

Rotary Spoke



September 29, 2020
Luverne, Minnesota

Membership 40
District 5610

Tammy Loosbrock, President
Dan Little, District Governor

Programs for Sep / Oct

Evening Social Event. Sep 29
Nate Golla Oct 6
Gregg Gropel Oct 13
Tim Gust Oct 20
Jim Harner Oct 27



Social Event Tonight

Who: Rotarians
What: Rotary Social
When: Sept. 29, 5:00 p.m.
Where: Rotary Park
Why: Chance to see each other in person
Caution: Bring a mask, pencil, and lawn chair
Challenge: Trivia



Membership Score Card

Membership Count
as of July 1, 2020 42*
New Members 0
Members Lost 2
Current
Membership Total 40

* Membership as of July 1

As Great as Life is in Rock Co., LACF is Working to make it Even Better!

On September 8 Emily Crabtree not only provided the day's program, but she presented it as well. She delivered a very impressive summary on the Luverne Area Community Foundation, known by the acronym LACF.

"After listening to Emily make her presentation and to see part of her story in the slides she provided," said club member Gregg



Emily Crabtree
ED LACF

Gropel, "LACF is an awesome, community-based philanthropic organization. It appears to be a well oiled machine, running smoothly on all cylinders."

LACF got its start in 1984. Back then it was known as the Luverne Community

Health Care Foundation. At that time LACF's

primary purpose was to support the Luverne Community Hospital.

Twenty-one years later, in 2005, it evolved into what is now the Luverne Area Community Foundation (LACF). So it changed from Luverne Community Health Care Foundation to the Luverne Area Community Foundation.

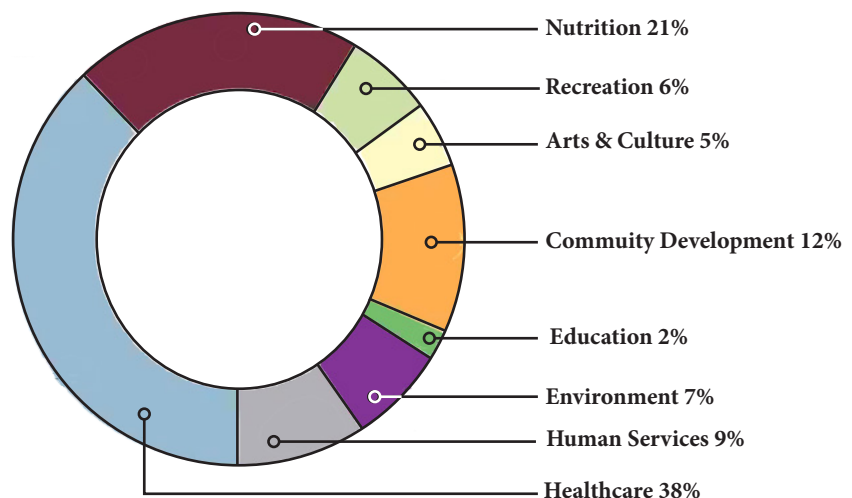
The organization morphed into what it is today because of several unrestricted financial gifts the former foundation received. Gifts that were not earmarked for healthcare, but specifically for other needs in the community.

Because of these unrestricted gifts, LACF has branched out, it has broadened its mission. It no longer just supports local health care initiatives, it is also in a position to provide financial support for all sorts of identified needs in the community.

Basically, there are now two parts of the LACF. One part is for health care and the other part for community needs.

Gifts for each of these two parts are given

In 2019 the
Luverne Area Community Foundation
awarded \$53,700 in grants in
eight community categories



in the form of grants. Grants are divided into two sections:

1. Community Healthcare Grants
2. Community Fund Grants.

Emily provided examples of both.

Now you would think all the health-care grants would focus on the needs of the local hospital. That is not the case.

In one of Emily's examples, the Luverne Backpack fit under the Community Healthcare Grant's umbrella.

The Backpack program applied for and when awarded, used its grant to help provide weekend nutritional needs for students. That's definitely a health care need.

Of the ten grants awarded under the Healthcare fund, only one was directed towards the Luverne medical facility.

Community Fund Grants awarded in the past have provided financial assistance in the area of the arts, music, recreation, special events, service organizations, education, and various beautification projects (parks and gardens).

There is no doubt these grants directly or indirectly enhance the lives of all Rock County residents.

Unfortunately, there is not enough money in the LACF coffer to support all requests.

In 2019, a total of \$124,623 were requested for various healthcare projects, but only \$36,540 were available to award.

The same thing happened with those organizations who applied for Community Fund grants. A total of \$162,569 were requested, but only \$17,160 were granted.

Lumped together, the two grants doled out a total of \$53,700.

There is a need for additional dollars to be added to the 501c(3) philanthropic

LACF. And there are many ways this can be done. Such as direct donations, stock transfers, listing LACF in the family will, or by some other creative gift giving method, like establishing a charitable remainder trust. These various ways of giving may lessen a person's tax liability.

Not long ago, the foundation created another form of giving. It is called Donor Advised Funds.

These funds fall outside of the Community Healthcare and Community Fund umbrella.

Printed in the 2019 LACF Annual Report, "A donor-advised fund . . . is a charitable-giving vehicle sponsored by the LACF that allows you to make a contribution to LACF and be eligible for an immediate tax deduction. But because your account is a donor-advised fund, you advise the organization on how to grant the money out to your favorite charities over time."

People who set up a DAF, can use their funds to support programs outside of Rock County, such as Sioux Falls Homeless Shelter, Heart Association, Diabetics, St. Jude's, etc. Whatever non-profit organization the donor wishes to support.

This past year, 44,000 DAF dollars went out in support of various programs. This amount is in addition to the \$53,700 granted from the Healthcare and Community funds.

