

E-Rotatler

Week of July 27, 2009

A Publication of the **ROTARY CLUB OF ST. LOUIS PARK**

District 5950, Club 2133 – Since 1947

<http://www.rotaryslp.org> (password: parkrotary)



CALENDAR OF EVENTS



27—**David Landt's**
Installation
Paul Bierhaus
Outstallation (again)



3— **Mary Lahammer**
Almanac:
At the Capital Host
10—**Laura French**
"Social Media
The Power, the Promise
17—**Arthur Klobe WW II**
24—**Tim Kozak**
Secret Service
31—**Tom Doohar**
Education Minnesota

JULY

Sergeant at Arms
Dick Milnar
Wade Manthie
Jeremiah Tanner

INTRODUCTIONS

27—Tammy Sullivan
3—Dottie Rietow
10—Dottie Rietow
17—Elmer Schindel
24—Ken Skold
31—Ken Skold

THIS MONDAY!

INSTALLATION – OUTSTALLATION CEREMONY FOR CLUB PRESIDENTS

Outgoing President – Paul Bierhaus, PDG

Incoming President – Pastor David Landt

President Elect – Jay Rasmussen

Recognition of 2008-2009 BOARD
Introduction of 2009-2010 BOARD

BREAKING NEWS:

PROGRESSIVE DINNER SET FOR AUG. 7TH

Aug. 7th is the date. Dave and Jolanta Howard of Wayzata have agreed to again host the hors de oeuvres reception for the annual PROGRESSIVE DINNER. Once Rod tells his wife, the Shilkrots have agreed to host the gala dessert reception at their home in Plymouth afterwards. Jim Brimeyer, Walt Hanson, Elmer Schindel and Paul Bierhaus have agreed to host the individual dinners. Contact Jay Rasmussen if you are interested in helping in any way – 952-738-4277.

MEMBERSHIP

We wanted to mention that there have been two recent resignations from long time members, **Jack Chaffee and Jerry Mitchell**. We'll miss them both, but always welcome them back for lunch at any time.

FAST FORWARD: NEXT WEEK'S MEETING –

MONDAY, Aug. 3, 2009

MARY LAHAMMER

Almanac: At the Capitol host

Mary Lahammer has been a program host and political reporter for Twin Cities Public Television since 1998. She has won several Emmys and numerous other awards in several states for her anchoring, reporting, producing and photography. Lahammer was named "Best TV Reporter" by *Minnesota Monthly* and "Best Newscaster" by *City Pages Magazine*. Mary's trademark has been getting politicians to open up and trust



2009/2010 BOARD

David Landt
President
952/935-8636

Jay Rasmussen
President-Elect
952-738-4277

Vice President
Tim Polich
952-920-6091

Amy Hennen, Treasurer
952-465-0308

Tammy Sullivan
Secretary
952/924-0677

Paul Bierhaus
Immediate Past President
612-239-8765

Mary Phelps
Membership
952/929-1679

Jeremiah Tanner
Community Service
612-803-0152

Alan Ackerman
Vocational Service
763/546-2222

Denny Morrow
International Service
952-853-8435

AVENUES OF SERVICE

YOUTH COMMUNITY INTERNATIONAL VOCATIONAL CLUB

St. Louis Park Rotary
P.O. Box 26728,
St. Louis Park, MN 55426
Phone: 763/545-9109 Fax: 763/545-9499
Email: admin@rotaryslp.org

her including Governors like Jesse Ventura and Tim Pawlenty and Senators Mark Dayton and Norm Coleman. She followed Ventura around the world to Japan, China and Cuba. She has produced a variety of documentaries on topics such as global trade missions, candidates' revealing life stories and Minnesota history. Prior to returning to *tpt* (where she interned during college) she was an anchor/reporter for an ABC station in Wisconsin and NBC in North Dakota. Mary is a native Minnesotan who began attending the University of Minnesota's Honors College at age 15, where she went on to graduate with Phi Beta Kappa and Summa Cum Laude honors. She holds degrees in Journalism and Mass Communications and Constitutional Law History from the U of M. She served as President of the Alumni Board at the U's journalism school. You might say Mary has been in training for her job since birth. She learned the business under the wing of her father, an Associated Press capitol reporter for more than three decades. Her State Capitol office is now just around the corner from her father's former stomping grounds.

