

E-ROTATLER FOR MARCH 23, 2009

## **THIS MONDAY!**

### **Lois Langer Thompson Director of the Hennepin County Library System**



Lois Langer Thompson, a librarian with more than 20 years experience in the Hennepin County Library system, has been appointed by the Hennepin County Board of Commissioners to be Hennepin County Library's new director. Hennepin County Administrator Richard Johnson said, "Lois's vision is what the Library needs right now. It's time to be creative and deliver service in a new way. Her open mind and objective perspective, paired with two decades of Hennepin County Library experience, will help us navigate through our economic challenges and make the Library an even more essential institution in the eyes of our residents." Hennepin County Board Chair Mike Opat said, "Our world-class library system has never been more important for our residents than it is today. Its success has come as a result of a dedicated staff and many excellent directors, so I'm very pleased that Lois will now lead the Library in a permanent position. Only one year has passed since the Library nearly doubled in size by folding in the Minneapolis libraries, and there is much work yet to be done to create a seamless, unified system. Lois is the right person to lead the task, and I look forward to many accomplishments in the years ahead." Thompson became the Hennepin County Library's interim director after Director Amy Ryan resigned last September to become president of the Boston Public Library.

## **BREAKING NEWS:**

### **DICTIONARY MISCOMMUNICATION EXPLAINED**

*The e-Rotatler staff, falsely accused at last week's meeting in front of the entire membership of purposely omitting information on the Dictionary service project, recovered the missing information after press-time last week and graciously agreed to reprint here, as written by organizer Steve Solbrack:*

We will be delivering a dictionary to every St. Louis Park 3<sup>rd</sup> grade student on April 8<sup>th</sup> and April 9<sup>th</sup>. We will need help putting labels on the inside cover of the dictionaries on Monday April 6<sup>th</sup> at 11:30 am at the Double Tree just prior to our weekly meeting. The labels have the 4- Way Test, have a place for the student to write their name, and state "This is a gift from the St. Louis Park Rotary Club." Here is the schedule for delivering the dictionaries. All of the 3<sup>rd</sup> grade students at each school will come down to the media center or multi-function common room to receive their dictionary, talk about values, and talk about community.

**Wednesday, April 8<sup>th</sup> at 9:00 a.m. – Aquila Primary**

**Thursday, April 9<sup>th</sup> at 1:15 p.m. – Peter Hobart Primary**

**Thursday, April 9<sup>th</sup> at 2:00 p.m. – Park Spanish Immersion**

The PSI student's dictionary labels will have the 4-Way Test in Spanish this year.

## **PUMP IT UP ROTARIANS!**

### **“HANS & FRANZ” SKIT AND NEW WEB SITE DEBUTS MYSTERIOUSLY POSTPONED**

Due to technical difficulties, according to Club officials, the planned film debut of this much publicized skit, has been postponed to a later date – to be determined.

Details:

- *Video replay of hit skit from 2009 PETS, Feb. 28, Chaska*
- *Filmed, produced and directed by Steve Solbrack, AG-5*
- *Starring Jay Rasmussen as “Hans”*
- *Pastor David Landt as “Scooter Boy”*
- *And featuring Tim Dillon, Hopkins Rotary, as “Frantz”*

Also postponed, for reportedly the same reason, was the debut and demonstration of our new Web site. The **e-Rotatler** staff continues to investigate this story to uncover the actual factors leading to the untimely postponements. In the meantime, this is what this debut involves:

- **Newly design club Web Site:** [www.RotarySLP.org](http://www.RotarySLP.org)
- **Designed by:** Steve Solbrack, coordinated with Tim Dillon, Risdall Advertising
- **Patterned after:** Hopkins Rotary site
- **Demonstration of new site:** to be determined
- **Password for access to Member Only Section (currently under construction):** ParkRotary (all one word; no Login name required).
- **New Webmaster/administrator for the club:** Jeremiah Tanner (send all old SLP Rotary photos to Jeremiah for posting on the new site).

**[www.RotarySLP.org](http://www.RotarySLP.org)**

## **BRECK FLEESON REALLY NEEDS YOUR HELP!**

**REPEAT NOTICE:** Breck Fleeson has agreed to create the painting for the Children First mural (40 assets, 40 paintings by 40 different groups, organizations and individuals). Our assigned asset is INTEGRITY. Please help Breck with ideas for his creation – artwork, words, etc.

## **NICK & LIZA REALLY NEEDS YOUR HELP, TOO!**

**REPEAT NOTICE:** Past President Nick Lampi and wife Liza will be co-chairing the second annual ROTARY GALA IN THE PARK next fall (date to be determined). The Double Tree is the location this year. If you are interested in volunteering, contact Nick today.

