

Galena ROTARY NEWS

JULY 2002 SUSAN GORDY, EDITOR

In my first newsletter I'd like to review the two focal points I will be emphasizing in the coming year. I believe **Rotary = relationships**, and the energy we put into those relationships. I have chosen the two points below based on club input and my personal passion as president. I draw my inspiration from the king of relativity last century and his thoughts of:

*"A human being is **part** of a whole, ... called by us the 'Universe,' ... a part limited in time and space... The human experiences its self, its thoughts and feelings, as something separated from the rest----a kind of optical delusion of its consciousness. This delusion is a kind of **prison** for us, restricting us to our personal desires and to affection for a few persons nearest us. Our task must be to free ourselves from this prison by widening our circles of compassion to embrace all living creatures and the whole of nature in its beauty."*

-- Albert Einstein

First point: Based on the surveys you completed, **Fellowship** is the overwhelming reason we belong and what we would miss most if we left Rotary. With that in mind I want to see us:

- Work to increase fellowship within the club.
- Appreciate the danger of increased size without pausing to build structure for maintaining collegiality.
- Increase awareness of the Rotary paradox of the need for self-disclosure by a bunch of leaders in order to

create fellowship.

- Follow through our stated demand for a younger and more female club.

Such a focus builds on our past and gathers resources for the future.

The **Second** point: We are the Galena Club of **Rotary International**. As Einstein said, there is a call and urgency to widen our **circle of compassion**, which is clearly articulated in our international Rotary theme of "Sowing Seeds of Love." We need only examine our personal relationships locally to appreciate that the key to a successful relationship, be it marriage or any other based in love, is to be able to change and grow.

My changing our ritual opening of the Pledge after the invocation to higher understanding and the source of love is following another of Einstein's admonitions: "We cannot solve our problems with the same thinking we used when we created them." Hence, we change our collective behavior to remember and signify our attempt to transform our thinking.

I see RI as a transformative agent for change here in our county. That change calls for a change of thinking that is linked to the heart.... **creative, sustainable and based on our best guess at the truth...**in other words the **4-way test**. Through our fellowship and we can create a **safe environment** for all of us to **earnestly examine our thinking, identify and challenge possibly outdated "truths,"** and **learn as an international community** what truly would be **best for all involved** in order to move beyond our **self-imposed prisons of thought**.

We are leaders in our community being called on to

step up with creative and improved thinking rooted in the principles of the global 4-Way test. We must have the dedication and moral fiber to critically self-reflect and then act on our mission: a) to ensure the relevance of Rotary; b) build a better world and enhance the quality of life; and, c) as our mission states, "*create greater understanding among all people to advance the search for peace in the world.*" By being an organization of both sincere fellowship AND creative, service-minded thinking at a global level, we can become the agents for sowing seeds of love both at home and abroad.

Keeping in mind Past-President Gordie's counsel, I'd like to invite each and everyone of you to hop in the wagon with me, ...buckle up ... and.... thank you for the opportunity to ride in the front of the wagon as we roar down the hill the next 11 months!

Matt



Welcome New Member

David LeGrand

I was born March 23, 1971 in Dubuque Iowa. My parents, Norman and Shirley LeGrand, owned a farm south of Dubuque by St. Donatus. I have four older brothers, Dennis, Ken, Steve, and Danny. All of who are married and have children. Dennis and Ken are both in the area. Dennis works for Truck Country selling Trucks, my brother Ken runs the Bittersweet on the Bluff. Steve lives in Rockton, Illinois and works for Newell Companies in the Sanford division. He is the Operations Plant Manager. My Brother Dan is a techy. He works on government contracts on all of the electronics in the planes, ships, tanks and so forth.

I attended High School at Hempstead High and graduated in 1989. I then proceed to the University of Iowa majoring in Business Marketing. During college I was a Hawkeye Cheerleader. I was one of 7 males actually allowed on the field who could touch the female cheerleaders. We had a lot of fun and we traveled to all of the Big Ten Schools and of course the after conference games. I also worked at Happy Joe's during college. I was the person who made the dough. After college they offered me the General Manager position which I accepted. I was with them for about 8 months before Iowa Management Systems offered me a job running a few of the Hardee's Restaurants in Des Moines. I worked with Iowa Management Systems for 5 years before I accepted a position with Two Rivers Broadcasting. I became what I dreaded the most, an advertising sales rep. I sold Radio Advertising for two of the biggest stations in Des Moines. The president of Two Rivers Broadcasting was taking a job in West Palm Beach Florida and offered me a position as well. At that same time my brother Ken was buying the Bittersweet on the Bluff and had asked me to come help with that. I had a tough decision but I always ask my self what regrets

would I have if I didn't try. So I decided to try the West Palm Beach thing. I moved all of my stuff to Florida and moved into a very nice one bedroom apartment off the coast and was paying about \$900 for 700 sq feet of space. I loved Florida for it's beauty, but the people were just not the best. It was very dog eat dog and watch your back kind of atmosphere. So after about 6 months I decided that I hadn't made the right decision and moved back to help my brother.

It was October of 1998 when I moved back to Dubuque. I met my wife the following February and we were engaged at Christmas of 1999. We married in November of 2000 in Jamacia. We now have Samantha who is my step-daughter. She is 6 and in kindergarten at St Columbkilles in Dubuque and we have our new baby Sydney Ann who arrived on January 21 of this year. My wife currently works at Dubuque Data Systems with computers. She sets up networks and troubleshoots software. She's very talented at it, thank goodness, because I'm not. We also bought a house a couple of years ago in Dubuque. It's in the historical district and we are restoring it. My wife would say Destroying it. I do most of the work myself with all the free time I get. Which I'm sure you probably realize, it isn't much. I am also a landlord in Dubuque. I have 24 apartments that I own and mange myself. I enjoy golfing. I used to play a lot more than I do now but I still play in a league Tuesday nights at Galena Public. A lot of people ask me if I have any regrets about moving back to Florida. To be honest, not one. I have a beautiful family and a great job that I have fun at. My father and mother both still live in the area and are both very active still. I see my brothers frequently and we take vacations together. It sometimes seems like there's not enough hours in the day but I'm quite sure everyone feels that way most of the time. I just keep reminding myself that I've been dealt a pretty good hand.

Greeters

Aug. 2	Phil Jackman John Jaeger
Aug. 9	Jim Kellar Tom Kelley
Aug. 16	Dorte Brecken ridge Kent Gordie Kilgore
Aug. 23	Scott Lawlor Shirley Leliosh
Aug. 30	Pat McCarthy Herb Melnick



Birthdays

Aug 1	Larry Blankenbaker Tom Morris
Aug 4	Sherrie Lowly
Aug 5	Matt Taylor
Aug 6	Vicky Vondran
Aug 10	Bert Tower
Aug 16	Pat McCarthy
Aug 20	David Eaton
Aug 21	Lois Jean Wiene
Aug.26	Larry Eggers



Luncheon Programs for Your Education & Enjoyment

July 26	"What Your Doctor Won't Tell You" Dr. John Kabara
Aug. 2	CLUB ASSEMBLY—MATT TAYLOR
Aug. 9	RYLA & World Affairs Vickie Vondran & Ro- land Imes
Aug. 16	"THE METH THREAT" Sheriff Allendorf
Aug. 23	NEW LORAS COLLEGE PRESIDENT DR. JOHN KERRIGAN
Aug. 30	Pending... Got an idea? Call Tom Morris