FROM THE PODIUM

NICE JOB PRESIDENT OF THE DAY, Jay Rasmussen. Too bad you used the wrong prayer card.

NICE TO MEET Mike and Diana Rasmussen, from New Mexico – who also happen to be the parents of Jay Rasmussen, grandparents of new baby Olivia and big brother Oscar, and uncle and aunt of Jeremiah Tanner.

NICE TO MEET Gretchen Meritt, the daughter of member Denny Morrow and granddaughter of member Harley Bergren. She was on hand as a member of the "Freedom Firm" team and to hear her boss speak.

PROGRESSIVE DINNER information in **BREAKING NEWS**.

CONGRATULATIONS Matt Rampstreiter on the birth of your second daughter, Audrey Mae.

DARLYNE ERICKSON'S popularity as a clown (a real clown) is spreading – or at least rubbing off (and we're not talking about the cheap face paint). Our own Aqua-Jester's recent appearance at the Edina Rotary's gala at Centennial Lakes, celebrating new Governor Sandy Schley, resulted in Schley going through training with Erickson to become a clown and actually appearing in the Wednesday **Minneapolis Aquatennial Torchlight Parade**.

ROTARY GALA IN THE PARK UPDATE: New prizes will be donated by the club. Bring in donated wine and baskets to be auctioned off. See Elmer Schindel for more information. Rod Shilkrot and Liza Lampi are working on the sponsor/contributor sales kits – to be ready soon. Remember, 11 a.m. meetings of the full committee the first Monday of each month on terrace above meeting room.

TRF RECOGNITION POINTS in the "bank" for current members (earned from every dollar after the first \$1,000 contributed), can translate into the awarding of up to 10 new Paul Harris Fellows in the club. See President Paul.



VOCATIONAL TALKERS STILL IN DEMAND: Speaking of Allan, Mr. “Vocational Service Director” Ackerman, he continues to seek volunteers to go to the podium and tell their life stories in 3-5 minutes – better known as Vocational Talks. This is not just for newer members. We’d like to hear more from our tenured members as well.

THIS DAY IN HISTORY? Discover the highlights of this day on your own by going to this Web site:

<http://www.nytimes.com/learning/general/onthisday/index.html>

REWIND: MEETING of JULY 20, 2009



GLEN PARKS, FOUNDER: FREEDOM FIRM, INDIA

Denny Morrow introduced Glen Parks, our speaker Monday.

Parks is co-founder and Director of Freedom Firm. The mission of Freedom Firm is rescue, restoration, and justice for victims of sex trafficking.

Denny’s daughter, Gretchen Merrit, is based in the U.S. and is a development manager for the firm – she was also in attendance on this day.

Glen holds a Bachelor of Arts degree in Philosophy, magna cum laude, and an international law-focused Juris Doctor degree, cum laude, both from the University of Nebraska. Glen litigated in the United States for three and a half years at both the trial and appellate level and has argued over a dozen cases before the Nebraska Supreme Court, its Court of Appeals, and the United States Federal Court of Appeals for the Eighth Circuit before moving to India.

Glen and his wife Rebecca, co-founder, have four children and live in Ooty, Tamil Nadu, India.

Another connection to our club? President David Landt visited Parks in India last fall and started discussions regarding an International Service Project for our club involving the donation of a Mammogram Machine for the local hospital there. Parks is a Rotarian in India and is the leader of this Christian-based organization, Freedom Firm. Highlights:

ANOTHER NAME FOR MODERN DAY SLAVERY

Goal of his organization is “rescue, restoration and justice for victims of sex trafficking in India.

They rescue children, mostly girls, forced into prostitution.

Human trafficking is another name for modern day slavery..

Victims typically encounter threats, coercion, abduction, fraud, deception and abuse of power en route to a path of prostitution. Typically, an older woman will come into a poor village promising mothers that she will place their daughters in homes as maids, au pairs, etc., in return for good pay and even money they can send back home. In reality, the older women are the sex traffickers.

ROOT PROBLEMS BEGIN WITH POVERTY

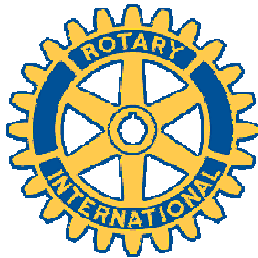
Root problems in their area of India: poverty, lack of education, societal prejudice against women, the caste system, religious rituals and certainly, lack of effective law enforcement.

