

# TIDINGS

## MEETING REPORT



WELCOME TO THE RIVER FALLS ROTARY CLUB

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### The ROTARY Four-way Test

- Is it the truth?
- Is it fair to all concerned?
- Will it build goodwill and better friendships?
- Will it be beneficial to all concerned?

### River Falls Rotary Vision Statement:

*“Enhancing Opportunities for Youth; Creating a Better World for All.”*

*President Carole Mottaz called the meeting to order, and devotions were shared by Dian Odeen.*

*Members joined in the Pledge of Allegiance, Four Way Test and club vision statement. Thanks to set up and greeters.*

### GUESTS:

- **Manuela**, River Falls Rotary Exchange student.
- **Joe Steinmetz.**
- **Curt Larson**

### ANNOUNCEMENTS

#### **DEATH BY CHOCOLATE**

Be sure to start practicing those chocolate dessert recipes for the 2011 Death By Chocolate event. Mark your calendars for November 4<sup>th</sup> and plan to attend a great evening of Rotary fun.

#### **REMINDER TO COMMITTEE**

**CHAIRS:** Please get your reports to Scott M. ASAP for the board meeting packet.

#### **DISTRICT TRAINING:**

Membership/Public Relations/Foundation will be the focus of the September 17 District Training. The event will be held at Camp St. Croix. If you have questions or are interested in attending, talk with Gorden Hedahl.

### HAPPY “Speedy” BUCKS

- Several members gave happy bucks for good weather, guests, missed meetings, vacations, and general happiness.
- Brian was happy for Steve Schroeder and an 18 mile run – and even happier he survived the State Fair after the run.
- Sam was happy for sunrise
- Vince was happy to give away box elder wood and three acres of sunflower seeds.
- Scott N was happy for Brian’s dapper attire.
- Ted is still patiently waiting for a two week overdue grandchild.
- Garret gave Joes’ buck.
- Marti was happy that friends survived hurricane Irene.
- Kim was happy the fence building is completed.
- Diane was happy to survive the run with Brian and Steve and happy for the end of the same.
- Heather was happy to cross paths with Randy a couple of times this week.
- Gorden gave a buck for his travels, which included earthquakes, grandkids, and a safe return home.
- Pat was glad to be back to running water and electricity.
- Scott J gave a camping buck and especially for camping in the back yard with friends.
- Tom W had a back to school buck.
- Dean was happy for new students and the start of school.
- Thomas gave a deck staining buck.
- Wayne was happy for “Dessert of the Month.”
- Jeff’s wife sent a happy buck for the start of school.
- Carole was happy to tell Brian’s parenting story of the week.

“Without goodwill no system can succeed; with it even an imperfect one can scarcely fail.”

— from *Rotary on the March — Whither?*, THE ROTARIAN, July 1933



Rotary is an organization of business and professional men and women united worldwide who provide

**humanitarian** service, encourage **high ethical standards** in all vocations, and help **build goodwill** and **peace** in the world.”



## Jatropa Project – Haiti

Pat O'Malley and Curt Larson, presenters

Pat and Curt spoke about their recent trip to Haiti and their effort to get the Jatropa plant established as a crop in that country. Jatropa is a plant that produces a bulb containing seeds that contain biodiesel oil. The plant can grow in very adverse soil. The plan is to help the residents process and market the product. They are also working to establish a small building with a couple of bedrooms so they can spend less time traveling and more time working with the people to keep the project on track. Pat says he and Curt have no problem aggravating people until they get things done. Funds would be included for a building manager to stay on site.

Pat said he feels Jatropa could remove poverty and build Haiti from the inside out. It would create jobs for production, side industries, and reduce the cost of fuel so people have more money. It takes a lot of manual labor to produce the oil, so big oil companies are not likely to want that. However, it will still be a challenge to make sure someone doesn't steal the project if it does make money.

The project has required coordination with the UN, USAID and Weiner, a local agency. USAID is the funding mechanism for many projects and they need to work through a local 503 (c) farm program, so the project was referred to Weiner. After reviewing the entire program, including cost and viability, they program funder had very positive reactions. The programs funded by USAID must justify that they will be viable and solvent.

Curt added that Weiner happens to operate in Gunthier where Pat and Curt work on other projects. Gunthier school has been a large focus and might be a good fit for Rotary to consider supporting with our focus on education. The school building is a two story, L-shaped building. The first floor was completed when the earthquake happened and it survived. There are six classes on each wing, two rooms for teachers and a playground area. Funding has come mainly from the community of River Falls and from a church in Denver. Food for the students is provided through Feed My Starving Children. There are also two bathrooms for staff and a pit bathroom for the students. The program starts with a three-year Kindergarten program at age 3. Elementary students are upstairs and High School downstairs. The uniforms are often the only clothes the students have. Another project in Gunthier is the village water supply. This well also fills the school cistern and a storage tank on the roof from solar heated water. The village well was a \$10,000 investment. They focused on this as an immediate need after the earthquake and put off the Jatropa project for a bit.

