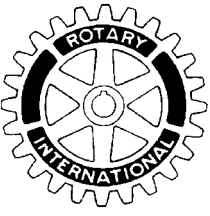


Galena ROTARY NEWS



Serving Jo Daviess County

Dick Laubhan, Editor

April 2004

President's column: Extra special annual meeting set to celebrate 20th anniversary

Did you remember? This year is the 20th anniversary of our club!! We are planning an extra-special celebration as part of our June 25 Annual Club Meeting at Eagle Ridge Inn and Spa, so be sure to put the date on your calendar. We'll update you as plans develop.

I've had the pleasure of participating full-time with the Auction Committee this year. What a great team of dedicated and energized Rotarians!

Every one of them is stepping up to the plate and giving of their time and talents to make our club auction an outstanding success in support of Jo Daviess County high school students aspiring to higher education.

Pat McCarthy is doing his usual fine job in shepherding the team's efforts, and every Rotarian selling tickets and soliciting donations for this year's event will help make 2004 a banner year. Great work!!

But don't forget, there's still time to bring in more donations, so be creative and put in a bit of extra effort. Plus... are there any of your friends or acquaintances you might have overlooked for advance ticket sales? Do some mental double-checking!

The official groundbreaking for our Galena Pathway Project on Friday, April 2 brought the club's Centennial Project closer to fruition. The interpretive signs and benches donated by our club will enhance the pathway and give visitors an interesting overview of the history of Galena and its environs.

If you saw the April 7 Galena Gazette, you no doubt noticed Duane Grenier (with other notables) shoveling a "group spadeful" on behalf of the club. Personally, I think Duane might be hired for the construction crew! The project is slated to be completed and dedicated in time for the July Grand Excursion celebration.

More than 50 citizens showed up for the April 2 ceremony, which took place right above the old, relocated blacksmith shop. Thanks to you Rotarians who participated in the event, on a sunny but chilly morning.

Our club has a full palette of programs for May - Rotary Auction, Senior's Day in the Country, Student of the Quarter and the Purdy Scholarships. Each of the committees in charge of these events has been hard at work, and committee members look forward to our enthusiastic support of their efforts -- as the service-oriented Rotarians that we always try our best to be. Thank you all for your continued interest and help.

Romer Wilsek,
President

We're down to the wire Donor agreements due April 23 for May 1 auction

May 1 and our "Rotary Roars for Youth" Auction is right around the corner, and it's time to turn up the heat for last-minute auction donations and ticket sales.

Most important: the auction committee needs your auction donor forms returned no later than Friday, April 23. You can drop your forms and donated items off at Galena State Bank.

Over the weekend, committee members will input all donations into a computer so the auction program can be printed. In addition,

decisions must be made on determining which items are for the silent auction or regular auction.

This year's auction is shaping up to be an award winner. We'll have three cars to put up for auction this year including Chrysler P.T. Cruiser, and a 1999 Jaguar XK8. There are also a number of vacation packages that will be sold during the auction as well as a big screen television and pool table.

