



Galena ROTARY NEWS

Serving Jo Daviess County Dick Laubhan, Editor May 2005

President's column

District 6420 Conference Is "Impressive"



I know that attending Rotary District Conferences may not be on the top-10 list of things to do. However, last Saturday's session of our District 6420 conference in Rochelle really gave me a sense of the bigger picture of Rotary and the lives the organization helps transform.

Galena Rotarian Dwight Bishel helped kick off the morning program at the literacy breakfast. Dwight gave a concise overview of our dictionary program, and it didn't take long for a member of the Savanna club to come over to get details. There were also presentations on a great literacy program in Rockford, and the district's literacy program in Costa Rica.

When I arrived at the breakfast, Ed Schmit and Jack Morehead were all smiles and couldn't wait to share the good news from the previous evening. Our club took first-place honors for its newsletter and Web site. Dick Laubhan, Julie Bruser and Andy Willis can stand up and take a bow!

Powerful Stories Unfold

A highlight of the conference was the noon speaker, a young woman who works for Rotary International but whose life was transformed by the ambassadorial scholarship she received. She had led a sheltered life on Chicago's North Shore, but her ambassadorial scholarship to Notre Dame University helped open her eyes to the world. Following a year in Scotland she spent a year teaching in Japan, and

with her new husband served in the Peace Corps. The money you contribute to the Rotary Foundation supports such life-transforming experiences.

We also heard from several newly selected ambassadorial scholars, members of a group study exchange, a woman who traveled to Egypt to administer polio vaccine, and a group that traveled to Costa Rica for the well project. Each story tugged at one's heartstrings and at times brought tears. It was powerful stuff!!!

Our district governor, Bob Newlon, recognized our club twice at the Saturday night banquet – first, for our Centennial efforts; then, as only one of three clubs in the district that partici-

pated in the Twin Club program. How cool is that!

We now are winding down our Rotary year, and this week we're celebrating the accomplishments of 22 high school seniors who are recipients of Jennifer Purdy Scholarships. In 19 years of giving scholarships, Galena Rotary has supported 368 young people in Jo Daviess County. The total value of the scholarships: \$406,000. Isn't that impressive?

We do have some things to look forward to in June. Kent Renier of the Dubuque club will be sharing his experiences giving polio vaccine in India. On June 17 we'll hold a club assembly and review our goals for the year and celebrate what we've accomplished.

There will be no noon meeting on June 24. The President's Banquet is that evening at Eagle Ridge Resort & Spa. The social hour starts at 5:30 p.m., with dinner at 6:30 p.m. It's my understanding that Gordie Kilgore is dreaming up some kind of entertainment. Bob Newlon will be attending, and Jack Morehead will make a special trip back from Indianapolis to attend. And ... we'll have the opportunity to hand the gavel over to your next president, Ed Schmit. This is a banquet you'll want to be sure to attend.

*P. Carter Newton
President*



District Governor Bob Newlon and his wife, Linda, look on as Dwight Bishel gives a presentation on the Rotary Club of Galena's literacy project at the district conference last Saturday.

“Seniors Day in the Country” Hosted at New Territory Owners’ Club

Approximately 110 Jo Daviess County senior citizens enjoyed Rotary’s 18th annual “Seniors Day in the Country” on Wednesday, May 4, at the Galena Territory’s newly constructed owners’ club.

“Attendance was a bit down this year,” said event organizer Dorte Breckenridge, “but the new facility worked out really well. Elevators up to the second floor banquet room were a big help for the elderly, and a door from outside directly into the room made it easy for Galena High School Jazz Band players to bring in and set up their equipment. Galena’s “lady Elks” provided a buffet lunch of tasty ham salad and chicken breast sandwiches, potato salad and dessert cake, and there were plenty of Rotary volunteers waiting on tables and helping with cleanup.”

A new wrinkle this year was Bingo, with numbers called out by Brian Schoenrock. Cards and a pneumatic number-picking machine were loaned to us by the City of Galena, which uses them at Turner Hall.

Rotarian Gordie Kilgore entertained attendees with a “From the River Banks” area history quiz, and the high school jazz band “got the joint rockin’” to close the day’s festivities.

Dorte says that for next year’s event we’re going to broaden our publicity a bit, possibly getting the county’s churches involved in promotion.



Top photo above: The new Territory Owners’ Club facility provided a bright and cheery site for the 18th annual Seniors Day in the Country. Middle photo above: Bob Harbert and Orville Klopf, both of Stockton, were lucky winners in the drawing for banquet table centerpieces. Bottom photo above: Intrepid photographer Carter Newton “digitizes” the chow line set up by the Galena “lady Elks.”