Prostitution is illegal in India if a minor is involved, if two or more women are involved. There are 500,000 minor girls forced into prostitution, according to UNICEF.

Sex trafficking is the third most profitable criminal activity (after drugs and fire arms) in India – estimated at \$9.5 billion.

Parks then led us through a revealing slide show, profiling his staff, his organization, how it operates, where it operates, etc. He even showed his “white board” of cases in limbo.

He showed us courthouses where local lawyers are hired in each city to plead their cases.



Honoring the
Nine District Governors
Originating from the
**ROTARY CLUB OF
ST. LOUIS PARK**

CARROLL L. HURD
District 174
1952-1953

FRED V. ROGERS
District 595
1961-1962

C. WILLIAM BRIGGS
District 595
1972-1973

JOHN N. MITCHELL
District 595

TOM O'MEARA
District 595
1981-1982

WILLIAM B. GLEESON
District 595
1984-1985

KENNETH L. SKOLD
District 5950
1989-1990

PAUL O. BIERHAUS
District 5950
2002-2003

ROD S. SHILKROT
District 5950
2006-2007

OUR LEGACY OF
LEADERSHIP

**THE LEADING DISTRICT 5950
CLUB IN PRODUCING
DISTRICT GOVERNORS!**

FOUR DECISIONS IN NEARLY THREE YEARS

They have been at this "mission" full-steam for 2.5 years. In that time, they have had four decisions – one conviction and three acquittals. One is on appeal involving a 12-year old girl.

Aftercare is an important component in restoration of the girls' lives back into society. Some forms of aftercare result in small businesses for the girls, like the manufacturing of items made from beads.

Does sex trafficking take place in this country? Yes, he said, especially in the southwest near the Mexican border – certainly not as widely known, but it does exist.

He also talked about his own safety concerns and the safety of his staff members.

A very enlightening talk about great people doing miracle work to improve the lives of children. Thanks Denny!

E-ROTATLER NEWS & NOTES

CALLING ALL SPEAKER-FINDERS!

President Paul and Monica Murphy are exhausted and need our help in finding new speakers for club meetings. If you are interested in helping them with this tireless task, see either and start making suggestions.



Experience LIFE in the Park

**2009 St. Louis Park Police Crime
Prevention Fund
Third Annual Golf Tournament**

Friday, September 11, 2009

As a valuable member of St. Louis Park's Community, the Police Advisory Commission would like to cordially invite you to attend our Third Annual St. Louis Park Crime Prevention Golf Outing.

Date: Friday, September 11, 2009

Shotgun Start: 8:00 A.M. (Please arrive 30 minutes prior to tee time)

Registration: Includes green fees, cart, prizes and lunch!



The primary purpose of St. Louis Park Police Department's Crime Prevention Fund is to assist our department in preventing crime and providing reward funds. The fund also supports National Night Out, Neighborhood Watch Programs, our Chaplain Program, Citizen's Academy and many other initiatives that provide support for safety awareness to our business and residential communities. This is the only fundraiser that directly supports the St. Louis Park Police Department. Your support in taking part in the planned day's activities or making a contribution to assist our efforts is appreciated. Please use the two enclosed forms to register for golf and / or to make a contribution to our only annual fundraiser. (Please RSVP no later than Friday, August 21, 2009). The event will include hole prizes, prizes for best scores, beverages on the course and lunch after the event for all participants. (Questions may be directed to Lt. Mike Harcey at (952) 924-2128 or mharcey@stlouispark.org).

Lt. Mike Harcey, Golf Tournament Chair

UPCOMING SPECIAL EVENTS

FRIDAY, AUG. 7 – Park Rotary Progressive Dinner – meet at David and Jolanta Howard's home for reception; split to assigned homes for dinner; then gather at Rod and Cheryl Shilkrot's home for desserts.

SEPT. 25, 2009 – FALL TRAINING DAY 2009: Golden Valley Country Club; Golden Valley (Includes AGs/District Leadership, Club Presidents, Club Leaders, and all District 5950 Rotarians)

OCT. 6-11 – URBANZONE INSTITUTE, Zones 28-29; Marriott City Center, Downtown Minneapolis, Convened by RI Director Tom Thorfinnson; General Institute Chair, Ron Axel; includes two days of training. Ask Rod Shilkrot for more information.

THURSDAY, OCT. 8 – ROTARY GALA IN THE PARK: Evening, major Park Rotary Fund-raiser; Double Tree Park Place Hotel.

