

# E-Rotatler

Week of February 2, 2009  
A Publication of the St. Louis Park Rotary  
District 5950, Club 2133



## CALENDAR OF EVENTS



**2—Melvin Tennant, CEO**  
Meet Minneapolis  
**9—Bruce Nusted**  
**Twin West Chamber**  
**16—Mike Nordberg**  
St. John's University  
**23—Jeff Long**  
Postal Inspector

### MARCH

**9—Jay Barnes**  
Bethel University  
**16—tba**  
**23—Lois Langer Thomas**  
Interim Director  
Hennepin County Library  
**30—tba**

### FEBRUARY

**Sergeant at Arms**  
Paul Hovde  
Mary Phelps

### INTRODUCTIONS

**2—Arnie Bloomquist**  
**9—Harley Bergren**  
**16—Harley Bergren**  
**23—Walt Hanson**

### E-ROTATLER "Staff"

Rod Shilkrot  
Darlyne Erickson

## E-ROTATLER FOR FEB. 2, 2009

### **THIS COMING MONDAY!**

#### **MELVIN TENNANT, CEO, MEET MINNEAPOLIS**

Our speaker Monday, will be Melvin Tennant, the relatively new president and chief executive officer, of Meet Minneapolis, the city's convention and visitors' bureau. Tennant held the position of interim president & CEO of Meet Minneapolis, while continuing to serve as chief executive for Meet Minneapolis's software affiliate iDSS.

As president and CEO, Tennant manages a staff of more than 60 and a budget of nearly \$10 million. Meet Minneapolis is responsible for generating convention business that brings up to a half-billion dollars in economic impact to the area each year.

**ABOUT MEET MINNEAPOLIS:** Meet Minneapolis is a private, not-for-profit, member-based association. It actively promotes the Minneapolis area as a venue for conventions and meetings and markets the city as a desirable tourist destination to bring a positive economic impact to the greater Minneapolis area.



### **BREAKING NEWS:**

#### **THIS IS REAL "BREAKING" NEWS**

Our wonderful club administrator, Darlyne Erickson, who has another life as an Aqua Jester clown, was not clowning around two weeks ago when she fell in her parking lot and broke an ankle. She returned to the club in great spirits, crutches and a nifty inflatable boot. We all witnessed that her mobility was not severely impeded by this break, nor was her spirit. Welcome back.

### **THREE KEY MEETINGS ON HORIZON**

President Paul alerted those club members who will be attending any and all of these three important upcoming District 5950 meetings:

**FEB. 7, 2009 – DTTS:** DGE Sandy Schley has called for her District Team Training Seminar, for AGs/District Leadership Team, to be held at AAA Minneapolis; St. Louis Park; at which time she will unveil her district goals and themes for the year ahead.



**2008/2009 BOARD**

**Paul Bierhaus**  
President  
612-239-8765

**David Landt**  
President-Elect  
952/935-8636

**Vice President**  
Jay Rasmussen  
952-345-7127

**Amy Hennen, Treasurer**  
952-465-0308

**Tammy Sullivan**  
Secretary  
952/924-0677

**Nick Lampi**  
Immediate Past President  
952/935-0782

**Mary Phelps**  
Membership  
952/929-1679

**Judy Goldetsky**  
Community Service  
763/545-6017

**Alan Ackerman**  
Vocational Service  
763/546-2222

**Deb Bowers**  
International Service  
952/928-6003

**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

**FEB. 27 & 28, 2009 – PETS:** All of DGE Sandy Schley’s club Presidents-Elect and nominees will gather for the annual President’s Elect Training Seminar, Oak Ridge Conference Center; Chaska, (Includes AGs/District Leadership, Presidents Elect, and Presidents Elect-Nominee).

**APRIL 24-25, 2009 – DISTRICT 5950 CONFERENCE:** Our own Steve Solbrack is chairing the annual District Conference, set to return to Downtown Minneapolis, Westin Hotel (old F&M Bank, rooms at \$139) and the Minneapolis Club, featuring a luncheon at the IDS Center “Windows on the World,” 50<sup>th</sup> Floor (Saturday is “Youth Exchange Day”).

