



Galeana ROTARY NEWS

Serving Jo Daviess County Dick Laubhan, Editor February 2005

Our President Is Taking a Breather, but He Reminds

Don't Dare Miss Our February 23 'Celebrate Rotary' Soiree at The National Mississippi River Museum & Aquarium!

As of this writing (Feb. 15) approximately half of our Rotary membership had subscribed for the Celebrate Rotary Gala set for 6:30 p.m. at the National Mississippi River Museum & Aquarium in Dubuque on February 23. C'mon, we can do better!

Among guests will be Rotarians from Bellevue, IA and Dubuque, as well as District Governor Bob Newlon and his wife. There may well be other out-of-towners, as Jack Morehead has been "beating the bushes" in our district, informing other Rotarians about this exciting, unprecedented event.

While Carter Newton's busy schedule,

plus the tiring effects of his thyroid cancer treatment encroached on his "President's Message" for this issue, he'll be holding forth at our Feb. 18 meeting. You can be sure you'll hear more about our Celebrate Rotary Gala, and quite possibly double fines for those Rotarians not in attendance. But, why risk it?

There's still plenty of time to purchase your tickets and line up a guest or two. And what a deal...there'll be "heavy hors d'oeuvres" in addition to a cash bar, and we're free to wander around the outstanding museum and aquarium all by ourselves. A short program and 100th Anni-

versary cake cutting ceremony will complete the event, due to end at 9 p.m.

A proposal to set up a dunk chair for Carter Newton over the museum's alligator tank seems to have languished in committee. There are other ways, of course, but if you are not present you cannot participate. Let's all get aboard, and make this celebration one of our best, for our club and Rotary International.



"Bring a Friend to Rotary" Scores Big on All Counts



Our "Bring a Friend to Rotary" project, first in a series of events and programs celebrating Rotary International's Centennial Celebration, registered a resounding 10 (out of 10) among Rotarians and their guests attending the February 4 luncheon at the De Soto House. Galena Rotarians brought a total of 37 guests to the affair, some of whom have expressed a strong interest in becoming members of the organization.

In a post-luncheon e-mail to project organizers Duane Grenier and Dan Ripley, Romer Wilsek wrote: "Congratulations, a great job! I received many favorable comments on the program - 'very professional and well done;' 'I certainly have a better understanding of Rotary and was very impressed;' 'seems like a great bunch of caring people.' There were a number of other positive comments. I hope we'll get many membership follow-ups."

(See next page for guest list.)



Top: Ken Parrott chronicles the history of the Rotary Club of Galena, from its beginnings in 1984. Bottom: Rotary President P. Carter Newton presented Connie Basso with Tony Basso's Rotary badge. Tony's untimely death shortly before Christmas saddened Galena Rotarians as well as his many friends, neighbors and acquaintances.

Top left: Phil Jackman explains the mission and workings of the Galena Rotary Foundation; top right: Susan Gordy on our club's assistance with the Apple River Fort; bottom left: Julie Bruser tells "what Rotary means to me;" bottom right: Jack Morehead on the Rotary International Foundation.

Odds & Ends:

The board of directors last week regretfully accepted the resignation of Richard "Rick" Vojta. Rick stated that growing business demands are keeping him from being fully involved in club activities. Rick had been an active member for the past seven years. "While making this decision has been difficult, I leave with many fond memories," Rick wrote. We'll miss his presence and active participation.

There'll be a "new wrinkle" added to our Annual Rotary Auction, Saturday, April 30 at Eagle Ridge Resort & Spa. This year the silent auction will be set up in the main auction room, on the walls adjacent to the hors d'oeuvres stations. The bars will be located outside the room, where the silent auction formerly was held. Placing both the regular and silent auctions in the same room will allow attendees to peruse the silent auction items without losing track of the "main event." It will also set the bar area aside exclusively for friendly conversation.

January attendance at our weekly meetings topped out at 93 percent, a great showing! Membership, though, is down to 81 from a high of 87 last summer. We'd like to have "new blood," but are fortunate in having a solid, highly active member core.