Those interested in learning more about these gift giving methods or other creative ways of gift giving should contact Emily Crabtree. Emily encourages it, and she recently said, "The coffee is always on, come on down and we can talk." Her office is located at 102 East Main.

Emily, if you have not already figured it out, is the organization's Executive Director.

Besides Emily, there is a 12-member board who jointly supervise the activities of the Foundation. It ensures the community that Emily is carrying out the organization's mission.

The board consists of Mike Cox, Issac DeBoer, Keith Elbers, Mike Engesser,

Jeff Haubrich, Tammy Johnson, Gary Overgaard, Sharla Reisch, Nancy Sandager, Elizabeth Schear, and Rotarians Jim Juhl and Nadine Schoep.

A separate board, consisting of a handful of both board members and other community members, look over grant applications, fill out a matrix, and based on the results of their matrix make a recommendation

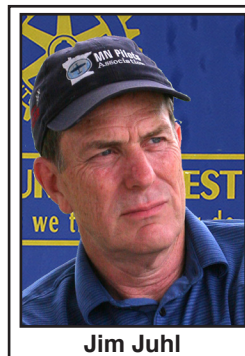
on which requests to grant.

The Board, working with Emily, certainly makes life in Rock County a desirable place to call home.

If someone has an idea that would benefit the community in some way, but are short on funds, check out LACF. The philanthropic organization may just help make that dream of yours come true.



Nadine Schoep



Jim Juhl

Attendance

These 22 club members were present at the Sept. 8 Rotary Club Zoom meeting (the *Spoke* staff apologizes for any member who may have been omitted from the list):

Don Amos	Curt Bloemendaal	Beth Callahan
Emily Crabtree	Gregg Gropel	Eric Hartman
Jim Juhl	Don Klosterbuer	Jane Lanphere
Tammy Loosbrock	Velda Maine	Betty Mann
George McDonald	Craig Oftedahl	David Owens
Janine Papik	Sara Schmuck	Nadine Schoep
Kevin Thelen	Sherri Thompson	Ben VanderKooi
	Karen Willers	

Happy Dollars

An even 30 Happy Dollars were given to the Club on Tuesday, Sept. 8. Individuals providing the club's much needed financial support were:

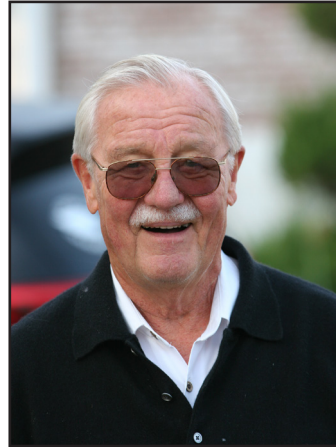
Tammy Loosbrock Nadine Schoep
Karen Willers

Happy Dollars should be mailed to:
Luverne Rotary Club
PO Box 921
Luverne, Minnesota 56156

Prepping Roses for Delivery



Photo submitted by Don Amos



Don Amos captured Curt Bloemendaal and Betty Mann with his cell phone last Wednesday, September 23. As you can see, Curt and Betty were busy preparing roses for the September 24 delivery by placing name tags to roses.

Pictured in the top right column are photos of the hard working work crew. They helped Curt, the mastermind behind the successful rose sale, label 177 dozen roses.

"Curt was organized," said Don. It only took the five-person work crew 45 minutes to attach all the cards to flowers.

The work crew, pictured above, are Don Amos and Janine Papik. The bottom row, Betty Mann and Carrie Soto.

Below is Curt listening to former club president Carrie Soto. Most likely the two are evaluating the results of the rose sale fund raiser.



Smiles!

Someone once said “smiles” is the longest word in the world. Well, there were a lot of long, big smiles on the faces of those to whom Rotarians delivered roses to on Thursday, September 24.

Of course, delivering roses was the final piece of the puzzle placed into the annual Rotary Club rose sale.

As readers might recall, the Rotary club started its annual rose sale on August 18 and concluded it on September 10.

In the end, the club sold 177 dozen roses. That’s a remarkable number, particularly when you factor in the possibility of covid-19 hovering around in unknown places. Covid-19 may have caused some anxiety among Rotarians and therefore limited themselves to the number of contacts made with potential customers.

Nevertheless, roses arrived at Luverne Flowers on Tuesday, September 22. A small committee tagged each dozen with a name tag. This was done on Wednesday, September 23. On Thursday, September 24, an attempt to deliver all 177 dozen was made.

“I made several deliveries,” remarked club member Gregg Gropel. “When I handed the roses to each recipient they immediately put on a big smile. One young lady, with a long smile upon her face, turned and looked at her husband and said, ‘Did you do this?’” Upon which her husband couldn’t help but reciprocate with his own big smile. “You could tell that dozen roses was a big hit in that family,” said Gropel.

Smiles! You see, smiles is the longest word in the world because there is a *mile* between the two S’s. And a lot of those rose sale recipients ended the day with a mile long smile.



There may have been more, but the (*Spoke*) staff spotted five Rotarians who were busy on Thursday, September 24, delivering roses. Those busy energetic people were:

1. Carrie Soto. Notice her arms wrapped around at least 11 dozen rose bouquets.

2. Don Amos bounded from Luverne Flowers with a bucket of roses, then quickly bounded back into the store for several more dozen roses.

3. Gregg Gropel was captured delivering a dozen roses to Jean Bowron, Emily Crabtree’s mother.

4. Curt Bloemendaal, the mastermind behind the rose sale, didn’t sit around. No, he pitched right in and delivered several dozen roses as well.

5. George McDonald was caught fighting the storm door as he exited the building with one of his many buckets of roses.