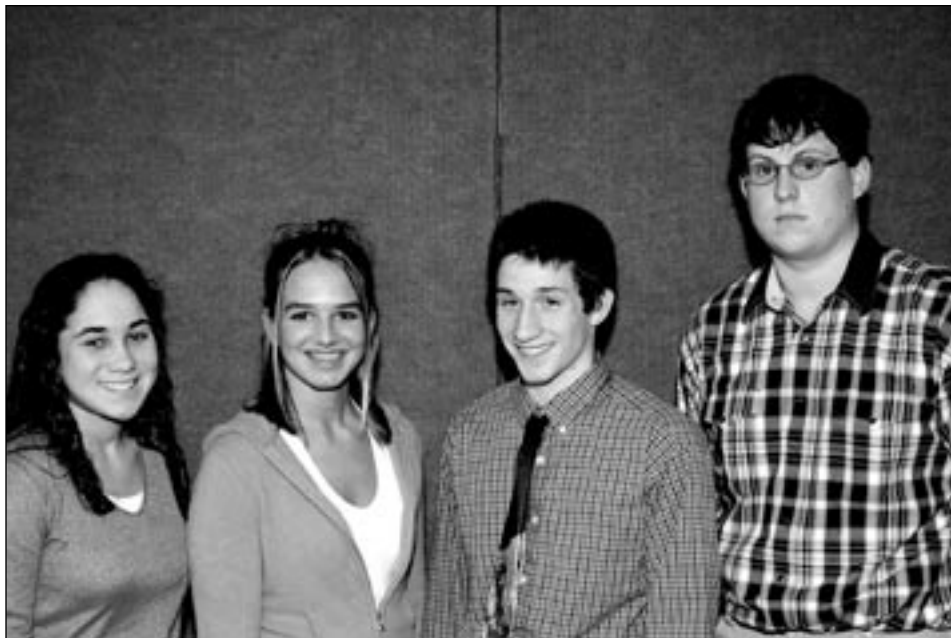
This year's auction raffle is the second most successful yet. Ticket sales totaled just over

\$8,500, down slightly from last year, but better than any other year.

Rotary members who have not been able to secure donations for the auction are also being asked to make a donation to the auction. Donations help underwrite expenses and help make the auction all the more profitable, which in turn helps the county's young people who want to attend college.

Members are also encouraged to purchase their tickets and return the money to the club.

Students of the quarter...



The Rotary Club of Galena honored a number of area sophomores at its March 19 meeting at Eagle Ridge Inn & Spa. Honored as students of the quarter are (from left) Andrea Schadle, Tri-State Christian School; Emily Randecker, East Dubuque; Ken Invergo, River Ridge and Ryan Travis, Scales Mound. Unavailable for the photo are Gretchen Townsend, Galena; Katie Wurster, Stockton; and Ben Freese, Warren. Each of the students is eligible for the club's student of the year award. Digital photo by P. Carter Newton. Galena Gazette photo

Service is really the name of our game

Just out of curiosity, our President Romer Wilsek recently completed an informal "member survey" which indicated just what kind of club and community services our 80-plus members are currently performing. Turned out that close to 86 percent of the membership is actively involved in some kind of on-going service, whether it be with annual events such as our Rotary Auction, or special projects. We haven't cross-checked, but we'll bet that the figure ranks our club pretty high on the list for service, which is what Rotary International and our club is all about.

If you happen to be in the 14 percent of membership with no particular yearly service agenda, it could well be due to illness or other incapacity. But at our April 2 Board meeting, another reason popped up out of the blue - quite possibly no one ever asked you to do anything!

Personally, I'd probably not be editor of our newsletter if Duane Grenier hadn't come up to me one day after a luncheon meeting last spring and said, "Hey, would you be willing to do our newsletter?" I wasn't aware the job was open, and as long as a newsletter appeared now and then I'd probably never have volunteered. But I said, "Sure," because I'd done newsletters and other writing assignments in my business career. I've certainly enjoyed and profited from the experience, and incoming President Carter Newton tells me that the membership might be

willing to put up with my occasional corny wit and such for at least another year.

Taking the above into consideration, the Board is going to encourage committee chairmen to look into the backgrounds of members, new and old alike, and make educated approaches to those who have no committee or other duties. Also, in talks with prospective members, sponsors are encouraged to emphasize the service aspects to club membership, as well as the average annual financial commitment a new member might be expected to make in taking an active role - close to \$1200 per year according to a Board estimate. Meanwhile, if you have a talent that might be useful to the club, Galena or Jo Daviess County and its other towns, don't hesitate to contact a committee member forthwith.

Also, don't forget -- whether you have a regular club responsibility or not right now, one way you can always contribute "in spades" is to back the club to the best of your ability in its fundraising activities. Ticket sales, auction donations, etc. - they come up every year, and they are the fuel for our on-going, high-impact program of non-stop service to our county residents and communities. You might be surprised -- as a friend I'd kind of forgotten about last week asked me: "Hey, you haven't contacted me about auction tickets or a donation - what happened?"

