

E-ROTATLER FOR MARCH 2, 2009

THIS COMING MONDAY!

OUR OWN MEMBER: ST. LOUIS PARK POLICE CHIEF JOHN LUSE

Your ST. LOUIS PARK Police Department: The Police Department has 51 sworn officers and 23 civilian personnel, including 11 dispatchers, 7 support staff, and 4 community service officers. Employees in the Police Department include sworn law enforcement officials, administrators, support staff and dispatchers.

The Police Department is responsible for:

- Enforcing motor vehicle laws
- Protecting lives and property from crime
- Preserving public order
- Apprehending criminals
- Collecting and preserving evidence
- Mediating conflicts
- Responding to medical emergencies and car accidents
- Preventing crime by identifying community problems, analyzing crime patterns and working with neighborhoods and community institutions to address concerns
- Maintaining criminal records and data.



BREAKING NEWS:

NEXT BOARD MEETING IS MONDAY

President Paul Bierhaus has called for a meeting of the Board of Directors for 11 a.m., Monday, March 2nd at the Double Tree. Please contact Bierhaus if you are unable to attend. His e-mail address is PoBierhaus@aol.com.

EMPTY BOWLS EVENT FOR STEP IS MARCH 5TH

Help STEP raise 125,000 pounds and dollars during March. Key event is *Empty Bowls*, Thurs., March 5th, St. Louis Park Recreation Center on 36th St. just east of 100, 3700 Monterey Drive; no admission fee; free will offering suggested; lunch and dinner time serving.

CLUB'S NEW WEB SITE HAS LAUNCHED

Newly design club Web Site: www.RotarySLP.org

Designed by: Steve Solbrack, coordinated with Tim Dillon, Risdall Advertising

Patterned after: Hopkins Rotary site

Demonstration of new site: March 16th regular meeting

New Webmaster/administrator for the club: Jerimiah Tanner

www.RotarySLP.org

Check it out. The photos at the top of the secondary pages are still photos from the Hopkins Rotary club. Rick Johnson, with Risdall Advertising, said he will try to get those changed to SLP Rotary photos soon. Solbrack has not had a chance to update the "Member Area" pages yet. The club paid Risdall Advertising \$750 prior to July 1, 2008 and another \$750 after July 1, 2008. Our site is essentially a template off of the Web site Risdall created for the Hopkins Rotary club. The hosting fee will be \$180 per year, paid annually, and it will be hosted by Rick Johnson, a Risdall employee and the same person who did the work on our Web site. And the best news of all, Jeremiah Tanner is going to take over the Web site administration, starting Monday evening. Thank you Jeremiah!

PRODUCT SHOW DAY, MAY 11TH AT MARRIOTT WEST

Attached is the information and reservation form for the annual Product Show Day, set for May 11th at the Marriott Minneapolis West. All five clubs in Area 5, including St. Louis Park, SLP Sunrise, Minnetonka, Hopkins and Golden Valley, will participate. A buffet luncheon will be served, at a cost of \$21 per person, up from the regular \$18. Allan Ackerman, chair of the event, promised to bring one or two cars to the show from his Jim Lupient Enterprises. Eight-foot display tables will be provided by the hotel at no cost to exhibitors. If you and your business are interested in exhibiting, fill out the attached form. There will also be prizes awarded and a variety of give-aways.



Rotary Area 5
Product Show - 2009-

FAST FORWARD: NEXT WEEK'S MEETING –
MONDAY, MARCH 9, 2009

Our Own President-Elect, Pastor David Landt

Pastor Landt, lead Pastor at the Minnetonka Community Church, will address the club on his recent humanitarian trip to India.



David became Senior Pastor in May 2005. He was our student ministries director for five years starting in 1999. David graduated from Bethel University with his masters degree in Organizational Leadership and Taylor University with bachelor degrees in Biblical Literature and Christian Education. David and his wife Sarah have three kids, Samuel, Ellie, and Graham. He is also the son-in-law of Rotarian Denny Morrow, who in turn, is the son-in-law of Rotarian Harley Bergren – forming a unique legacy of Rotary membership in one club.

FROM THE PODIUM

PRESIDENT PAUL IS BACK, AGAIN: This time, he returns from Israel from what he boldly termed, “the trip of a lifetime.” He led a Minnesota judicial team to talk justice issues with five of the 12 Justices on the Israeli Supreme Court. He and the Minnesota contingent received a briefing from the Minister of Foreign Affairs on the highly volatile two-state Palestinian issue. Did you know that 40% of the Israeli population is Muslim or Arab?

WHEN IS FAST FOR HOPE? As has been the case the past few years, we will suspend the “Fast For Hope” soup-only lunch and make a Board-approved donation of equal value (to the money saved on “full” lunches) to this annual District 5950 effort.

