

# E-Rotatler

Week of May 5, 2009

A Publication of the **ROTARY CLUB OF ST. LOUIS PARK**  
District 5950, Club 2133 – Since 1947  
**66 Members Strong**



## CALENDAR OF EVENTS



- 4—Jay Barnes, President  
Bethel University
- 11—Product Show Day  
Marriott SLP
- 18—Project Jumpstart  
Graduation
- 25— No Meeting  
Memorial Day

### MAY

**Sergeant at Arms**  
**Paul Hovde**  
**Roger Strand**

### INTRODUCTIONS

- 4— Tammy Sullivan
- 11—Arnie Bloomquist
- 18—Denny Morrow
- 25—Jim Brimeyer

### E-ROTATLER "Staff"

Rod Shilkrot  
Darlyne Erickson  
Tammy Sullivan  
(photo journalist)

## THIS MONDAY!



James (Jay) H. Barnes III

### Rescheduled appearance: **Jay Barnes, President Bethel University**

James (Jay) H. Barnes III became the fifth president of Bethel University on July 1, 2008. Barnes has been a leader in Christian higher education for more than 30 years. Most recently, he has served for 13 years as executive vice president and provost of the College of Arts & Sciences, College of Adult & Professional Studies, and Graduate School at Bethel University. Prior to his time at Bethel, Barnes was active in the area of student development, serving first as the dean for student development and then the vice president for student development for 15 years at Messiah College in Pennsylvania. He was a residence director at Wheaton College for four years, and served as teacher, vice principal, and then principal at Black Forest Academy in Kandern, Germany, in the early-mid 1970s.

### **PLUS...WE WILL HOST THE VISITING GSE TEAM 5 professionals from the Bangalore district in India**

1. **Gopala Murthy** - Offset printing production plant owner.
2. **Manasa Ananth** – Hewlett Packard employee in IT area.
3. **Manjunath Sadashivaiah** – International airport security specialist.
4. **Priti Dugar** – Attorney.
5. **Harsha Shivram** - Radio DJ.

## **BREAKING NEWS:**

### **PARK ROTARIANS AND AWARD WINNERS AT CONFERENCE**

See section under NEWS & NOTES.

**NEW MEMBER APPLICATION!!** The Board has received Matt Rampetsreiter's application to join our Club. If anyone has any concerns over this submission please contact President Paul Bierhaus.



**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

**NEXT WEEK'S MEETING, MAY 11<sup>TH</sup>, IS NOT AT DOUBLETREE**

See article under FAST FORWARD for reason and location.

**WHAT DO THESE NUMBERS MEAN TO YOU?**

**St. Louis Park 65% \$15,200 \$7,970 \$109**

To learn more about the above numbers and dollars, scroll down to the article entitled: "TRF ANNUAL GIVING CAMPAIGN 2009."

**FINAL CALL FOR E-MAIL ADDRESSES OR PHONE NUMBERS**

Send new e-mail and phone number information **IMMEDIATELY** to: [Darlyne@Creatingorder.com](mailto:Darlyne@Creatingorder.com) AND [JeremiahTanner@GMail.com](mailto:JeremiahTanner@GMail.com)

**FAST FORWARD: NEXT WEEK'S MEETING – MONDAY, MAY 11, 2009**

**PRODUCT SHOW DAY IS MONDAY, MAY 11<sup>TH</sup> Meeting is at Marriott – not the DoubleTree**

Our joint five-club, **Area 5 Product Trade Show Day** and Luncheon is set for May 11<sup>th</sup>, 12 noon to 1:30 p.m. It will be held this year at the Marriott Minneapolis West Hotel on Hwy 394 and 169. The hotel is located near the Shelard area and can be reached by taking the CR 73/Hopkins Crossroads exit off 393, using the north frontage road and heading back east a half mile. So far, we have nearly 40 tables and spaces reserved by club members from our club, along with representatives from Minnetonka, SLP Sunrise, Hopkins and Golden Valley Rotary clubs. Organizer Allan Ackerman is hoping that all of you are reminding your fellow members each week about the show, and encouraging them to participate or attend. Please remind them that this product show/meeting is replacing your normal meeting for that week. Remember, in addition to great table demos and products, and a great buffet lunch, there will also be great prizes to be awarded during the show – contributed by many of our vendors.

