



Galena ROTARY NEWS

Serving Jo Daviess County Dick Laubhan, Editor February 2006

President's Message



Hey! Our Valentine Party Made Us \$900 Richer!

What a great St. Valentine's Day party at Eagle Ridge Resort & Spa! The food was excellent, the décor and entertainment great, and thanks to Don Gereau and his committee we netted \$900. Great work, party planners!

Kudos, also, to you Rotarians who responded to my recent request to help out by "adopting" a member who does not have e-mail, and seeing to it that the member gets a printed copy of messages we send. We have close to 10 members who don't "surf the net," and I'm glad to say that they've all been "adopted." All members should now have our board's January minutes.

A big issue coming up for our club – and all local Rotary Clubs – is the new Youth Protection

edict from Rotary International. Phil Jackman gave us details at our last board meeting, and it's going to be a challenge. Phil is in charge of our Youth Exchange Program, and also a lawyer, so he is a good choice to wade through all the requirements that this new RI program sets forth. In addition, our past presidents are going to meet, discuss it, and chime in with their suggestions. We actually have only two choices: fulfill RI's requirements, or abandon all of our youth programs. Hopefully we won't have to make the latter choice.

Our next big event, Saturday, April 22 at Eagle Ridge is the annual "Rotary Roars for Youth" auction. We've adopted a "Roaring 20's" theme, because we're "roaring," and also because we're celebrating our club's 20th anniversary. If you didn't attend our Friday, Feb. 17 luncheon meeting you missed Bob Wehrle and myself in representative – and pretty funny -- Roaring 20s garb. How about dressing up for the auction, yourselves? Online, check out <http://frankbeecostume.com/frankbeecostume/newsection7.html> --

click on "Roaring 20s." You can rent 1920s era tuxes at Galena Ridge Cleaners, or buy or rent costumes at Fun Time Costumes, 1135 Main St., Dubuque (563/582-1933), or Honey's Costumes Plus, 563/582-7667.



Bob "Zoot Suit" Wehrle and Ed "Machine Gun" Schmit appeared in these fanciful 1920s getups at our Feb.17 meeting.

Pat McCarthy and his auction committee are expecting a "fantastic success" this year – which is nothing unusual! You can help us achieve it by selling a minimum of \$100 in raffle tickets, four or more admission tickets and procuring four or five auction items. Just think – due to our auction we've awarded over \$400,000 in scholarships in the past 20 years, and we have a trust fund in now excess of \$300,000. You can all be very proud of these accomplishments.

See you at the auction!

Ed Schmit, President

Rotary Club Gifts Galena Historic Sites For Statue Project

At its Friday, Feb. 10 luncheon meeting the Rotary Club of Galena presented a \$500 check to Galena Historic Sites Director Terry Miller, co-chair of the organization's Julia Dent Grant statue project. Upon accepting the gift, Miller stated that the amount put the Historic Sites group's fundraising effort over the \$80,000 mark. The final goal is \$110,000, which will pay for an eight-foot tall bronze statue of Pres. Ulysses S. Grant's wife, being sculpted by Lily Tolpo of Stockton. The statue will be sited in First Ladies Park, just west of the U.S. Grant Home in Galena.

Mr. Miller will present an update on the Julia Dent Grant statue project at Rotary's April 7 luncheon meeting at the De Soto House Hotel.



Rotary Pres. Ed Schmit, left, presents a \$500 check to Terry Miller, Director of Galena Historic Sites. The donation will help the organization in its drive to raise \$110,000 to cover the cost of a bronze statue of Julia Dent Grant, wife of Pres. Ulysses S. Grant.

Galena Gazette Photo



Welcome James Mahoney, Judge Sprengelmeyer

Judge Victor V. Sprengelmeyer and James P. (Jim) Mahoney were formally accepted as the newest members of the Rotary Club of Galena at a Friday, Feb. 10, luncheon ceremony.

Judge Sprengelmeyer, sponsored by Rotarian Roger Eichmeier, joined the bench as an associate judge in the 15th Judicial District Circuit Court in 1992. Before becoming a Jo Daviess County trial court judge at that time, he had his own successful practice in Dubuque.

