



# ROTARY DISTRICT 5610 SEPTEMBER 2006 NEWSLETTER



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Roger & Betsy Wiltz

## We're on the Road.....

On Thursday, July 27<sup>th</sup>, we traveled to Denison, IA, the most southeast point in District 5610. Denison is the home of PDG Jerry Ferris. Denison Rotary recently contributed a \$100,000 room to their new Community Conference Center. This center houses Denison's "Hall of Heroes," a truly remarkable Rotary project that features pictures and biographies of Denison soldiers dating back to The Indian Wars. See this if you get an opportunity! Denison has produced 60 Paul Harris Fellows.



We visited six clubs in four days this week. Noon Monday, July 31<sup>st</sup>, found us in Downtown Sioux City. Our district's oldest club, they were chartered in 1912. Besides supporting an annual

"Brick & Mortar" project in the community including the current Ashford Boy Scout Training Center, they are strong Foundation supporters with 57 Paul Harris Fellows to their credit. They appear to be vitally interested in Foundation support. PDG Ron Krage is a force in Sioux City Rotary.

On the evening of the 31<sup>st</sup>, we visited the Mapleton, IA club. This devoted membership had a 100% turnout not to mention spouses! I doubt whether any club has more community projects – especially around Christmas, than Mapleton. These include Bingo at the nursing home, food pantry, and are restoring an old building on the cemetery grounds. Members are assessed for Foundation support – a good way to make certain the job gets done.

On Tuesday, August 1<sup>st</sup>, we journeyed to Luverne, MN. Luverne Rotary is a strong supporter of their new hospital. They also provide bike helmets for all 2<sup>nd</sup> graders. My presentation on Foundation was well-received, and I would not be surprised to see Luverne put its name on a water project in Africa. This is a very generous club.

~Continued to Page 2

## Inside This Issue

- Page 1~We're on the Road
- Page 4~Raffle Prizes
- Page 5~Wagner Wants YOU!
- Page 5~Club Reopens School

Continued from Page 1

Minneota, MN was our Wednesday, the 2<sup>nd</sup>, destination. We met in the Madison Ave. Apartments – a nursing home/assisted living facility. It was an excellent setting. This club is our district's smallest member-wise with only 12. However, they are generous, very active in the community, and show up every week! Minneota is one of our District's strongest Foundation supporters. Two members were kind enough to take me golfing after the meeting. Such a beautiful course!



We began Thursday, the 3<sup>rd</sup>, at Marshall "Sunrise." This club ranks 1<sup>st</sup> in our district Foundation giving with a \$221 ave. per member this past year. In my job of asking for support, this club made me remarkably comfortable about everything! They do a golf tournament for cancer research – an original project Rotary-wise. They've also added four new members. This club has fun! PDG Shirley Hiller is a force at Sunrise.

On Thursday afternoon we went to Canby. This club has some great local projects including defibrators for police cars. They also sell daffodils for cancer research. Roses on Valentines Day is a great Foundation money-raiser. (My fellow DG Dave in Duluth does Valentines Day roses in his club. It is popular as well as being a great fund raiser. Give it some consideration.) The Canby Rotarians are not hesitant to roll up their sleeves as they put a new roof on the museum. What I'll remember most is the energy in their singing...."MacNamara's Band" in particular. It was a long but great week.

Monday, August 7<sup>th</sup>, was another two-club day. We started with a noon meeting at Rock Valley. This club has a fantastic project known as "Foster Grandparents." It is about kids, and 100% participate. They also do "Senior Companions." They are generous with money and time. We sat together around a big table like family. I really enjoyed this.

That evening we went to a backyard brat/ear corn feed hosted by South Sioux City. It was as good as brats & corn gets! Even with the picnic atmosphere, I had the opportunity to give my DG presentation. My only regret was missing Golby Uhler – one of our district's true characters. These folks made us welcome! They are also strong Foundation supporters!