## **SUNRISE TO THE RESCUE FOR GSE HOSTING**

Two Sunrise Rotarians stepped forward to fill out the roster of five families needed to host the GSE TEAM from India that will be in our district in May. Our club had agreed to be one of the host clubs – for a 3-4-day period. Now, appropriately, it's a two-club, one city venture. Committed families have agreed to host one team member in your home for four overnights (and breakfasts). Dates for the 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.

## **PRODUCT SHOW DAY EXHIBITORS LINING UP**

Attached is the information and reservation form for the annual Product Show Day, set for May 11<sup>th</sup> 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. Exhibit spaces are filling up fast, so contact Allan ASAP if interested. This is on a regular meeting day. There will also be prizes awarded and a variety of giveaways., like a “ride-along” with a SLP Police Officer, a \$100 Savings Bond and luggage from AAA Minneapolis.



Rotary Area 5  
Product Show - 2009-

## **FROM THE PODIUM**

**WELCOME STUDENT GUESTS:** Reeve Johnson, a junior, and Elise Dorgan, a senior, represented the drama or theater department at SLPHS. They are both involved in the production of the obscure Arthur Miller play, “The American Clock,” focusing on the “Great Depression,” with some correlations to this current economic downturn. Elise is headed to St. Thomas or Augsburg, and Reeve is considering Yale.

**AN ENLIGHTENING VOCATIONAL TALK** from Bill Kenney, Executive Vice President of the Park Nicollet Foundation could serve as the prototype for future talks. It was that good. We learned that:

- He has been in position since July, working for Mick Johnson, after 13 years in clinic operations.
- He is Irish and hosted 42 of the 180 area Kenneys after the St. Patrick’s Day Parade in St. Paul.
- He and wife, Maggie Kilpatrick Kenney, are the parents of two boys, Jack, 14, and Charlie, 10.
- He has always been in health care, following in the footsteps of his parents: his mother was a nurse and his father was in medical supply sales.
- The former orderly and St. Paul native, Kenney attended St. John’s University and received his Master’s in Healthcare Administration from the U of M.
- He is an avid biker and skier, and runs the ski club at his son’s school – DeLaSalle.
- In his work at Park Nicollet, he is involved in grant support for many community organizations.
- He previewed two new Park Nicollet system facilities: the recently-opened Melrose Institute for eating disorders (potentially serving 1,100 patients already in the system); and the Frauenshuh Cancer Center attached to Methodist Hospital, opening August of 2009.

**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.

**BELL RINGING FOR HOLIDAYS** has been confirmed for Byerly’s for both SLP Rotary clubs.

**BOB GUSTAFSON** has been in contact with a Fairview Hospital system executive regarding the possibility of donating mammogram equipment for David Landt’s Nepal project proposal outlined in his speech last week.

**PRESIDENT PAUL** is leaving again for a trip to Thailand to meet with the former RI Director and President, B’chai regarding the construction of a playground to

be located near the convention center in Bangkok – in time for the RI Convention there in June of 2012.

**DISTRICT CONFERENCE PREVIEW:** Steve Solbrack is practically a one-Rotarian show in planning the 2009 District Conference. He will be offering occasional previews of this downtown event (see **NEW** copy today by scrolling to the end of this newsletter).

**PARKTACULAR BALLOON BOOTH AGAIN:** SLP Rotary has agreed to again sponsor a Parktacular balloon give-away booth at Wolfe Park, Saturday, June 19<sup>th</sup>. Volunteer your participation in the booth to President Paul.

## ***YOUR ROTARY FAMILY CARES...***

**HEARTFELT CONDOLENCES** to Jim (and Pam) Brimeyer on the loss of their son, Andrew. You and your family are in all our thoughts and prayers during this difficult time.

**KEEP BILL BRIGGS IN YOUR PRAYERS:** It was announced Monday that Bill Briggs, fighting a courageous battle with Cancer, is not doing very well these days. Keep Bill and his family in your thoughts and prayers, too, during these tough times.

### **FUN AND CREATIVE HAPPY BUCKS LAST WEEK for:**

- The nice weather;
- Dr. Deb Bowers' noting of the St. Louis Park school district strategic planning process;
- Bob Gustafson's introduction of the March of Dimes State Director of Communications;
- Chuck Bohlig's dinner with his six granddaughters, and their six boyfriends;
- Dave Howard's philosophical exposure of Rod Shilkrot's "backside" shown in a recent AAA License Bureau commercial on cable;
- Introductions of Quinn Tierney from Mpls. #9 (they gave away 5,000 dictionaries to city third-graders, David Stein of Plymouth (district club resource chair); and...
- Denny Morrow's clever advice on how to recruit guests for prospective Rotarians.