**E-mail: [aackerman@lupient.com](mailto:aackerman@lupient.com)  
Fax: Allan Ackerman, (763) 546-5773**



## **FROM THE PODIUM** **VISITOR FROM NAIROBI** **WELCOMED MONDAY**

Our Rotary District has a significant Rotary project underway in the Mathare Valley, one of Kenya's largest slums just outside Nairobi. We are building five ablution blocks which are elaborate restrooms or 'sanitation blocks' that will each serve thousands of the residents that reside there. Last year when our Rotary District visited we were hosted on an extensive tour of the Nairobi area and its slums by the City Council Member of the Mathare Ward 'Mabatini' (Nairobi's second largest slum) where our project is (Councillor Jackson Swadi) and the Mayor of Nairobi (Mayor Geophrey Mijiwa). This week and next week, we are hosting a visit by the two of them to the Twin Cities. They are here to thank Rotary, see Minnesota and learn more of our government system. On Monday, Jackson Swadi was a guest at our club, escorted by Tim Murphy, Edina Rotary, District 5950 International Project Chair. Swadi spoke for five minutes, thanking Rotary for all we are doing in his ward. Swadi is a minister when he isn't serving his constituents.

**NICE TO SEE** Donna Bierhaus, the wife of President Paul; and beautiful granddaughter Clare, who sadly broke into tears when grandpa introduced her to the membership (he has that affect on people).

**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.

### **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.

### **THIS DAY IN HISTORY – APRIL 27<sup>TH</sup>**

**"LAUGH" BREAK:** Postponed for the second consecutive week due to a continuing lack of interest.

## **REWIND:** MEET- **ING of APRIL 13, 2009**

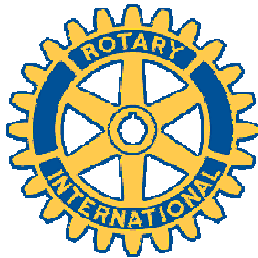


### ***The Essence of*** ***Philip Brunelle***

*VocalEssence*  
*Founder and Artistic Director*

Philip Brunelle, artistic director and founder of *VocalEssence*, an internationally renowned conductor, choral scholar and performer, gave a very entertaining presentation on Monday. Here are the highlights:

- Brunelle lives in the North Tyrol Hills section of Golden Valley.
- He has been involved with music since 1950, when at age 7, he started taking piano lessons.
- His father, a minister, was transferred here from Austin, Texas (or could it have been Austin, MN?).
- His first piano lessons were taken at the MacPhail Center for Music. Theodore Bergman, the organist for the First Baptist Church and Apollo Club, was his first piano teacher. He was also a boy soprano and learned to sing in Swedish. He told a heart warming story of performing at the Swedish Home for the Aged, resulting in tears from many elders



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!**

(from the old country) in the audience.

We also learned that Donna Bierhaus, wife of President Paul, was in the same graduating class with Brunelle at Minnehaha Academy. They were both in the choir, directed by Harry Opal.

### FREE PIANO LESSONS WAS THE START

- He told the story of his dad passing away at age 43, leaving his mother with five children to raise on her own, ages 15, 13, 8, 2 and 11 months. In the early 1950s, there was no pension, 401(k), very little in terms of life insurance, and the house they lived in was owned by the church. They essentially had nothing. However, several people helped him along his journey in music performance and education – including Bergman, who struck an arrangement with his mother to offer the younger Brunelle free lessons – something he did not learn about until after his mother's funeral.
  - He also received drastically discounted organ lessons from the great Arthur Jennings of historic Plymouth Congregational Church at Nicollet and Franklin. This connection was made possible through Harry Opal at Minnehaha. He went on to replace Jennings as the chief organist at this famed church.
  - We learned that Brunelle is still only the third organist in the incredible history of this church, dating back to 1900. He said he will stop serving this function after age 90.
  - He told a cute story about his talent for improvising at the organ prior to the performance of more traditional church hymns. Improvising at the organ is an art form in and of itself, dating back to the time of J.S. Bach. One day, two elderly congregants approached him to question: "What was that stuff you were playing?" He told them of the Bach connection and they replied: "Bach was never a member of the Plymouth Church."
- He also talked of Ms. Foot, the first woman band teacher at Minnehaha, and the influence she had on his music education. He actually ran into the longtime retired Ms. Foot Sunday at Plymouth Church services.

### HE LEARNED FROM THE GREAT CONDUCTORS

- He was the youngest member of the Minnesota Orchestra and stayed on for five years. It was then he learned great practice theory and concepts from the great conductors. He also studied at the Metropolitan Opera in New York and came back to Minnesota to help operate the Minnesota Opera.
- The Twin Cities metro has developed into a wonderful area for the arts and music. Between 1870 and 1900, the pioneers came to Minnesota in droves and because the closest big city offering the fine arts was Chicago (a long ways away in those days), they started cultural arts and music programs here to satisfy their appetites. This area also evolved into a great area for choral groups.
- We are home to the largest youth orchestra in the U.S., 30 theatre companies, and 300 choirs. We are 22<sup>nd</sup> in the nation in population, but



thrid in giving to the arts.

- He talked of the importance of taking piano lessons at a young age. He three kids all took piano – one went on to play the drums, another pursuing the violin, and the third a career in piano performance.