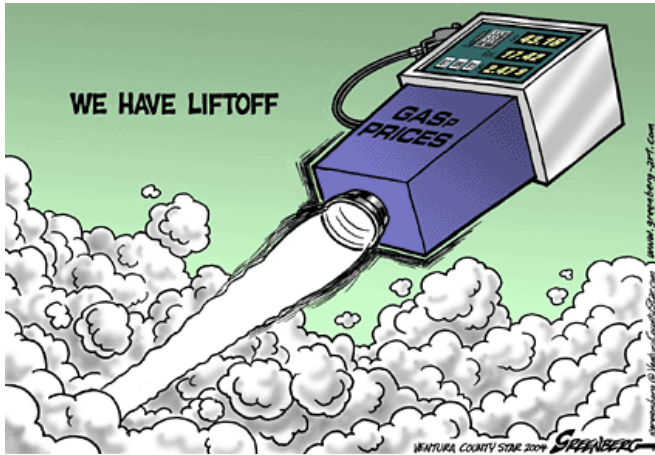
On Tuesday the 8<sup>th</sup> we went back to Marshall for the noon club meeting. Marshall Noon is committed to strong community support including a literacy project providing dictionaries for all 3<sup>rd</sup> graders. They also do "Big Buddies" bowling as well as Foundation giving. Marshall's singing may be the best I've heard thus far....especially "America The Beautiful." PDG Don McLaughlin is from this club! As AG, Don met me at each of his Zone's governor visitations.

August 9 Wednesday found us with my home club Wagner. They have fun at meetings while showing strong support for the community including a fantastic Centennial picnic shelter. Wagner does a great job recognizing school achievement...especially with seniors. They are consistent Foundation supporters. Wagner uses "Meals on Wheels" for Rotary make-ups. Take a close look at this idea's success. AG Marsha made the meeting, as well as Gregory's.

We went to Winner on August 10<sup>th</sup>. The Winner club shows much interest in its high school seniors with club meeting invitations to all seniors. They also provide scholarships. They are generous with both time and money, as well as Foundation support, and they made us very welcome. They also provided a GSE team member last year.

~Continued to Page 3

Continued from Page 2



Monday, August 14<sup>th</sup>, found us visiting the Aberdeen club. They are strong supporters of Story Book Land. They also do a unique immunization program called CINCH. They have much fun, and have made a commitment to Foundation. They need more female members, and have promised to take care of it. Look for Aberdeen to become increasingly active.

Clark was our destination on the 15<sup>th</sup>. They are 100% Paul Harris Fellows. They also include all their children through 5<sup>th</sup> grade in a Child ID program as well as rolling up their sleeves every year to paint a house in the community. 41 active members in a town this small says it all. What a club!

We visited the Huron club on the 16<sup>th</sup>. Huron has set a goal for five new members this year. I like goal setting. They need more members, and they didn't need me to tell them. They are the backbone of the Scout swim teams, and work to reward academic performance in their schools. Along with LeMars, they are a pioneer in the Foundation Water for Honduras program. PDG Nels hails from this club.

On August 17 we went to Gettysburg. AG Jim Mollison was present. They are devoted supporters of their local school system. We were heartily welcomed, they were receptive to my thoughts on Foundation support, and we will see this club increase its support of district affairs.

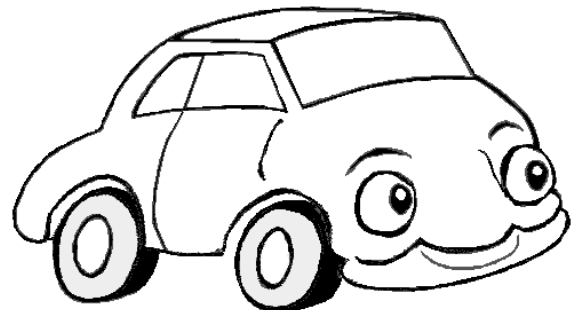
With 31 solid members, they too are a small community role model.