**FAST FORWARD: NEXT WEEK’S MEETING – MONDAY, FEB. 9, 2009**

**Bruce Nustad, President,  
Twin West  
Chamber of Commerce**



**Administration**  
Bruce Nustad  
President  
763.450.2222  
[bruce@twinwest.com](mailto:bruce@twinwest.com)

**FROM THE PODIUM**

**DAVID LANDT IN INDIA** – President-Elect, Pastor David Landt, is still in India on a humanitarian visit. President Paul notes that he will likely return with a suggestion for a club international service project – and loads of interesting stories and observations.

**PAUL HOVDE, WADE MANTH AND PASTOR MARY PHELPS** were all recognized from the podium for their outstanding work as Sergeant at Arms.

**HOST FAMILIES SOUGHT** for the **GSE TEAM** from India that will be in our district in March. Our club has agreed to be one of the host clubs – for a 3-4-day period. Four host families are being sought by visit coordinator, Jay Rasmussen. If interested, you would agree to host one team member in your home for four overnights (and breakfasts), Saturday through Tuesday,



May 2-5. This group comes to us from the Bangalore district in India. Avi, our Youth Exchange student, also from India, will be greatly involved in the hosting as well.

**VOCATIONAL TALKERS IN DEMAND:** Allan “Vocational Service Director” Ackerman is seeking 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.

**UPCOMING SPEAKERS WORTH NOTING:** President Paul previewed our array of wonderful upcoming Monday speakers, including the CEO of Meet Minneapolis Monday, Chamber president Bruce Nustad on the 9<sup>th</sup>, Mike Norberg of the St. John’s Bible reprint project (15-year production) on the 16<sup>th</sup>, and Jeff Long on Postal Fraud on the 23<sup>rd</sup>.

**DEAN BENINGA OF ATS&R** pointed out that his architectural firm (Golden Valley) has recently been involved with the city (Tom Harmening and staff) in the redevelopment of the Benilde athletic complex – and was very complimentary of the cooperation received.

**LAUGH (OR INSPIRATIONAL) BREAK:** None this week, just a heartfelt story about a stock boy in a grocery store and a date he had with a new cashier. He insisted on including her two children on the date and learning her babysitter cancelled. One of the kids was born a paraplegic with Down Syndrome. Turns out this stock boy ended up marrying the cashier and turned out to be Kurt Warner, quarterback of the Arizona Cardinals in Sunday’s Super Bowl. Thanks Harley Bergren for this uplifting story.

Overall Chair  
 Administration  
 Strategic Planning  
 Chamber Spokesperson  
 Suggestions/Concerns  
 Business Education  
 Partnership Initiatives  
 Administration

## **REWIND: LAST WEEK’S**

**MEETING – JAN. 26, 2009**

### **JANE LEONARD EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR MINNESOTA SESQUICENTEN- NIAL COMMISSION**

The year-long Sesquicentennial celebrated 150 years of Minnesota statehood. This was her last week on the job – a temporary assignment. She also mentioned that her mother graduated from SLPHS in 1951. Highlights of her presentation:

As a result of the Sesquicentennial, over 150 grants for special events and projects were

given out by the Commission, across the state.

Dollars dedicated by the state legislature in 2005 to celebrate the Sesquicentennial, totaled \$1.6 million, and with corporate and community matches, the sum ballooned nearly three times to \$4.5 million.

She recited a commemorative poem/song by an Ojibwa story teller from the Evansville area.

The MN-150 exhibit at the Minnesota History Center in St. Paul will continue for another four years.

The intent of the Sesquicentennial was to celebrate the rediscovering of our state.

In 2008 during the celebration:

The state hosted its first political convention in over 100 years;

We elected our first African American president.

The government rebuilt the I-35W Bridge in record time – with several agencies working together.

Minnesotans reconnected to the ideals of statehood through those 150 grants and 500 different events.

Statehood Week was actually May 11-18.

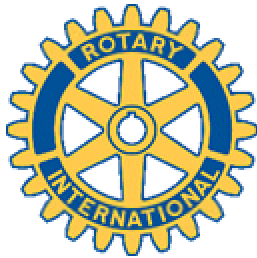
The Big Top Chautauqua at the State Fair was nother Sesquicentennial event.

The pledge of the Commission was that a minimum of one million people become engaged in historical reflection regarding the Sesquicentennial; and in the end, nearly two million participated.

