the assistance of the Rotary Club of Elk River. Over the past 35 years the club has supported a number of local projects, including Kinship, Girl and Boy Scouts, Princeton Pantry, Rum River Health Services, Princeton Fireworks, Local School Events, Youth Leadership Training at Camp Ryla and Camp Enterprise, Projects at local Parks, and Princeton College Scholarships



Gwen Anderson, President



A meeting of the Princeton Rotary Club

Their annual fundraisers include Rose Sales, Spring Pancake Breakfast, Summer Moo Mobile (Steak Sandwiches) and calendars. Another (**Best Practice**) event that gives back to the community is a Bike Giveaway at the Music fest.

If you want to hear an interesting way to sing HAPPY BIRTHDAY, visit the Princeton Rotary Club. (Hint: **Bring Ear PLUGS**)

Another (**Best Practice**) is to post other Rotary Club meeting times and locations in the weekly newsletter so Rotarians can do Make-Ups. Included in the list were clubs within a 30-mile range of Princeton. The following logo and slogan is posted on the Princeton Rotary Club's Facebook Page:



October 22, Saint Paul Sunrise Rotary

The St. Paul Sunrise Rotary club represents the Midway. Led by Kathy Quinlivan the club meets at the Town and Country Club in St. Paul. An active, vibrant club they hold Annual (Best Practice) Annual Forums (**community conversations**) on various social issues. Here are just a few of the topics: **Postsecondary Education Options, Gun Violence Prevention, Health Care Affordability, and Impact of Campaign Finance.** The club received a matching Rotary Foundation District Grant to support Gordon Parks High School, an alternative school in the St. Paul School District with a 50% African-American population. They will have a special fundraising event on November 10 for this project.



Ellen Luepker and Kathy Quinlivan display the poster of the ten topics for the Community Forums.

Another (Best Practice) is to sponsor the

Midway Chamber of Commerce Luncheon. Given the opportunity to talk about Rotary, a prospective member came to the meeting with a pumpkin and did a drawing. The winner decided to auction the pumpkin and Ed Marek was the lucky bidder at \$12.00 for the pumpkin. The members sell Poinsettias for Christmas as another fundraiser. During a recent 30 year Celebration of the club, Ellen Luepker wrote this ode:



Winner of the pumpkin is ED MAREK



Working together on ever-evolving Rotary club service projects

Seeking to bring hope to our community:

Through our Gordon Parks HS Student of the Month Program

Recognizing successes of students struggling to beat the odds of predictable effects of past failures

Helping them and their creative, devoted staff to feel less isolated in their critical mission.

Through our Annual Community Forum

Tackling urgent issues of public concern

From Being Muslim in Minnesota to Preventing Bullying and Gun Violence

Standing together as Rotarians searching for common good

Promoting truth and what's fair and beneficial to all concerned.

Through Caring and Sharing Hands

Serving breakfasts and greeting homeless men, women and their children

Looking into each face, feeling as one.

Through Highway Clean Up

Donning reflective vests walking side by side picking up trash

Sometimes finding R rated objects

Laughing later over delicious barbecues at Steve's and Lisa's.

Through the Jeremiah Program

Making and serving dinners to single moms and their children

Rooting moms on in their courageous effort to educate and support themselves and their families.

In these and in other community service projects

Striving to bring hope and encouragement to others

We enrich our own minds, hearts and souls.

October 23, Janesville Rotary



Jeremy Erler, Pres, DG Marlane and Kevin Babcock, Pres Elect

Jermy Erler is the President of the Janesville Rotary Club. The club has 20 members and all of them are given jobs and responsibilities. These are listed on the back of the Weekly Newsletter. **(Best Practice)** Communication is the keyword with this club, as all programs/or responsible person for program is listed on the front of the weekly bulletin.

Each week the exchange student provides an update of her activities. Nthabiseng is from South Africa and came to the US in January. She is staying with her third family at this time and challenged by the young children, who want her to play with them. Sitting next to Nthab is Cliff Gardner, a Rotarian since 1969 who had perfect attendance until two years ago when physical issues would not allow him to attend. Cliff loves Rotary and the meetings.



Cliff Gardner and YE Nthabiseng

Some of the activities of the Janesville Club include Charitable Gambling, Farmers Event **(recognition of outstanding farmer)** Teacher's picnic **(Recognition of outstanding teacher)** Fine Arts and Academic Banquet, Road Ditch Cleanup, Book Exchange, Polar Plunge for Polio, and STRIVE. **(Best Practice)** Each year the club holds an annual **NEW MEMBER RECRUITING MEETING**. Each Rotarian invites 1 or more guests. If the Rotarian does not bring a guest, they pay for the meal regardless if they show up.

At Christmas time, the club does a Caring and Sharing Christmas for 70-80 families who struggle with finances. Another **(Best Practice)** idea is to cooperate with the Waseca Rotary club for a Cake Auction. Every Rotarian is asked to bring a Cake for Auction. Of course some of the cakes have big surprises inside or outside, and bids are made accordingly. (Never know what you will get) (Savings BOND?)

The Book Exchange or **"Bring your Books"** is held as a sale of used books. Free will offerings are made for the books. **(HAY DAYS)** is held on Fathers Day. This banquet honors an outstanding farmer. During STRIVE programs the Rotarians try to provide students opportunities for **LIFE AFTER HIGH SCHOOL**. They look at this from the perspective of work life and college life allowing the students to take field trips to businesses and technical colleges.

Next Week's Visits:

October 29: *Waseca Rotary (Number 61 of 63 Clubs)*

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 8.1 MONTHS to respond to this challenge.

This is our Time!