A native of East Dubuque, Judge Sprengelmeyer did his undergraduate work at Loras College, and received his LL.B. degree from the University of Iowa. He was admitted to the Illinois Bar in 1967. From 1973 to 1976 he occupied the position of Joe Daviess County States Attorney.

Judge Sprengelmeyer and his wife, Mary Beth live on the outskirts of East Dubuque. Their daughter, Michelle Sprengelmeyer, MD recently launched her own practice, River City Family Care, in East Dubuque. A son, James, works for American College Testing in Iowa City, and is working on his Ph.D in English literature. Victor says he'd like to help us out with projects that

focus on health care and preserving our environment.

Jim Mahoney, sponsored by Rich Austin, is a retired lawyer who spent approximately 20 years as a corporate attorney for the Amoco Corporation in Chicago. A native of Tulsa, OK, Jim started high school in Tulsa, finished his secondary schooling in Denver and "lived in a lot of different places" before joining Amoco. He did his undergraduate college work at the University of Colorado, Denver, and earned his law degree from the Northwestern University School of Law.

Jim and his wife, Mary, recently move into their newly constructed home on Stony Point Road in the Galena Territory. They have a daughter, Sara, who is a freshman at the University of Chicago.

Jim hasn't decided as yet exactly what kinds of Rotary activities he'd like to pursue. So here's your chance to get to know him and tell him about some of the things we do.

We are delighted to have you as new members of the Rotary Club of Galena, Jim and Judge Sprengelmeyer. Welcome aboard!

Message from Combarbala

Bob Wehrle recently received an eloquent and touching e-mail from our Rotary friends in Combarbala, Chile, thanking us for our help in raising funds to construct public restrooms in downtown Combarbala. The message – painstakingly translated by Bob – reads in part as follows:

"With true happiness I write these lines of testimony, to you, in particular and the Rotary Club of Galena ... for the formidable support to advance the fruitful task of building the public restrooms in [our] Plaza de Armas.

"As a separate matter, your visit of three days permitted us to live and share rich experiences and to assimilate the Rotary sentiment that anywhere on earth it is better to GIVE BEFORE THINKING ABOUT IT; and, to link hands between two nations so distant and so distinct... towards common ideals with the practice of solidarity."

The message, from Miguel Onate Collao, president of Combarbala's Rotary Club, went on to say that the project is nearly finished, and will be officially turned over to the city as soon as a tie-in to the sewage system has been completed. "Please receive a sincere 'abrazo' from the 12 Combarbala Rotarians and their wives, and let's continue with global projects and tasks where one gives but does not receive," Miguel concluded.

Upcoming Programs

Feb. 24 – Classification Talks – Dorte Breckenridge & Jeff Hill
 March 3 – "Town Meeting-America in Crisis," Ed Schmit
 March 10 – Student of the Quarter, Eagle Ridge Resort & Spa
 March 17 – Loras College Update, Pres. Jim Collins
 March 24 – "Turkey – Its Future with the European Union," Bob Wehrle
 March 31 – Jo Daviess Health Dept., Heather Miller
 April 7 – Julia Dent Grant Statue Project, Terry Miller, Galena Historic Sites
 April 14 – Open
 April 21 – "Nigeria," Mark Hirsch, Dubuque Telegraph Herald

Greater Assignments

Feb. 24 – Andy Willis/Romer Wilsek
 March 3 – Dick Woodruff/Becky Wolf
 March 10 – Dick Alexander/Sandy Aurit

March 17 – Rich Austin/Rev. Fred Baltz
 March 24 – Curt Beatty/Roland Bermea
 March 31 – Dwight Bischel/Larry Blankenbaker

Finemasters

Feb. 24 – Marc McCoy
 March 3 – Lloyd Callaway
 March 10 – Duane Grenier
 March 17 – Rich Mattas
 March 24 – Dorte Breckenridge
 March 31 – Shirley Leliosh

Trivia

Feb. 24 – Roland Imes
 March 3 – Roger Eichmeier
 March 10 – Don Gereau
 March 17 – Joel Holland
 March 31 – Rich Mattas
 April 7 – Mary Kelly-Train /John Holm
 April 14 – Sandy Aurit
 April 21 – Scott Lawlor
 April 28 – Dr. Jim Darling

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 - Ed Schmit
 President Elect - Duane Grenier
 Past President - P. Carter Newton
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 Secretary - Dick Laubhan

Newsletter

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