### **UPCOMING CLUB PROGRAMS OF INTEREST:**

**April 6** – Monica Murphy has arranged for Glenn and Nancy Krause to talk about their fascinating study of Black Bears in Northern Minnesota, promising no live bears at the meeting – other than Rotarians plagued with "bad moods."

**April 13** – Robin Caufman, Manager of Public Involvement, the Light Rail Corridor Committee, focusing on our own SW Corridor.

**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** – Area 5 Product Show Day at Marriott West (see related article in “News”).

### **THIS DAY IN HISTORY – MARCH 16**

1521 – Ferdinand Magellan reached the Philippines, where he was killed by natives the following month.

1802 – Congress established U.S. Military Academy at West Point, N.Y.

1836 – Republic of Texas approved a constitution.

1850 – “The Scarlet Letter” by Nathaniel Hawthorne published.

1915 – FTC (Federal Trade Commission) organized.

1935 – Hitler scrapped the Treaty of Versailles.

1968 – My Lai incident in Vietnam took place where hundreds of unarmed civilians gunned down by U.S. troops.

1984 – CIA Chief William Buckley kidnapped in Beirut.

1994 – Tonya Harding pleaded guilty to conspiracy covering up attack on rival figure skater Nancy Kerrigan.

2005 – Scott Peterson sent to death row for slaying of his pregnant wife, Laci.

2005 – Actor Robert Blake acquitted of murdering his wife, Bonny Lee Bakely.

**“LAUGH” BREAK:** Some bum orders a drink without having any money. He bribes the bartender with a gifted hamster that plays Gershwin on a mini piano. He bribes the bartender for a second drink by pulling out a frog that sings a medley of Broadway show tunes, with the hamster accompanying him. Another patron at the bar ends up paying the bum \$300 for the singing frog. The bartender questions him why he didn’t get more for the frog. “Because,” he said, “The frog really can’t sing. The hamster is also a ventriloquist.” And this was the best President Paul could come up with after a two-week hiatus?

## **REWIND: LAST WEEK’S MEETING – MARCH 16, 2009**

### **SLP FOUNDATION AND TRF ANNUAL GIVING KICK-OFF** **DGE SANDY SCHLEY ON INTERNATIONAL** **SERVICE IN AFRICA**

Our special guest on this annual **FOUNDATION ANNUAL GIVING KICK-OFF DAY**, was Sandra Schley, District 5950 Governor Elect, who took us on a fascinating tour of some key Rotary projects in East Africa. Sandy’s photos told

us the story of the good works being accomplished through your participation in the club RI Foundation drive, which generates funds for both the SLP Rotary Foundation and The Rotary Foundation (TRF). Our goal for 2009 is 100% participation. Past President Nick Lampi is heading up our Annual Giving Drive this year (see related article).

She led off by talking of the importance of the Annual Giving Campaign for 5950 for The Rotary Foundation (TRF). Last year, we raised nearly \$1 million – one of the top five giving districts in the world. She spoke of programs funded by TRF, including Ambassadorial Scholars, Peace Scholars, Youth Exchange, GSE (our visitors in 2010 will be from District 9200 in East Africa), and, of course, Polio Eradication. Quinn Tierney was introduced as the 2009-2010 Polio Plus Team Chair.

Despite suffering with a nagging cold and fever, Schley then presented a slide show from her recent visit to Kenya, focusing on four projects that our district has some involvement with:

- Mathare Valley, where one of the worst slums in Africa exists; where Rotarians are taking measures to bring in clean water, new latrines, better childcare, etc.
- Kinyago-Dandora School, an oasis for education and safety, funded originally by the Edina and St. Louis Park clubs.
- Light of Hope Children's Home, sponsored by the Mound-Westonka Rotary Club.
- Mingenyi Village in Tanzania, an earth dam project, school and village development.

DGE Schley's ending quote: "Be the change you want to see in the world." Prophetic words of M. Gandhi.

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

**(Place photo here, Darlyne)**

### **OPERATION JUMP-START IN THE FIELD**

Thursday morning, Operation Jump-start mentors and students from RAP Eliot had the opportunity to visit three sites in the Twin Cities. Divided in three groups, the students had the chance to visit the Minnesota Bureau of Criminal Apprehension, LarsonAllen or Dunwoody College of Technology. This was a great chance for students to think what may lie beyond their high school careers. Thanks to Officer Kurt Bahr, Jim Miller and Nick Lampi who set up the onsite visits. The other mentors who chaperoned were Karen Atkinson, Bruce Carlson, Patti Floyd and Phillip Rand. Rotarians will have the chance to meet the RAP Eliot students when they attend our meeting on May 18 for the annual scholarship program. Students stood by one of the many art pieces onsite at the BCA,

rock statues that look like fingerprints. They were accompanied by mentors Dr. Phillip Strand and Officer Kurt Bahr.