The event generated hundreds and thousands of newspaper clippings from papers across the state.

There were special projects in each of the 87 counties.

One of the projects was the Many Nations Circle Project in Evansville, celebrating our Native American heritage. She talked about the 11 tribes who call Minnesota their home and how difficult it was to involve the tribes in the planning of the



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!**

Sesquicentennial – especially considering how devastating statehood had become to several tribes, like the Dakota People and the ensuing Dakota War of 1862.

There was a locally created opera, entitled “Minnesota Is Our Home.”

There was the Minnovation Projects at the Minneapolis Public Library, recognizing Minnesota-originated patents.

The Sesquicentennial also focused on 150 years of rural life, our unique ecological area of the planet, etc.

Did you know the state's Centennial Celebration in 1958 cost \$7.8 million? The former chair of that event is now 88 years old.

Jane Leonard is now headed back into community and rural development. We thank her for her service to the state and this milestone event.

## **E-ROTATLER NEWS & NOTES**

### **MORE HAITI OUTREACH TRIPS LEAVING FROM DISTRICT**

If you are interested in a (another) volunteer trip to Haiti, the tentative upcoming dates are:

***February 26 - March 6, 2009***

***March 27 - April 2, 2009***

Projects may be to build two houses and/or school painting, building blackboards and desks. A definite trip is scheduled for Jan. 22 - 30, 2009. We have 10 people so far and can accommodate a few more; 15 maximum. It is on a first come, first serve basis. That means we need your application and \$500 down payment to hold your place and only then would we be able to get your tickets. The trip will be to help build a Haitian house for a needy family, as described on the web site. The cost depends on airplane costs once we have your down payment. Right now it is an all inclusive cost of around \$1650.

Thanks for your interest in helping those in need in Haiti. The contact persons for organizing the trips are: Dale Snyder - [Dalesny-der@aol.com](mailto:Dalesny-der@aol.com); Ron Axel – [ronald9494@aol.com](mailto:ronald9494@aol.com).

## **UPCOMING SPECIAL EVENTS**

**FEB. 7, 2009 – DTTS:** AGs/District Leadership Team Meeting at AAA Minneapolis; St. Louis Park.

**FEB. 27 & 28, 2009 – PETS:** President's Elect Training Seminar, Oak Ridge Conference Center; Chaska, (Includes AGs/District Leadership, Presidents Elect, and Presidents Elect-Nominee)

**APRIL 24-25, 2009 – DISTRICT 5950 CONFERENCE:** Downtown Minneapolis, Westin Hotel (old F&M Bank, rooms at \$139), Minneapolis Club, and lunch at the IDS Center “Windows on the World,” 50<sup>th</sup> Floor (Saturday is “Youth Exchange Day”). Our own Steve Solbrack is the Conference Chair.



**MAY 16, 2009 – DISTRICT ASSEMBLY:** Normandale Community College; Bloomington (Includes AGs/District Leadership, Club Presidents, Club Leaders, and all District 5950 Rotarians)

**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)

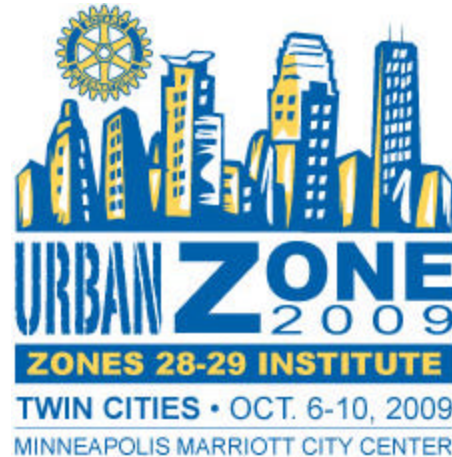
**JAN. 23, 2010 – MID-TERM ASSEMBLY:** St. Cloud (Includes AGs/District Leadership, Club Presidents, Club Leaders, and all District 5950 Rotarians)

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

**NEVER TOO EARLY TO PLAN FOR RIC/2009:** The 2009 RI Convention is set for Birmingham, England. DGN Sandy Schley of Edina and PDG Rod Shilkrot of our club are working with AAA to set up a **British Isles Tour** to the 2009 Convention in Birmingham. Contact Betty Fiandaca at AAA Minneapolis at 952-927-2557 for more information on this tour.