The Twin Cities is home to a thriving piano teachers' guild, the American Choral Directors Association, and was the site of the 2002 global Choral Music Symposium – which he chaired. It drew 2,000 delegates from 69 countries, 24 choirs in 80 concerts, including one from Namibia in Africa performing to over 600 (inside and outside of a church on the North side). He attracted this symposium to the Swedish governing board by using the Mississippi River and a Wheaties box with a picture of his choir on the cover.

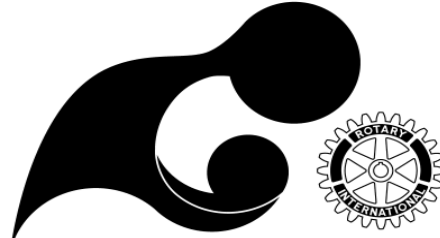
### **FORTY YEARS OF VOCAL ESSENCE**

- It was 40 years ago when he started the choral organization he still directs, Vocal Essence. The 40<sup>th</sup> anniversary concerts will feature six choirs and a massed choir of 500. He recalled contacting Aaron Copeland to come to Minnesota to conduct his own choral music; and even the great James Earl Jones to narrate a commissioned piece by a young African American composer from Chambers, South Dakota.

Vocal Essence features the 32-voice professional, audition-only Ensemble and a 100 volunteer voices in other groups. He was even the first pianist for Garrison Keillor and the "Prairie Home Companion" and still collaborates with him on many projects. He also engineers African American cultural concerts in 55 area schools as part of what is called the "Witness" program; which is now being expanded to Hispanic themed programs.

***Thanks President Paul for this great program.***

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



### **Make Dreams Real DREAMS MADE REAL IN 5950**

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

### **HIGHLIGHTS FROM THE CONFERENCE**



### **PARK ROTARIANS MAKE US PROUD AT CONFERENCE**

- Steve Solbrack** – Conference General Chair (heavily decorated and honored)
- Monica Murphy** and **Japs Olson** – again, volunteer printers of directory, all conference programs and signage
- Pastor Mary Phelps** – Inspiring Invocation – Awards Breakfast
- Pastor David Landt** – Moving Invocation – Annual Business Meeting
- Jay Rasmussen** – Grinning Award Winner
- Jeremiah Tanner** – Humble Award Winner
- Paul Bierhaus** – Volunteer Stand-in Award Recipient (looked good for photo opportunities)



**Avani Josi** – RYE Student – Performed amazing Classical Indian dance at YE Talent Show

**Allan Ackerman** – Selfless Lupient participant at annual Trade Show

**Lynette Fagerberg** – Took the bus to the conference by herself, a first in her life

**Tammy Sullivan** – Attended several key sessions on her own

**Paul Hovde** – Sergeant At Arms, Skyway between Mpls. Club and IDS

**Dick Milnar** – Sergeant At Arms, Skyway between Mpls. Club and IDS

**Rod Shilkrot** – PDG Table Captain at three separate banquets (though he failed to show for Gala on Friday evening, missing his one chance to sit at the head table)



Above is a photo of Avani, our Rotary Youth Exchange student from India, doing Classical Indian Dance at the District Conference Saturday at the IDS Center.

### ***Here is Avani's answer to the question "What do you dream about for your community?"***

I would like to see India as an epitome of **RAINBOW COLORS (VIBGYOR)**. India of my dreams will be a "developed country". Success of India in all the fields will reach no bounds. Poverty will disappear. India being the largest democracy in the world today will also succeed in literacy rate and low population levels. People will continue to have immense feelings of brotherhood and stand together to fight against terrorism. I dream India to be colorful as a 'rainbow' achieving success and prosperity. The motto of India, "Truth alone triumphs" will continue to represent the country and increase its dignity.

## **PARK ROTARY AWARD WINNERS AT CONFERENCE**

### ***Public Relations – Newsletters and Web sites***

Award of Merit – Large Clubs – Jeremiah Tanner, Steve Solbrack – Web site

Award of Merit – Large Clubs – Rod Shilkrot, Darlyne Erickson – Newsletter

### ***Club Administration***

Honorable Mention – Large Clubs

### ***Individual Service Above Self Awards***

Jay Rasmussen (Coordinated a number of club activities in the past year)

Jeremiah Tanner (Chaired Poinsettia Sale, took on club Webmaster role)

## **DATES AND HOSTS NEEDED FOR PROGRESSIVE**

**REPEAT NOTICE:** 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 [jrasmsen@jobsmn.com](mailto:jrasmsen@jobsmn.com). Please help me get this thing on the calendar. Thanks! Jay Rasmussen, Vice President and Social Director



## COMMITTEES FORMING FAST FOR 2009 GALA

Hello fellow Rotarians. As I mentioned at the meeting today the committees for this year's Gala are being formed and this is your opportunity to choose which committee you would like to work on. The event is being held on Thursday, October 8th at the Doubletree Hotel. Please see the list below and let me know which committee/committees you would like to be on as every member is expected to participate. If I have not received a response within two weeks you will be assigned to one. With the participation of the entire club this will be a fun, productive event and no doubt a tremendous success as well! Thanks ahead of time for your prompt response and your help with our main fundraiser for the entire year!