Monday the 21<sup>st</sup> of August found us visiting Sioux Falls Downtown. They will surpass 300 with nine new members joining. This club is extremely supportive and generous with local activities. President Pat is also looking for a major Foundation project with which to identify. Unlike other clubs searching hard for new members, "Downtown" has no problem. People want to join. I look for this downtown club to become more active in district affairs.

Tuesday the 22<sup>nd</sup> found us in Canton. They do a "Child-Find" project. They also do an "Adopt a Highway" stretch all the way to the Iowa border – 3 miles! They honor their out-going club presidents with a Paul Harris Fellowship. Super idea! They too are very staunch supporters of the local school system. They have adopted the recommended Rotary Committee organizational plan. I could not ask for more cooperation.

Thursday, August 24<sup>th</sup>, brought us to the Sioux City Suburban club. Though small in membership numbers, they are solid. Unique to this club is a Child Safety Seat program in partnership with the Sioux City Fire Department. They even do a fund-raising chili feed together! What a contribution! Vivian Adams, the club secretary, is our district's current DGN. She is knowledgeable; she is a leader; and she will make a great DG.

We'll start the final chapter of this project with a visit to Madison, SD.



# Rotary Foundation Raffle Prizes

CLUB	CONTACT	PRIZE
<b>Brookings</b>	Keith Kinner	Four (drawings) for 3 bottles <b>Schade Vine-yards</b> wine & cheese gift packs @ \$35
<b>Canby</b>	Loren Hacker/Barbara Hoyhtya	Gift Basket + Canby Bucks (\$200)
<b>Canton</b>	Pat Halverson	\$500 gift certificate to <b>Marshall John's Beef</b>
<b>Centerville</b>	Doug Voss	Norinco Model SAS 12 gauge semi-automatic shotgun (\$200)
<b>Cherokee</b>	Mark Hecox	18 holes golf with cart at Cherokee CC, lodging at Best Western (\$125)
<b>Custer</b>	Dick Nolte	Nine holes golf with cart + two nights B & B (\$250)
<b>Denison</b>	Sylvia Bachmann	Romantic Retreat – Dinner at Cronk's, One Night at B&B (\$175)
<b>Gregory</b>	Cheryl Sperl	Golf w/cart, \$50 meal, two nights at Gray House Inn (\$270)
<b>Hot Springs</b>	Jerry Schroeder/Dave Batchelor	Golf/Vacation Package for two -- 36 holes/cart, lodging, food, tickets (\$536)
<b>Huron</b>	Hugh Sheffield	Set of four John Green prints (\$250)
<b>Luverne</b>	Tony Linn	Deluxe Portrait session at Myhre Studio & one hallway sized portrait (\$320)
<b>Mapleton</b>	Ed Maier	Loess Hills Pottery Jar + two bottles Timber Ridge wine (\$125)
<b>Marshall</b>	Rodney Tholen	Fun Pack -- Golf at Marshall CC + Lodging, Meals, Video games, etc. (\$372)
<b>Minneota</b>	Cindy Potz	Day of Golf for two at Minneota Countryside GC + meal (\$78)
<b>Mitchell</b>	Ron Gates, Jr.	\$500 Gift Certificate to <b>Cabela's</b>
<b>Mobridge</b>	Lorretta Hernandez	Two Mick Harrison prints of Jack Buschbom & Alvin Nelson (\$150)
<b>Pierre/Ft. Pierre</b>	Ed Jacobson	\$1,400 <b>Wal-Mart</b> gift certificate
<b>Rapid City Rushmore</b>	Kent Musegades	Black Hills fly fishing excursion With Jerry Newman (\$300) + Web-Site Start-up (\$371)
<b>Sibley</b>	Scott Gaarder	Homemade bottle of wine + hors d'oeuvre tray/basket
<b>Sioux City Downtown</b>	Bob Knowler	Sioux City "Get-Away Package" + two Rotary watches – man's & woman's (\$295)
<b>South Sioux City</b>	Golby Uhlir	Two SD gold rings & a tie bar, estimated value \$1,300
<b>Suburban Sioux City</b>	Vivian Adams	Week of August 10-17, 2007 at Hill Country Resort, TX (\$840)
<b>Suburban Sioux City</b>	Anne Phetteplace	Weekend Stay at Clarion Hotel (two nights) (\$180)
<b>Tyndall</b>	Marty Koch	\$100 Cabela's Certificate
<b>Vermillion</b>	Roger Kozak	Golf at Bluff's with cart + Dinner for two at Mona Lisa (\$125)
<b>Wagner</b>	Roger Wiltz	Iron, hand-crafted Rotary weather vane (\$80)
<b>Watertown</b>	Dave Johnson	Framed 13" x 17" Terry Redlin Print "From Sea to Shining Sea" (\$75)
<b>Yankton</b>	Christine Tudor	Golf w/cart for two at Hillcrest CC (\$100)
<b>Grand Prize</b>	Roger & Betsy Wiltz	Caribbean Cruise (\$1,875) (Compliments of Governor & First Lady)