Galena High School’s Jazz Band elicited lots of smiles and rounds of applause from the perky Jo Daviess seniors in attendance.

Student Interest is High in RYLA, World Affairs

Thanks to a mid-winter brainstorming breakfast that Mary Kelly-Train and Roland Imes organized for Jo Daviess County high school superintendents, the Rotary Club of Galena has ended up with a banner year in applications for the Rotary Leadership Award (RYLA) and our district World Affairs Seminar.

Five area students participated in the RYLA program, May 6-8 at the Taft Lorado Campus, Lowden State Park, Oregon, and thus far seven – three of whom also attended RYLA -- are signed up to attend the week-long World Affairs Seminar slated for June 11-17 at the University of Wisconsin, Whitewater.

Attending the RYLA program were

Jordan Soppe, Galena High School; Melissa Dalen, East Dubuque High; Samantha Jakel, Scales Mound High; and from River Ridge, Brittany Basten and Ipek Ceylan, a Turkish foreign exchange student staying with the Basten family in Elizabeth.

Joining Melissa, Brittany and Ipek for the World Affairs event will be Rachel Lenstra, Michael Carlson and Jane Newton, all of Galena High School; and, Elizabeth Erb, our club’s outbound exchange student from Lena who is going to Brazil this coming fall.

“At our January planning session,” Mary states, “the superintendents took the ball and ran with it, providing details on

the two programs to school counselors and teachers, who passed information on to students. From only one RYLA participant and no one attending World Affairs last year, we went to seven! Now that the school administrators have a plan in place that works, we bet there’ll be no more lean years.”

Mary credited the Galena school district for donating the bus used for transporting students to Oregon for RYLA, and Tri-State Travel for providing a driver free of charge. Roland Imes brought the students home from Oregon, inviting them all to share their experiences with club members at a regular Rotary luncheon.

This & That

A day that didn't show much promise in the beginning turned out to be one of the nicest of the year as Galena Rotarian linksters took to the Eagle Ridge South Course fairways (ponds, woods and sand traps) on Friday, May 20, directly following the "Student of the Quarter" luncheon.

The event was the initial 2005 Rotary Golf Outing, with two sharp-shooting four-somes splitting the prize money with 3-under-par 69s in the "scramble" bracket. Dick Harmet, Dick Laubhan, Dan Ripley and Ron Cadrette comprised one of the teams, with Jim (Doc) Darling, Chuck Henle, Gordie Kilgore and Doc's friend Cheryl Kramer, a Rotarian from the Dubuque Key City Rotary Club, making up the other. Runner-up was a team composed of John Holm, Rich Austin, Roger Eichmeier and Jim Kellar. In the tough four-man best-ball bracket, a team made up of Carter Newton, Pat McCarthy, Dan Mennenoh and Scott Lawlor placed first with a 79.

Sources report that Doc Darling, who organized the outing, seemed to have difficulty in finding and parceling out prize money. An air of mystery prevailed.

Eagle Ridge Resort & Spa capped off the evening with a tasty picnic buffet – hamburgers, brats, baked beans, potato salad and all the fixin's – a great way to end an enjoyable afternoon. A second outing will be announced soon.



Students of the Quarter

Seven Jo Daviess sophomore high school students were each named "Student of the Quarter" by their school teachers and counselors at the Rotary Club of Galena's quarterly Student of the Year award ceremony, held Friday, May 20 at the Eagle Ridge Resort & Spa. The students receive the honor based on their improved work habits and academic performance. From left: Cory Newingham, Warren; Audrey Haskel, River Ridge; Katie Allvin, Warren (third quarter); Scott Dieschbourg, Scales Mound; Lucas Eggers, Tri-State Christian School; Ryan Herber, East Dubuque; Holly Michel, Stockton and Nick Winders, Galena. Rachel Baumhover, Tri-State, was unable to attend to receive her third quarter award. Each student received a Certificate of Achievement, a \$50 savings bond and dinner for him or herself along with their parents, courtesy of the De Soto House.

At its most recent meeting your board of directors approved a plan to install interpretative signs along the new Galena hiking/biking trail along the Galena River. Phil Jackman, who made the request, will head the effort and proceed to determine how many signs, costs, etc.

Health issues will be the topic of the 2005 Galena Rotary Club Roundtable, set for January at the Eagle Ridge Resort & Spa. John Cooke will head up the program, as usual.

New member Rich Mattas has agreed to become the club's Ambassadorial Scholarship Committee representative to our Rotary district. Kudos, Rich, for getting involved in your area of interest quickly.