Financial assistance is needed for 9 Kindergarten teachers, 9 primary teachers, 16 secondary teachers, 1 secretary and 1 principal. Total staff cost for one month is \$4700. There is a need for books at \$15,000. They are looking for pledges to adopt a teacher and follow that teacher all year. Also, a partner with St. Paul and Mendota Heights for books would be a good one time project to support the grant proposal to the District. 95% have nothing and 5% have everything. If there is hope for Haiti, it is the education of their children. Great work, Pat and Curt!



**PROGRAM SCHEDULE**

**SEPTEMBER**

- September 6     Jean Wespetal
- September 13    Linda Berg
- September 20
- September 27    Tasha Schuh, Motivation

***Have a Program idea? Talk to Ted Marsh to schedule it!***

**DEVOTIONS, SET-UP AND TAKE-DOWN**

<u>Date</u>	<u>Devotions</u>	<u>Set-up/Take Down</u>
Aug 2	Kris Miner	Baumann / Bluhm
Aug 9	Max Neuhaus	Bluhm / Boles
Aug 16	Virgil Nylander	Boles / Bump
Aug 23	Pat O'Malley	Bump / Cicchese
Aug 30	Diane Odeen	Cicchese/ Cudd
Sept 6	Alison Page	Cudd/ Ericson
Sept 13	Kevin Pechacek	Ericson/ Fisher
Sept 20	Thomas Pedersen	Fisher/ Fitzl
Sept 27	Marti Piepgras	Fitzl/ Foster
Oct 4	Glenn Potts	Foster/Gabriel
Oct 11	Dan Ross	Gabriel/Garfin
Oct 18	Matt Russell	Garfin/Gill
Oct 25	Steve Schroeder	Gill/Goff

**NOTE: If you are unable to attend, please make arrangements to have these responsibilities covered. Ideally you would find someone to trade with.**

***If you make a trade, please let the Tidings editor know.***

Rotary District 5960 has a resource for devotions. If you are looking for something to read, you might [check this link](#).



**2011-2012 OFFICERS**

- President             Carole Mottaz
- Pres. Elect          Elaine Baumann
- Secretary           Scott Morrissette
- Treasurer:          Marti Piepgras
- Past Pres.:          Tom Garfin
- Exec. Secretary:    Marti Piepgras

**2011-2012 DIRECTORS**

- Community:        Garrett Gill
- International:     John Kremer
- Club Service:     Thomas Pedersen
- Vocational:        Rosanne Bump
- Youth Protection: Tony Jilek
- Youth Exchange: Diane Odeen
- Public Relations: Samantha Bluhm
- Membership:      Terry McKay
- Programs:          Ted Marsh
- Foundation:        Gorden Hedahl
- Sergeant at Arms: Brian McQuade
- Newsletter:        Carrie Fisher & Heather Logelin
- Grantwriter:       Elaine Baumann
- CIO/Website:      Steve Leitch

**ROTARIAN OF THE YEAR**

- 2003:                Tom Bloom
- 2005:                Tom Garfin
- 2006:                Dale Jorgenson
- 2006:                Jerry Tack
- 2006:                Kevin Pechacek
- 2007:                John Kremer
- 2008 & 2009:      Carole Mottaz
- 2010:                Debbie Griffin
- 2011:                Gorden Hedahl

**PAST PRESIDENTS**

- 1999:                Tom Bloom
- 2000:                Gorden Hedahl
- 2001:                David Brassfield
- 2002:                Randy Cudd
- 2003:                Bill Montgomery
- 2004:                Tom Palmer
- 2005:                Connie Foster
- 2006:                Steve Schroeder
- 2007:                Carrie Fisher
- 2008:                Kevin Pechacek
- 2009:                Diane Odeen
- 2010:                Tom Garfin

Last	First	Work Home	Email	Classification	
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Baumann	Elaine	425-1835	425-5727	<a href="mailto:elaine.baumann@rfsd.k12.wi.us">elaine.baumann@rfsd.k12.wi.us</a>	High School Administration
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Boles	Joseph	425-7281	425-6540	<a href="mailto:josephdboles@gmail.com">josephdboles@gmail.com</a>	Judge
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Wulf*	Wayne	866-559-1800	426-1800	<a href="mailto:Wayne.S.Wulf@ampf.com">Wayne.S.Wulf@ampf.com</a>	Financial Service
Young	Jodie	425-8788	386-2402	<a href="mailto:info@bakken-young.com">info@bakken-young.com</a>	Funeral Director

\*Members indicated with an asterisk are Paul Harris Fellows at this time. PH Fellows have contributed more than \$1000 US to the Rotary Foundation.

+ Indicates members who are also Rotary Benefactors, leaving at least \$1000 to the Rotary Foundation in their wills.