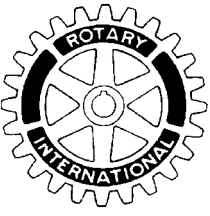


Galena ROTARY NEWS



Serving Jo Daviess County

Dick Laubhan, Editor

May 2004

President's column: May's an exciting month to be a Galena Rotarian

May is an especially exciting month for the Rotary Club of Galena. We had an extremely successful auction event at the Victorian Pines Inn and Spa on Saturday, May 1, thanks to all you members who sold tickets, secured donations and showed up at the event in your tuxes, kilts or Sunday best to add a bit of color.

Final figures aren't yet available, but I'm hopeful that our challenge to former president Matt Taylor-- that we'd do better this year than last year - will turn out in our favor.



We also had a fantastic Senior's Day in the Country on May 5, with 144 seniors from Jo Daviess County enjoying great entertainment and a tasty lunch at the Territory Owner's Club. Dorte Breckenridge and her committee did an outstanding job, and a number of Rotary members volunteered as waiters and other help.

MC Gordie Kilgore and his "From the River Bank" routine were a hit, and a number of bold oldsters really "took off" on Brian Schoenrock's Karaoke sing-a-long featuring ever-popular old-time tunes. A program by the Galena High School Jazz Ensemble and drawings for door prizes finished off a fun day for both Jo Daviess seniors and Rotary members as well.

The District Conference, held April 30-May 1 in Moline, was enjoyable and instructive, too. I attended the April 30 session only, not wanting to miss last-minute preparations for our May 1 auction. District Governor Fred Luckenbill and his staff did a sensational job in providing an outstanding program.

Our club was fortunate in winning two awards for clubs with 50 or more members - a first-place award for the best club newsletter (congratulations Dick Laubhan and Carter Newton!) and a second-place award for our new club Web site (nice work, Nancy DuPlessis!)

At the District dinner, I - along with Fred Luckenbill and the Rotary International President's representative - had the pleasure of presenting our own Capt. Jack Morehead with the Citation for Meritorious Service from the Rotary International Foundation. It's a prestigious award for Jack, recognizing his years of service as District Chairman of the Foundation.

Award presentations for Excellence in Education to Jo Daviess County teachers was next, May 14, with Student of the Quarter following on May 21. We'll wind up the month with presentation of Jennifer Purdy college scholarships for 21 deserving Jo Daviess County high school seniors. The committees for these events are doing really superior work!

Wow! What a rewarding month! All you Rotarians can be proud of your support of our various programs, in addition to those for Jo Daviess students, teachers and seniors. Thanks so much for lending a hand in our endeavors.

Romer Wilsek, President



Roland Bermea, left, celebrates a \$2,600 grant from Rotary District 6420 with Peg Murphy, center, Jo Daviess County Health Department administrator, and Jack Morehead, right.

Rotary grant helps others

Grant will assist health department with education

Roland Bermea, M.D., who heads up our education program, reports that The Rotary Club of Galena has been awarded \$2,600 after filing an application for a District Simplified Grant from the Rotary International Foundation. Such funds are provided by the foundation for worthwhile local club projects. In our case, the money will be donated to the Jo Daviess Health Department's Project

Education.

The Project Education goal is to deal with various humanitarian concerns facing our community, such as Public Health Education and Training; also, Women, Infant and Child Nutrition Education.

"Mutual cooperation between the Rotary Club of Galena and the J. D. Health Department will assure another successful project,"

Roland states. "The grant proceeds will allow the public health staff to update its knowledge to better serve client needs."

The Galena Rotary Club has received a letter appreciation from the Jo Daviess County Board of Health. In due course the club will provide the Rotary Foundation with an account of exactly how the grant funds have been used.



Who is this Galena Rotarian behind the shades?

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

Timothy Zito comes aboard

Timothy J. Zito of Galena will be joining us this month as a new Galena Rotary Club member. Tim recently took over as Food and Beverage Manager of the DeSoto House Hotel. He was sponsored by Don Porter.