Dick Laubhan, Editor

Waiters needed! Can you lend a hand for the Seniors Day in the Country?

We can't guarantee big tips, but if you'd like to volunteer as a waiter at our Wednesday, May 5 Seniors Day in the Country, contact Dorte Breckenridge or Jim Keller post haste.

"Some of our old folks need some assistance in getting their sandwiches and soft drinks to their tables," says Dorte. "They'll welcome the help."

Our 17th Annual Day in the Country event will get under way at 10 a.m., when buses unload elderly guests from Galena, Elizabeth, Stockton and other Jo Daviess County communities at the Territory Owners Club. Many other old folks arrive on their own.

Gordie Kilgore - health permitting - is slated to handle master of ceremonies duties, using his exclusive Riverbank Radio format. Then, at 10:30 a.m., Brian Schoenrock will take over with a creative Karaoke program featuring old-timers from the audience lip-synching ditties that were popular in the 1930s - or before! Lunch will follow, at about 11:35 a.m., and then there'll be drawings for "lots of prizes." At 12:45 p.m. guests will get to hear a short concert by the Galena High School Jazz Ensemble.

"It'll be a really fun time," Dorte says, "and we think the Karaoke gimmick is really going to be a hit."

The Seniors Day in the Country program is promoted by area banks and churches, and has grown in popularity over the years. "Our old-timers really enjoy it, and look forward to it every year," Dorte reports. "They keep track of when it's coming up."

Greeters:

April 16: John Holm & Roland Imes; April 23: Phil Jackman & John Jaeger; April 30: Jim Keller & Mary Kelly; May 7: Gordie Kilgore & Dick Laubhan; May 14: Scott Lawlor & Shirley Leliosh; May 21: Sean Loberg & Pat McCarthy; May 28: Santi Mendez & Dan Mennenoh; June 4: Dan Mitchell & John Morehead; June 11: Carter Newton & Fr. Bob North.

FYI

Galena Rotary Club, P.O. Box 52, Galena, IL 61036. Meeting every Friday at 11:45 am - The DeSoto House
2001-2002 Officers
President - Romer Wilsek
President Elect - P. Carter Newton
Past President - Dwight Bischel
Treasurer - Vicky Vondran
Secretary - B'Ann Dittmar
Newsletter - Dick Laubhan, 777-1165,
e-mail, lizndick@galenalink.com



Breaking ground for the Pathway on the Levee are (from left) Duane Grenier, Rotary Club of Galena; Kathy Farlow, Galena Area Chamber of Commerce Ambassadors; Mark Moran, Galena city administrator; Louie Timp, Louie's Trenching; and Scott Lawlor, Galena Grand Excursion. They were joined by 50 others for the festivities. P. Carter Newton photos

A grand day!

Galena Rotarians show up in force for Pathway on the Levee groundbreaking



Rotary Centennial Committee Chair Duane Grenier, right, makes a few comments at the groundbreaking. He also serves on the Galena Grand Excursion Steering Committee. Rotarian Dwight Bischel has helped with a number of Grand Excursion projects.



Rotarians Scott Lawlor and Bill Norton have played key roles with Galena Grand Excursion. Scott serves as co-chair of the local steering committee and serves on the Grand Excursion, Inc., board of directors while Bill has chaired the local organization's river committee.



Our esteemed president, Romer Wilsek, left, takes a peek at the photographer during the groundbreaking. Other Rotarians attending include Lois Wiene-Knautz and Vince Toepfer.



Mark Moran, Galena city administrator, right, shares a few words of welcome and comments about the Pathway on the Levee project on Friday morning, April 2. Listening are (from left) Steve Hickie, Galena Area Chamber of Commerce executive director and Rotarian, and Chamber ambassadors Patricia Goldthorpe, B'Ann Dittmar and Vicky Vondran. B'Ann and Vicky are Rotary members, as well.



As you can see, a large crowd attended the groundbreaking and took time to pose for a group photo. Rotarian Ed Schmit (right photo) attended the event.