## **TRF ANNUAL GIVING CAMPAIGN UNDERWAY**

**SECOND NOTICE:** This is a reminder that if you have not made your donation to the St. Louis Park Foundation and the Rotary International Foundation, please consider doing so in the near future. Wasn't President Elect David Landt's talk today about the opportunity for our club to help get a mammography machine to a hospital in India great? The matching grants and the funds available at the club, district and international level he referenced to make this project achievable would not be possible without the tremendous generosity of individual Rotarians, like you. You can send your checks to me made out to "St. Louis Park Rotary Foundation" for our local club foundation and "Rotary International Foundation" for the international donation. If it is more convenient you may also use your credit card for BOTH foundations (new this year for our local foundation). The goal is for a \$200 donation to each foundation, but any amount that works for you and your family will be accepted. Please contact me with any questions or to make your contributions.

**Nick Lampi; (952) 935-0782**

Checks can be sent to:

**Edward Jones Investments**

Attn: Nick Lampi

8001 Highway 7; Ste 400

St. Louis Park, MN 55426

## **IT'S PROGRESSIVE DINNER PLANNING TIME**

Fellow St. Louis Park Rotarians, it's time to start planning for our 2009 Progressive Dinner. As you know, last year was a smashing success, and this year is going to be even bigger and more fun! We're looking at a June/July time frame. **Please respond to these two questions:**

- 1. If the date, time, and logistics work out (transportation, etc.), would you be interested in participating or not?***
- 2. If you are interested in participating, are there dates you know for sure that will not work for you at this point?***

Please email your quick answer to these two questions ASAP to Jay Rasmussen at [jrasmussen@jobsmn.com](mailto:jrasmussen@jobsmn.com). Please help me get this thing on the calendar. Thanks! Jay Rasmussen, Vice President and Social Director

## **VOLUNTEERS SOUGHT: EDINA BIKE PARADE**

The event, "**The World's Largest Bike Parade!**" is sponsored by Edina Morningside Rotary. This club would like to ask each participating area club to assemble about 10 Rotarian Volunteers to help us marshal a part of the route. Each Rotarian will receive a commemorative Volunteer Tee-shirt. They will have lots of fun helping out, keeping some 3,000 riders on the path and helping out where needed. Volunteers can even bring a bike and ride in the parade as well. (It is a 2-mile route that will take about 30 minutes to ride.) It is estimated that 3,000 riders will take some four hours to get around the route. The event is scheduled for **Sunday, May 17, 2009**. You can get the

additional information at [www.EdinaBikeParade.com](http://www.EdinaBikeParade.com). **Mark C. Hegstrom**, President, Edina Morningside Rotary Club; [www.emrotary.org](http://www.emrotary.org); (cell) 612-670-0014.

## **FAST FORWARD: NEXT WEEK'S MEETING –** **MONDAY, MARCH 30, 2009**

### **MACPHAIL PRESIDENT TO SPEAK MARCH 30<sup>TH</sup>**

Paul Babcock is the President & COO of the MacPhail Center for Music. MacPhail is an extraordinary community asset. During its near-century long [history](#), MacPhail has become a vital part of the fabric of organizations that make the Twin Cities a vibrant arts community and a uniquely wonderful place to live and work. Exceptional instruction for individuals, groups, and ensembles, as well as partnerships with schools and arts organizations enable MacPhail to transform the lives of people of all ages, in the greater Twin Cities area and beyond. One thing we will likely hear about is their new home. The MacPhail Center for Music moved into its new flagship building late 2007, near the Mill City Museum and the Guthrie Theater in downtown Minneapolis. The new \$25 million school has a six-story tower with 56 studios, as well as a state-of-the-art performance hall. Other features include a new recording space, small performance areas, and facilities to meet the needs of the school's Suzuki and music therapy programs.

### **UPCOMING SPECIAL EVENTS**

**MAY 11, 2009 – AREA 5 PRODUCT SHOW DAY:** Noontime, Marriott West on 394 near Hopkins Crossroads; register with Allan Ackerman to exhibit your business at this fun event. Buffet luncheon served; \$21.