Prior to his current DeSoto House post, Tim headed up food and beverage operations at Eagle Ridge Inn & Resort for approximately six years. Before that he held a similar post at the Double Tree Hotel in Glenview, IL. Tim honed his culinary and restaurant management skills at Washburn Technical School and Eastern University, both in Chicago.

Tim and his wife, Joanne reside on High Ridge Run in the Territory. They are the parents of three boys and one girl, ages 10 through 17.

"My goal for our DeSoto House restaurants - The General, The Courtyard and Green Street - is to carve out a niche that plays on the rich, interesting history of the hotel and Galena itself," Tim states. "For one thing, we're going to bring back a few old-time 'bill of fare' menu items that feature dishes that were popular back in the 1800s - like mutton (lamb, that is!) and pot roast. Among popular new items we've already added are a delicious Cornish pasty and beef tips and spaetzle."

Tim says that he's interested in serving Rotary as Sergeant-of-Arms and helping with room preparation. Please join us in welcoming Tim to the club.



Tim Zito, Food & Beverage Manager of the DeSoto House, is the newest member of the Rotary Club of Galena.

Miscellany:

Petra is coming

Dave Eaton reports that he's had recent correspondence with our "incoming" foreign exchange student, Petra Linden, 16, from Finland. "She's really excited about coming to Galena," Dave states, "and we'll be looking for families to host her during the coming school year."

Petra will be attending Galena High School, and her stay with any particular family will be approximately three months. Please contact Dave if you'd like to make a "home away from home" for Petra.

The Carter Newton family has volunteered to be a host family for Petra.

Help for tornado victims

Killer tornadoes that ripped through parts of northern Illinois recently left many homeless people in their wake. In answer to an appeal for assistance, our club donated all proceeds from our May 7 meeting's fines and "trivia" to the Red Cross.

Carter Newton was fine master, and made it tough going. And, Roland Bermea's trivia questions left members shaking their heads.

Who to give to

Our club receives many requests from charitable and other organizations for finan-

cial help. Unfortunately, we can't donate to all of them, even though their projects are worthwhile.

At our May 7 board meeting, John Cooke suggested that we make a list of all local charities and decide which of them fall within the framework of our club's own mission. The board approved John's suggestion.

Upcoming programs:

May 21—Student of the Quarter (Eagle Ridge)

May 28—Jennifer Purdy Scholarship winners (Eagle Ridge)

June 4—American Patriot Act, Roger Eichmeier

June 11—Classification Talks, Roy Cling-

man & Jim Darling

June 18—"Islam," Amere Ahmed, Loras College

June 25—Annual Installation Dinner (Eagle Ridge)—No noon meeting

July 2—Club Assembly, Carter Newton

July 9—Classification Talks, Dan Ripley and M. J. Thorne

May assignments:

Pledge: May 21, Randy Downing; May 28, Nancy DuPlessis.

Finemaster: May 21, Susan Gordy; May 28, Roger Eichmeier.

Trivia: May 21, Larry Blankenbaker; May 28, Bob Wehrle.



Dary Cortez is all decked out with her traditional dress and Mexican flag at the Rotary District Conference on May 1. She also gave a wonderful presentation.

Rotary also hosted its annual "Day in the Country" at The Galena Territory Association facility on May 5. The Galena High School jazz band helped provide entertainment.



Jack Morehead received the Rotary Foundation citation for Meritorious Service at the District 6420 Conference in Moline on Friday, April 30. According to Romer Wilsek, Galena Rotary president, this is a prestigious honor shared with very few Rotarians and recognizes Morehead's work in promoting the Foundation's work and promoting world peace and understanding. Morehead is a past district governor, Paul Harris Fellow, benefactor and member of the Rotary International Bequest Society. Presenting the award are Peter M. Snider, Rotary Club of Southeast Dallas County (Texas) the RI president's representative, left, and Fred Luckenbill, district governor.



Rotarians Steve Hickie, left, and Ed Schmit get ready to display the next items at the annual Rotary Roars for Youth Auction on May 1. Scholarships will be awarded to 22 area graduating high school seniors at the May 28 luncheon.