WELCOME BACK STUDENT GUESTS: This week, we hosted Crystal and Allison. Last names were not revealed. They are members of “Natural Helpers,” a peer counseling team at SLPHS – focusing on support for fellow teens experiencing depression, family crisis issues, homelessness, teen pregnancy, eating disorders, etc.

ANY DIGITAL CONVERTER BOX COUPONS? If you have any, send them to President Paul who will, in turn, distribute them through the Salvation Army.

DICTIONARY PROJECT: We want to give every SLP district 3rd grader at Dictionary – 330 in total. There are English and Spanish versions. Watch for more information on the give-away, including stickering with labels reading: “A gift from the Rotary Club of St. Louis Park,” and the 4-Way Test. We will also publish a release in the SLP Sailor.

VOCATIONAL TALKERS STILL 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.

REMINDER: HOST FAMILIES are being sought for the **GSE TEAM** from India that will be in our district in March. We have three of five host families secured, and need commitments from two more. 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). Dates of projected hosting would be Saturday through Tuesday, May 2-5. This group comes to us from the Bangalore district in India. Rasmussen is also seeking Vocational (business) hosts for this period.

UPCOMING PROGRAMS OF INTEREST:

March 2 – Police Chief John Luse, our member, will bring SWOT (or is it SWAT) Team members and focus partially on club-donated “Body Bunkers.”

March 9 – Pastor Landt will show his slides from India.

March 16 – Get to know the next District Governor, Sandy Schley, from Edina Rotary.

March 23 – Lois Langer Thompson, The Director of the Hennepin County Library System.

March 30 – Paul Babcock, the President and CEO of the McPhail Center for the Arts.

April 6 – Monica Murphy has arranged for Glenn and Nancy Krause to talk about their fascinating study of Black Bears in Northern Minnesota.

April 13 – Robin Cauffman, Manager of Public Involvement, the Light Rail Central Corridor Committee.

April 20 – No meeting in light of the District 5950 Conference this week.

April 27 – Phillip Brunelle, talking musical arts in the Twin Cities over the last half century.

May 4 – Rescheduled appearance of Jay Barnes, President, Bethel University.

May 11 – Product Show Day at Marriott West (see related article in “Breaking News”).

GET WELL SOON: Jim Miller recently had a hip replacement (Feb. 11), but seems to be recovering nicely.

SEEKING ROTARIAN ARTIST to paint our asset for the 40 Assets Children First/Girl Scout project, Karen announced. Breck Fleeson graciously volunteered to create the visual on “leadership,” our assigned asset.

THIS DAY IN HISTORY – FEB. 23:

1685 – Composer Handel born on this date in Germany.

1822 – Boston incorporated as city.

1836 – Siege at Alamo began on this date in San Antonio.

1848 – 6th President, John Quincy Adams, died on this date.

1861 – President-Elect Abraham Lincoln arrived in D. C. to take oath of office after assassination plot foiled in Baltimore.

1870 – Mississippi readmitted to the Union.

1965 – Stan Laurel of Laurel and Hardy died on this date.

1997 – Scottish scientists announce cloning of lamb named Dolly.

LAUGH BREAK: Some joke about bears, which I did not write down.

REWIND: LAST WEEK'S MEETING – FEB. 23, 2009

POSTAL FRAUD PRESENTATION: Jeffrey Long

Our program on Feb. 23rd was presented by Jeff Long, who is a U.S. Postal Inspector. He has been a postal employee for 20 years, 17 of which have been with the Identity Theft department, which includes fraud and postal scams. He worked the Uni-Bomber case for years. Highlights of his Power Point and interesting speech:

- Postal inspectors have been around longer than the FBI and CIA.
- Postal inspectors have been around since 1737, nearly 275 years.
- Some postal stats: 9 million customers per year are served through 37,000 post offices; \$2 billion payroll paid to postal employees every two weeks; 1.8 billion addresses served via 213 billion pieces of mail each year.
- Go to 2 SMRT 4U (<http://www.2smrt4u.com/>) for information regarding Internet safety for children.
- He talked of the anthrax scare and the use of mail to heighten that terrorism threat.
- He was one of 19 inspectors to be named an air marshal after 9/11. He worked flights five days a week and logged 250,000 air miles.
- He spoke of prohibitive mails, involving drugs, laundered money – with criminals using all sorts of devices to ship illegal contraband, like highlighters, diapers, breath mint tins, caulking tubes and more.
- Postal inspectors have helped post offices get back into business after natural disasters, like Katrina.
- He previewed the mobile mail screening van used at the Republican National Convention in St. Paul.
- They also get involved with assaults, robberies and burglaries.
- He advises us all to stay smart when dealing with potential scam artists. Six most common scam themes (counterfeit check or money order):
 - Work at home
 - Overpayment
 - Sudden riches
 - Love losses
 - Foreign business offer
 - Rental schemes
- He also talked of stealing credit card numbers to ship stolen merchandise, international sale schemes, etc. He informed the group of www.fakechecks.org.
- Identity theft or fraud is becoming more commonplace. How are our identities stolen?
 - 2% only through mail theft
 - Trash
 - Personal break-ins