**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)

**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.



## ***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

Minneapolis Club; IDS Center; Westin Hotel

### **PREVIEW – DISTRICT CONFERENCE SPEAKERS**

#### **Ward Brehm – What’s God’s strategy for the poor in Africa?**

Signature Luncheon – Friday

Ward Brehm is a Twin Cities entrepreneur, leader in African humanitarian efforts and nationally known public speaker and commentator on relief and development in Africa. Brehm was appointed chairman of the United States African Development Foundation (USADF) in 2004 by President Bush, and he served in that role until the expiration of his term in 2008. Brehm received the Presidential Citizenship medal in 2008 for his work over the last 20 years in a ceremony in the Oval Office. Brehm believes that the best kind of aid America can bring to Africa is investment and capital, and under his chairmanship USADF focused its support on small businesses and agricultural coop strategies designed and owned by Africans themselves. He will discuss some of the lessons learned as both a businessman, as well as Chairman of the US Africa Development Foundation, regarding the best way to “help the poor not be poor anymore.” He will also share stories and reflections on how Africa has changed his own life.

#### **Tom Verdoorn – Corporate Responsibility**

Gala Dinner - Friday

Tom Verdoorn has been Vice President of Land O'Lakes International Development Division for over eight years. He has operational oversight for Land O'Lakes international development activities in 25 countries, including projects in Africa, Asia, Latin America, Eastern Europe and Eurasia and the Middle East. These projects have emphasized improving smallholder farm productivity and profitability, enhancing food processing and safety, rural enterprises with a particular focus on cooperative development, and improving nutrition and health for both consumers and vulnerable groups. His talk will demonstrate a sense of corporate responsibility on a global basis, and because of our Rotary District interest in Africa, he will use some of their projects in Africa as examples.

## **Seth Mattison – Here Come the Millennials**

Annual Meeting Breakfast - Saturday

Seth Mattison is a young up and coming speaker and writer on work force trends and the millennial generation. American business is in the early stages of being rocked by an entirely new and powerful generation of workers. Who are these kids? (Born between 1982 and 2000) The first generation to rival the baby boomers in size is showing up at work with their own set of attitudes, expectations, and values. Techno savvy, demanding, and ambitious - they are bringing with them an entirely new way of doing business. How prepared will Gen X, Baby Boomers, and Traditionalists, be to manage them. "Here come the Millennials" will provide strategies for attracting, managing, and retaining top young talent. Companies that are prepared for this group will reap the rewards of the Millennial generation's talents, and their creative and pragmatic approach to the world of business.

## **PREVIEW – DISTRICT CONFERENCE BREAKOUTS**

### **Friday Morning**

#### **Ambassadorial Scholarship Experience by Masahiro Inaga and Ambassadorial Scholarships and Peace Scholarships by Michael Cavitt**

Masahiro is an Ambassadorial Scholar from Japan and he will talk about his Ambassadorial Scholar experience and life in Japan. Michael is the chair of the District Ambassadorial Scholars Inbound Subcommittee and Chair of the Peace Fellow Subcommittee. He will talk about Ambassadorial Scholarships and Peace Scholarships.

#### **International Service Projects featuring SafeWater Plus East Africa by Tim Murphy and Haiti School Initiatives by Patrick Joyce**

Tim is the chair of the District International Service committee, and he will talk about our SafeWater Plus initiatives in East Africa. Patrick will talk about the Haiti School Initiatives project.

### **Friday Afternoon**

**The Dictionary Project by Quinn Tierney**

Quinn spearheaded the project to deliver over 5,000 dictionaries to Minneapolis 3rd grade students. The Minneapolis #9 club was recognized by Mary French, the national director of The Dictionary Project, at their club meeting on March 20th for this significant project.

**Our Rotary Foundation, Sharing Our Strengths by Anita Rieder**

Anita is the Annual Giving Officer for The Rotary Foundation for Zones 27 & 28.

**Group Study Exchange Experience by the GSE Team from India**

The GSE Team from India will talk about their GSE experience and life in India.

**Community Service Projects by Don Stiles**

Don Stiles will organize presentations by 2 or 3 Rotary clubs to feature the successful projects done in their communities.

**Saturday Morning**

**Re- energizing Rotary with the Millennial Generation by Seth Mattison**

Strategies and tips for attracting, engaging, and developing the Millennial Generation to bring new life and energy to the organization and help further its' reach in building goodwill and peace in the world.

**H2O for Life by Maple Grove Junior High School teacher Mark Sackett and Ben Pennings from H2O for Life**

A connection made by the Rotary Club of Maple Grove and Maple Grove Junior High School teacher Mark Sackett that will result in \$17,000 getting raised for clean water and sanitation for kids in Darfur by the students at Maple Grove Junior High School. See how an idea can change the lives of so many students, locally and internationally.