**Overall chair, Nick Lampi**

### Committees:

- Program Setup, Entertainment and Decor -
- Marketing - Rod Shilkrot, *Chair*
- Silent Auction -
- Sales and Sponsorship - Elmer Schindel, *Chair*
- Financial - Lynette Fagerberg, *member*
- Volunteer Coordination -



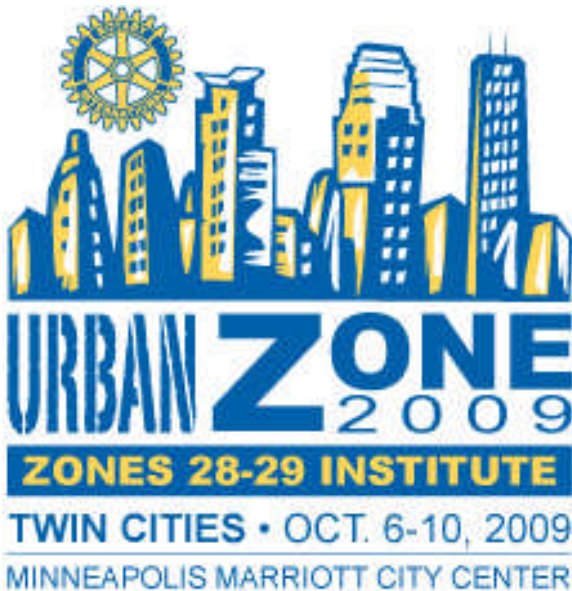
## CELEBRATIONS!

### BIRTHDAYS

- Bruce Hasselbring—3
- Elmer Schindel—4
- Walt Hanson—5
- Allan Ackerman—6
- Darlyne Erickson—16
- Paul Bierhaus—19
- Bill Kenney—20
- Mary Phelps—21

### CLUB ANNIVERSARIES

- John Billman—55 Years
- Al Ynvge—48 Years
- Bill Davies—26 Years
- Jack Chaffee—25 Years
- Lynette Fagerberg—14 Years
- Nick Lampi—8 Years
- Sue Sanger—2 Years



## STRETCH DRIVE UNDERWAY: TRF ANNUAL GIVING CAMPAIGN 2009

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. 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. Here is where we stand so far: As a District, we have given **\$374,262** as of March 31st. The collective club goals set by club Presidents was approximately \$724,000, which means we are about **52% to goal**.

Here are the clubs who have reached their goals already. Great job!

<u>Club member</u>	<u>% of goal</u>	<u>Club Goal</u>	<u>Amount given</u>	<u>\$ per</u>
St. Michael-Albertville	199%	\$2,750	\$5,464	\$248
Richfield	194%	\$3,600	\$7,000	\$233
Redwood Falls	128%	\$4,400	\$5,625	\$140
Madelia	114%	\$1,000	\$1,140	\$54
Eden Prairie noon	110%	\$6,000	\$6,584	\$212

*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*



## YOU CAN BE PART OF HISTORY IN EDINA ON MAY 17<sup>TH</sup>

How many of us get an opportunity to do something that has never been done before? Well now you have a chance! On May 17<sup>th</sup> a **World Record for the Largest Bike Parade** is going to be set at Lake Cornelia in Edina. We need 3,000 riders to cover the 2 mile route, single file without any large gaps between bikers. Here are some details about the record setting event:

**Date:** Sunday May 17<sup>th</sup>

**Time:** 10:00 am – 2:00 pm

**Cost:** Just \$5 to ride, raise \$25 and get a free World Record Setting T-Shirt

**Why:** Build community by promoting the healthy benefits of safe biking.

**Star Power:**

**Greg LeMond**, 3-time Tour de France winner is going to lead the Bike Parade

**Proceeds:** Are going to local food shelves and purchase bike racks

**To register:** [www.edinabikeparade.com](http://www.edinabikeparade.com)

This promises to be a fun day for families to do something that you will talk about forever. Steve May;  
[www.edinabikeparade.com](http://www.edinabikeparade.com); 612-850-5027

## **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.

## **SLP ROTARY HAS A NEWLY- DESIGNED WEB SITE**

**Newly designed club Web Site:** [www.RotarySLP.org](http://www.RotarySLP.org)

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

**Modeled after:** Hopkins Rotary site

**Demonstration of new site:** coming to a Monday meeting soon

**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) – PASSWORD: parkrotary**