



Galeana ROTARY NEWS

Serving Jo Daviess County Dick Laubhan, Editor August 2005

Summer Doldrums Are Over – Things Are Picking Up!



Ed Schmit

As a club, we're showing signs of "cooking on all burners!" After a rough start – no quorum for our first board meeting, and yet-unfilled vacancies in both Rotary Foundation chair and Community Education Service chair – we are starting to make significant progress.

Our Aug. 12 board meeting was well-attended, both board members and guests. We had a board quorum, and there was a lot of enthusiastic participation from the floor. Thank you all so much!

First of all – we had two volunteers interested in filling the vacant Education Services chair. That's the spirit! Roger Eichmeier has decided to accept the chairmanship.

After discussions with International Service board member Bob North, your board has decided to split Jack Morehead's former role into three parts: record-keeping, home office interface (a member is now considering), and promotion – to encourage participation (let's have some volunteers). Jack did an incredible amount of work for the International Foundation, and it was really impossible to find one individual willing to take on total responsibility. There is also an opening for Public Relations chair, and I'm confident someone will step forward to fill this important post.

Our project to raise money for an endowment fund that would ultimately

replace "pass the hat" donations has raised some questions. The idea is to do two special fund-raisers per year, in addition to our February "outing". Half of the money would be spent this year, the other half put into the endowment fund for charitable contributions considered worthwhile by the board. Bill Norton and Carter Newton, both very experienced in this area, are working out endowment details. The fund-raising committee includes Lynn Gaber, Mary Kelly-Train and Dorte Breckenridge.

The committee decided on one-lb. packages of specialty nuts, for cooking, "cocktail hours," etc. A goal of \$100 of sales per member has been established. As an alternative -- for members not wishing to participate – several members have suggested a simple, one-time donation of \$35, representing the Galena Rotary Club profit on the sale of \$100 in nuts. It's an excellent idea, in the spirit of Rotary's goals. I like the "nuts" idea, but I also respect and value the opinions of our membership.

Our February, 2006, outing is in the planning stage, and Don Gereau again is chairing the event. You all know it will be exceptional, but tough to beat last year's outing at the Mississippi River Museum and Aquarium. But, Don can do it!

President-elect Duane Grenier is circulating new volunteer signup sheets

for our various committees. Each sheet has three columns: (1) For identifying committees on which you presently serve. (2) For checking off committees on which you'd like to remain. (3) The committee or committees you'd like to join, with your preferences rated 1, 2, 3. We expect every Rotarian to serve on at least one committee. If you are unsure as to which committee or committees to join, Duane and the various committee chairpersons will assist you in making a choice.

Last -- a couple of dates to mark on your calendars: Christmas Party, December 10, 2005 at The Irish Cottage Hotel, chaired by Shirley Leliosh; and, January 11, 2006, the Rotary Roundtable, at Eagle Ridge, chaired by John Cooke.

Our next board meeting will be held on Friday, September 9 at the De Soto House. We always welcome guests, so try to be there. And keep in mind this year's Rotary International theme – "Service Above Self" -- plus, our own club's theme, "Everyone Do a Little." If everyone does a little, an unbelievable amount gets done!

Ed Schmit
President

Combarbala Rotary Expresses Its Thanks

Within a few weeks from now the Rotary Club of Combarbala, Chile will be receiving a check for \$11,000 from the Rotary International Foundation, enabling the club to start construction of public restrooms in its downtown district. Bob Wehrle announced the news at our Friday, Aug. 12 meeting. Bob also read his translation of an e-mail he'd received from the Combarbala club, expressing appreciation for our efforts in helping raise money for the restroom project. The message read:

"We are very pleased with the steps you – Robert – took with Kristine Delacourt [Rotary Foundation]. Now we will calmly await the passage of the weeks – and also of winter – to start construction of the public restrooms for our people. They will be very thankful.

"When we begin the construction we promise to send the status and final completion reports along with photographs via the internet, and to comply with all the correct procedures. In the future the possibility exists that we can help with other international projects to assist people of limited means – as are the majority of the people of this area.

"We are proud to belong to Rotary and [and thankful to benefit] from the efforts of generous people from other parts of the planet. We are always – with effort – current with our own contributions, however small, in our district for the Rotary Foundation, because we know of the grand works of Rotary International for people who need it most. At the conclusion of this project, we will write to our national

and international magazines for all to see that the decision of Rotary International to celebrate the centennial with the Twin Clubs program was a good one. We especially enjoyed working with our brothers [and sisters] in Galena."

Juan Umana,
Combarbala Rotary Club

"Thank You" from Purdy Winners

Recently we received notes from three of this year's Jennifer Purdy Scholarship winners:

Dear Rotarians:

Thank you so much for the scholarship money. Your generosity is greatly appreciated. This money will be used to help me attend Illinois State University. Thanks again!

Kyle Korth, Stockton

Galena Rotary Charitable Foundation:

As a recipient of your scholarship, I would like to thank you most heartily for your gift. It truly is appreciated. Your generosity has made a dream come true. Sincerely,

Hannah Eshelman,
River Ridge

Galena Rotary:

I would like to thank you so much for making me a recipient of the Jennifer Purdy Scholarship. The \$1500 will go quite a long way in paying for my schooling and is much appreciated. I will be attending Drake University this fall to pursue a degree in pharmacy. Thank you again for your kindness.

Amanda Paisley, Warren

Short Takes

At its Aug. 8 meeting the Galena Rotary Club board of directors voted to increase our club's annual contribution to Rotary International's Polio Plus program from \$1000 to \$1500. Roland Bermea, M.D., who heads up our Polio Plus efforts, made the suggestion. The board decided to earmark the first \$500 in profit from our new semi-annual charitable fund endowment project for Polio Plus.

The club has regretfully accepted the resignation – at least for now – of Ron Smith, who joined the club last spring under the sponsorship of Duane Grenier. Ron's former employer, Glenbard Township High Schools, Glen Ellyn, cajoled Ron into taking over his old job as superintendent of schools – at least for another year. We'll miss your cheery presence, Ron – perhaps you'll re-up when you retire for good!

To keep our new Web site up to date, Andy Willis suggests that club committee chairpersons e-mail him news about their committees' makeup and work. Also, members in charge of fines, trivia, programs and greeters should provide Andy with names and dates for inclusion on the Web.

Rotarians Dan Ripley and Marc McCoy will be attending a one-day district training session on Thursday, Aug. 25 at Deer Valley Country Club, Deer Grove, IL (near Rock Falls). They'll return loaded with ideas on how to attract new members, then quickly get them deeply involved in useful committee work.

Upcoming Programs

Aug. 19 – District Governor Anita Papich

Aug. 26 – Jeff Hill, Galena-Stauss Hospital Update

Sept. 2 - Open

Sept. 9 - No Child Left Behind, Chris Cohen

Sept. 16 - Open

Sept. 23 - Classification Talks

Greeter Assignments

Aug. 19 – B'Ann Dittmar/

Randy Downing

Aug. 26 – Dennis Dunton/

David Eaton

Sept. 2 – Larry Eggers/

Roger Eichmeier

Sept. 9 – Dale Freres/Lynn Gaber

Sept. 16 – Don Gereau/Susan Gordy

Sept. 23 – Duane Grenier/

Dick Harmet

Sept. 30 – Chuck Henle/Steve Hickie

Finemasters

Sept. 2 – Randy Downing

Sept. 9 – Brian Schoenrock

Sept. 16 – Dan Ripley

Sept. 23 – Chuck Henle

Sept. 30 – Shirley Leliosh

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

Treasurer - Vicky Vondran

Secretary - Dick Laubhan

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