**URBANZONE HERE, OCT. 6-11 --- 2009** Zones 28-29 Training and Institute will be held in Minneapolis NEXT October (6-11) at the Marriott Minneapolis City Center. It will be called URBANZONE and should be a great opportunity for many local Rotarians to get a glimpse of what goes on in Rotary at the zone and international level. Interested in volunteering... contact Rod Shilkrot or Ron Axel at [ronald9494@aol.com](mailto:ronald9494@aol.com).

**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](mailto:aackerman@lupient.com) if you are interested in hosting the club off-site.



Contact Chair, Ron Axel, PDG, at [Ronald9494@aol.com](mailto:Ronald9494@aol.com)

If you are interested in volunteering to help host over 400 Rotarians from around the northern U.S. and Canada.

**SAVE THE DATE REMINDERS FROM DGE SANDY SCHLEY**

**February 7, 2009** – AGs/District Leadership Team Meeting at AAA

**February 27 & 28, 2009** – PETS at Oak Ridge Conference Center (Include AGs/District Leadership, Presidents Elect, and Presidents Elect-Elect) – Plan for 120.

**May 16, 2009** – District Assembly (Include AGs/District Leadership, Club Presidents, and Club Leaders) – Plan for 250 – 300 people.

**September 25, 2009** – Membership, Public Relations & Marketing, Service Projects, and The Rotary Foundation Training at GV Country Club

**Oct 6-10, 2009** – Zone Institute – Minneapolis Marriott Downtown



**January 23, 2010** – Mid-Term Assembly – St. Cloud

**May 13-15, 2010** – District Conference at Edina Westin Galleria



# **DREAMS MADE REAL IN 5950**

## **2009 DISTRICT 5950 CONFERENCE**

District Governor Chris Holm  
Conference Chair: Steve Solbrack, St. Louis Park Rotary

**April 24-25, 2009**  
Downtown Minneapolis

Join us in downtown Minneapolis on April 24<sup>th</sup> and 25<sup>th</sup> for the 2009 Rotary 5950 District Conference. RI President DK Lee challenged us to “Make Dreams Real” and next April, we will celebrate the accomplishments and “**Dreams Made Real**” by the 3,000+ Rotarians of District 5950. Our celebration will take place at the historic 100-year old Minneapolis Club and at Windows on Minnesota on the 50<sup>th</sup> floor of the IDS Center with its awe-inspiring panoramic view. Join us for the fellowship, celebration of youth, leadership development, fun, education, breakout sessions and fabulous speakers. We have booked a block of rooms at the Westin Hotel (former historic F&M Bank Building) for \$139 per night and we have reduced parking rates within two blocks of our venues. We have a great committee this year and we will be getting registration materials and more information to you soon. We are looking forward to another great District Conference, so be sure to get it on your

calendar now.

## **SLP ROTARY’S HISTORICAL TIMELINE**

**Editor’s Note:** *As a special feature in this E-Rotatler for the next several weeks, we will publish components of the historical timeline of the Rotary Club of St. Louis Park. Let us know if you take issue with any of these dates; or if you have noteworthy additions. It is our goal to compile the most accurate and detailed history of our great club.*

### **THE 1970s**

- April 1, 1978 – Barb Waryan hired as first paid executive secretary of the Rotary Club of St. Louis Park.
- 1972-1973 – C. William Briggs, Rotary Club of St. Louis Park, served as Governor of District 595.
- 1973 – Rotary Club of Golden Valley chartered, sponsored by Rotary Club of St. Louis Park.
- 1974 – Rotary International launches Youth Exchange Program.
- 1978-1979 – John N. Mitchell, Rotary Club of Golden Valley (formerly member of the Rotary Club of St. Louis Park), served as Governor of District 595.



## **CELEBRATIONS**

### ***Birthdays***

***Arnie Bloomquist—16th***

***Bob Marshall—9th***

***Tom Harmening—9th***

***Monica Murphy—6th***

***Wade Manthie—3rd***

### ***CLUB ANNIVERSARIES***

***Herm Hasselbring—29 Years***

***Dick Miller—26 Years***

***John Miller—23 Years***

***Jim Miller—20 Years***

***John Luse—11 Years***

***Tim Polich—1 Year***