JAN. 23, 2010 – MID-TERM ASSEMBLY: St. Cloud (Includes AGs/District Leadership, Club Presidents, Club Leaders, and all District 5950 Rotarians)

MAY 13-15, 2010 – DISTRICT CONFERENCE: Westin Hotel; Galleria; Edina (Includes AGs/District Leadership, Club Presidents, Club Leaders, and all District 5950 Rotarians)

CLUB OFF-SITE MEETING IDEAS? Allan Ackerman, Vocational Service Director, encourages more site visits as regular meetings, away from the Double Tree. Contact Ackerman at aackerman@lupient.com if you are interested in hosting the club off-site.

HELP WANTED

VOLUNTEERS WANTED FOR DISTRICT 5950 POSITIONS

DISTRICT CHIEF FINANCIAL OFFICER

A REQUEST FROM JIM BIRD, CHIEF FINANCIAL OFFICER, DISTRICT 5950

I am writing to enlist your help in recruiting Rotarians to assist in the financial management of District 5950. Broadly, the needs are as follows:

To take on the role of CFO for the District, starting in 2010-11. This involves the following key tasks:

- Production of annual statutory accounts
 - Completion of IRS Form 990
 - Production of quarterly statements of Income and Expense for review with the District Finance Committee
 - Work as a member of the District Finance Team to ensure that the assets of the District are adequately protected.
 - Report to members at the District Conference Business Meeting on the financial state of the District.
- Provide financial expertise to District leaders



Work with District Executive Secretary in maintaining the account registers of the District. This involves the following key tasks:

- Maintain oversight of Club receivables.
- Provide support in Club billings
- Ensure that control procedures for disbursements are followed
- Provide support to the CFO in producing interim and Statutory accounts.
- Assist in check signings etc.

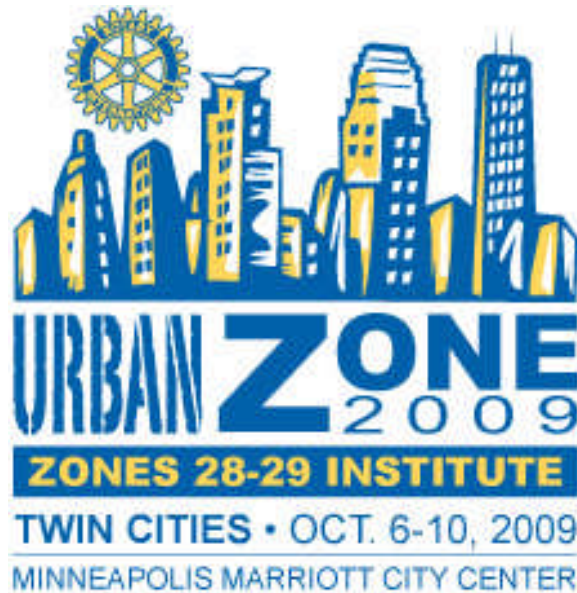
Answer questions that arise

Ideal candidates should have accounting experience and, for the CFO role, a CPA qualification. Please make your membership aware of these needs via an announcement at more than one of your club meetings or email to the total membership. Additionally, it would be appreciated if you would print this email and make copies available. Interested Rotarians should contact Jim Bird-CFO for further information -- fredblogg@aol.com; phone: 763-557-1706

DISTRICT TRAINER FOR DISTRICT ASSEMBLY

To serve on the District 5950 TRAINING TEAM for the Rotary Year of 2010-2011 (for DGE Larry Zilliox). Volunteer candidate should have some training experience and interest. This person will be responsible for managing the District Assembly in May 2010; and/or Mid-Term Assembly in January 2011. Club leadership experience preferred. Please contact District Trainer Consultant, PDG Rod Shilkrot, [Rotary-Rod@AAAMinneapolis.com](mailto:Rod@AAAMinneapolis.com) or 952-927-2673.

**COMING SOON TO DOWNTOWN
MINNEAPOLIS!**



**Interested in volunteering?
Contact General Institute Chair
Ron Axel, PDG, 5950
*Ronald9494@aol.com***

Rotary Gala in the Park

Thursday, October 8th

Double Tree Park Place Hotel

Planning meetings at 11 a.m. the first Monday of every month on the terrace above our regular meeting place at the Double Tree.

Overall chair, Nick Lampi