## **Wagner Wants You at the District Conference!**

Wagner, SD will host our District Conference on September 22<sup>nd</sup>, 23<sup>rd</sup>, and 24<sup>th</sup>. Much material will be presented in a format that imitates larger Rotary conferences by offering "break-out" sessions as a part of the larger plenary sessions.

Featured this year will be a pair of Rotary International leaders – J. Michael Pinson of Texas and Phil Silvers of Arizona. Along with inspiration and leadership, they will take us to a new level of appreciation for our Rotary Foundation and its work.

Saturday's noon meal will feature a short trip to the Lake View Hutterite Colony for a Hutterite home-cooked meal and tour. Don't miss this educational, mouth-watering opportunity.

The business meeting on Saturday afternoon will offer all attendees a chance to offer input to our District 5610 Bylaws as well as the budget. You have already paid for your seat, so why not attend?

Download a registration form from this website and send it in!



### **Club plays key role in reopening New Orleans school**

The Rotary Club of New Orleans, Louisiana, USA, has maintained a long relationship with historic Warren Easton High School in their community, so club members were not about to abandon their old friend in its darkest hour.

After Hurricane Katrina's winds and flooding dealt the 93-year-old building a near death-blow, the Rotary

club rallied in response, first by helping to convince school authorities that Warren Easton should reopen at all, and then by raising money and providing the "sweat equity" to make it happen.

And on 29 August 2006, Rotarians were at the school when Warren Easton got an extra financial and moral boost from President George W. Bush and the first lady, Laura Bush. The president and first lady presented a \$70,000 check to the school to help complete its library during ceremonies in New Orleans marking the first anniversary of Hurricane Katrina.

The club so far has raised more than \$100,000, and its members – along with Rotary members from other states – put in more than 2,000 volunteer hours in the sweltering Gulf Coast summer to ready the school for its September 7 reopening. The Rotary teams stripped and repainted 10 classrooms, the main administrative office and two staircases. They replaced old chalk blackboards with new, dry-erase whiteboards and installed new bulletin boards.

Joining the local Rotarians were 33 Rotary members from Berkeley, California, plus several from Rochester, New York, and Warrington, Pennsylvania. Additional donations came from Rotary clubs in Massachusetts, Kentucky, Florida, New York, and Germany.

The New Orleans club "adopted" Warren Easton in 1985. It sponsors the school's Interact club and awards annual scholarships to college-bound seniors. Future Katrina-related improvements planned by the club include fresh paint for more classrooms, the installation of mini-blinds, plumbing repairs, and equipping and stocking three science labs, the library and the virtual learning center.

"We knew from the outset that this must be reopened; good schools are vital to New Orleans' renewal, and Warren Easton was one of our best," says New Orleans Rotary member Henry Lowentritt, who chairs the project. "And when Rotary clubs hear about us, they ask, 'How can we help?' It's been just heartwarming, and we're making many new friends in the process."

By Wayne Hearn  
Rotary International



**SERVICE Above Self**