- Tele-pretext
- Employment
- Poor business controls
- Internet and e-mail
- He talked of ATM machine theft using skimmers and stolen pin numbers.
- He elaborated on counterfeit checks, forgeries and fake driver's licenses.
- Don't carry your Social Security card with you.
- Be sure and request a credit report at least once per year, using www.annualcreditreport.com. It's free.

E-ROTATLER NEWS & NOTES

TAKE THIS SURVEY TO IMPROVE DISTRICT WEB SITE

Dear Rotarians: We are working to improve the Rotary International District 5950 website. To best use volunteer resources and make additional investments in the website, we need to better gauge the needs and desires of Rotarians. Please ask all members of your club to fill out this short, online nine-question survey before Feb. 28, 2009. It will only take a few minutes of your time.

http://www.surveymonkey.com/s.aspx?sm=tCc4ljf8bxwKCCOM9eExJA_3d_3d

Thank you for your help! You are appreciated!

District 5950 Communications/PR Team

MORE HAITI OUTREACH TRIPS LEAVING FROM DISTRICT

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

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 - Daleesnyder@aol.com; Ron Axel - ronald9494@aol.com.

UPCOMING SPECIAL EVENTS

DISTRICT MEETINGS ON THE HORIZON

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

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,” 50th Floor (Saturday is “Youth Exchange Day”).

MAY 16, 2009 – DISTRICT ASSEMBLY: Gather at Normandale Community College for this annual assembly; located in Bloomington; meeting is targeted for all AGs/District Leadership, Club Presidents, Club Leaders, all Club Board members 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)

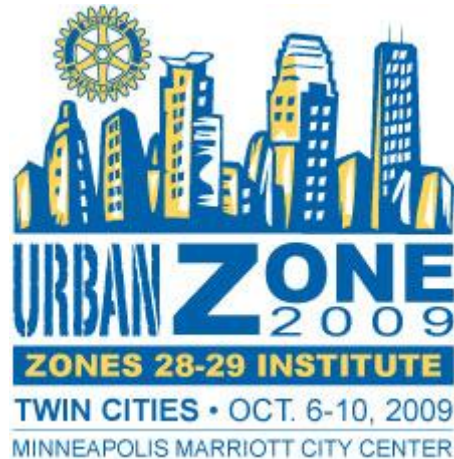
JAN. 23, 2010 – MID-TERM ASSEMBLY: St. Cloud (Includes AGs/District Leadership, Club Presidents, Club Leaders, and all District 5950 Rotarians)

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.

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.



Contact Chair, Ron Axel, PDG, at Ronald9494@aol.com

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



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 24th and 25th 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 50th 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 2000s

2000 – Western Pacific declared Polio free.

2000 – District 5950 launches “Safe Water Plus” program.

2001 – Frank Devlyn, Mexico, Rotary International President, becomes first sitting president to visit the district in 30 years, stopping at St. Louis Park's Operation Jump Start to make site visit – hosted by St. Louis Park Rotarians.

2002-2003 – Paul O. Bierhaus, Rotary Club of St. Louis Park, served as Governor of District 5950.

2002 – B'chai Rattakul, Thailand, Rotary International President, visits the district.

2002 – Europe declared Polio free.

2005 – Karl Wilhelm Stenhammer, Sweden, Rotary International President, visits the district.

2005 – Rotary Celebrates its Centennial in Chicago.

2006-2007 – Rod S. Shilkrot, Rotary Club of St. Louis Park, served as Governor of District 5950.

Spring 2007 – Rotary Club of St. Louis Park, sponsors first District Conference in the downtown area (Courtyard by Marriott at The Depot), co-chaired by Monica Murphy and former club member, David Dominick.

July 1, 2007 – Paul Bierhaus, PDG, begins term as President – a repeat performance.

October 15, 2007 – 60th Anniversary celebration of the club held at the Double Tree Park Place Hotel, with nearly 100 in attendance.

October 2008 – First Gala fund-raiser held at Minneapolis Golf Club, netting around \$12,000.

January 2009 – Death of longtime member and Naval war hero, Dr. Norm Sterry.

January 2009 – First lunch dues increase in years -- \$18.

February 2009 – Membership drops below 75 members.

February 2009 – New Web site launched.