Roland Imes and Mary Kelly-Train, reporting for the Education Services Committee, are cooking up a new scheme that would result in Joe Daviess County high schools having in place a "perpetual plan"

for attracting students to participate in RYLA and World Affairs seminars. Roland and Mary recently held a brainstorming breakfast at the Irish Cottage, with county school superintendents in attendance. More on this later.

Uppcoming events include Day in the Country, May 4 at the new Galena Territory Association headquarters. An increase in the entry fee of \$3 is under consideration. A change to round tables – more accessible to handicapped persons – will necessitate a minor expenditure for new table clothes ... The last three meetings during May will include Teacher of the Year, Student of the Year and Purdy Scholarship awards ... Our annual Christmas Party has been set for Saturday night, Dec. 10 at the Irish Cottage.

We Receive More 'Thank You's'

Dear Rotary:

Thank you on behalf of the League of Women Voters of Jo Daviess County for your recent pledge to sponsor the upcoming "Starry Skies" event.

Dick Pouzar, President
Lu Bleveans, Natural
Resources Chair

From Grant Westenfelder:

Please extend my thanks for the beautiful flower arrangement from Rotary. Things continue to go well. I begin physical therapy tomorrow.

Grant

Galena Rotary:

I would just like to thank you for the scholarship. The first semester at the University of Iowa went well.

Sincerely,
Amanda Brant,
Scales Mound

Friends Who Joined Us on February 4

Following is a list of Rotarians and their guests, from sign-up sheets left on tables:

Carter Newton – Mark Boyd and Mark Moran
Tom Morris – Kent Renier
Duane Grenier – Ron Smith
Dave Eaton – Carl Johnson
Don Gereau – John Carlson
Dwight Bischel – Ric Walsh
Ken Parrott – Robert Dittmar
Gordie Kilgore – Bill Pettenger
Romer Wilsek – Jim Curtis
Roland Imes – Connie Basso and Roger McAlister
Dan Ripley – Guy Carlson and Tom Jancz
Lynn Gaber – Marty Soat and Denise Guenzler
Marc McCoy – Angela McKinney and Rick Hochman
Jeff Hill – Dr. Greg Vandigo
Larry Blankenbaker – Andy Blankenbaker
Bob Wehrle – Rich Mattas
Dick Laubhan – Bob Reigle
Brian Schoenrock – Noreen Brill
Sean Loberg – Joe Maffit
Ed Schmit – Cheryl Faruggia, Ron Allen and Judy Dixon
Pat McCarthy – Blain Williams
Dorte Breckenridge – Betty Fields
Mary Sheahen – Mary Weck
Connie Shireman – Pat Keleher
Susan Gordy – Jan Harris
Bill Norton – Carolyn Norton
M. J. Thorne – Ron Nesler, Chris Dempewolf
Don Porter – Dick Peterson
Curt Beatty – Boni Wittenbrink

Switcheroo: When Santy Mendez sought to retrieve his black leather jacket from the coat rack following our Feb. 4 event, he found a black leather jacket – but not his! He describes his own jacket as "heavy leather, with a lining and clips on the cuffs." Please check with your guests to see if one of them might have made the error.

Upcoming Programs

Feb. 18 – Kim Stout, Highland Community College, "Servant Leadership"
Feb. 25 – Classification talks
March 4 – Bob Gent, International Dark-Sky Association
March 11 – Mike Pratt, Dubuque Rotary Club, "Polio Plus -- Africa"
March 18 – Student of Quarter, Eagle Ridge Resort & Spa

Greeter Assignments

Feb. 18 – Shirley Leliosh/
Sean Loberg
Feb. 25 – Pat McCarthy/
Santiago Mendez
March 4 – Dan Mennenoh/
Dan Mitchell
March 11 – John Morehead/
Fr. Bob North
March 18 – Bill Norton/
John Osanski

FYI

Galena Rotary Club, P.O. Box 52,
Galena, IL 61036. Meets every Friday at
11:45 a.m. - DeSoto House Hotel

2004-2005 Officers

President - P. Carter Newton
President Elect - Ed Schmit
Past President - Romer Wilsek
Treasurer - Vicky Vondran
Secretary - B'Ann Dittmar

Newsletter

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