In member news, a mixed report – recent member Ron Allen, now manager of Galena's Best Western Quiet House, has received a promotion and will soon be moving on to Mequon, WI as manager of the Best Western in that city. Ron, we hardly knew 'ya – but best of luck in your new position. We also understand you've already applied for membership in the Mequon



Teachers of the Year

Keri Werner (fourth from left) was named Jo Daviess County Middle School "Teacher of the Year" at the Friday, May 13 luncheon meeting of the Rotary Club of Galena at the De Soto House. Teachers honored as part of the club's annual "Teacher of the Year" Award Program were (from left): Peg McPhail, East Dubuque; Alaina Sisler, River Ridge; Sue Gill, Galena; Werner; Al Mysliwiec, Stockton; Laura Meier, Tri-State Christian School, and Cathy Fennell, Warren. Keri is a graduate of Clarke College, Dubuque, and said that "teaching was the furthest thing from my mind when I entered as a freshman." But she added: "My mother expected it all the time."

Rotary Club. Way to go!

Also, the board has regretfully accepted the resignation of Bruce Hoff, Jr. The press of work has kept Bruce from being a regular attendee at our weekly meetings. Best of luck, Bruce in your law practice.

By unanimous vote, the board of directors has stipulated that fine masters should not and may not deal with politics, religion or gender in assessing fines. While the board recognizes the good-natured intentions of such fines, it has been reminded that some members do not take them lightly in these very troubled times. However, lawyer jokes, dumb blonde jokes and "vertically challenged" jokes will be acceptable. "Gordie" should appreciate that.

MARK YOUR CALENDARS!

Friday, June 24

**Eagle Ridge Resort & Spa
PRESIDENT'S DINNER**

5:30 p.m. – Appetizers & Cash Bar

6:30 p.m. – Dinner and Program

A "Steal" at \$25.00!

“Rotary Roars for Youth” Raises Nearly \$41,000

The Galena Rotary Club’s biggest yearly fund-raiser “did it again,” with a total of \$40,465 taken in to help provide 22 \$1500 Jennifer Purdy college scholarships for deserving Jo Daviess County senior high school students. A record number of 358 tickets were sold to the event, held Saturday, April 30 at the Eagle Ridge Resort & Spa.

“This was one of our better auctions,” said auction committee chairman Pat McCarthy. “The bidding was brisk, the food and service good, and most people had positive comments about our locating the silent auction items in the rear of the main auction room, along with the hors d’oeuvres stations.”

This year’s scholarship winners are as follows:

From Galena, Anna Winter, Rachel Lenstra, Katie Carter and Josh Svec; East Dubuque, Maureen Sullivan, Connor Harris, Ashley Henrich and Sara Cueno; Scales Mound, Andrea Deckert and Sarah Nolan; River Ridge, Daisha Boehm, Jasmine Nobis-Olson, Courtney Delvaux and Hannah Eshelman; Warren, Amanda Paisley and Erica Briggs; Stockton, Brady Wolfe, Serena Lawfer, Kyle Korth and Peter Loehr; Wahlert, Anne Osterholz and Amy Schneider. Congratulations, scholarship winners!



State Representative Jim Sacia, a regular at the Galena Rotary Club’s annual fundraiser, helps auctioneer Terry Funston “hype up” bids for the main auction.



Left: From their expressions, Rotarians Santy Mendez and Jim Kellar appear to be holding back on something we don’t know about. They were among the Rotarian helpers to assist in auction duties. Right: Former rural Elizabeth resident Gloria Morris appears to be testing the clarity of a mirror that’s being offered in the silent auction.



Service Above Self Award Winner

Jerry Grant of Galena is the second recipient of the Rotary Club of Galena’s “Service Above Self” plaque, awarded quarterly as part of a new club program designed to honor non-Rotarian Jo Daviess County citizens who have made outstanding contributions to their communities. “The award is in keeping with Rotary’s ‘Service Above Self’ motto,” said The Rev. Bob North, a Rotarian himself and President of the Jo Daviess chapter of Habitat for Humanity. Jerry was construction supervisor two Habitat homes built in Galena. He was successful in securing thousands of dollars worth of donated materials and services, as well as lowest-cost bids for other work on the projects. Jerry and his wife, Joan also helped build more than 120 birdhouses for fundraising purposes, and Jerry has helped with the renovation of Galena landmarks such as the Seminary Hill School and the Old Blacksmith Shop.

Upcoming Programs

- May 27 – Jennifer Purdy Scholarship Awards, Eagle Ridge Resort & Spa
- June 3 – Classification Talks: Syd Sincock & Scott Lawlor
- June 10 – “India – Polio Plus,” Kent Renier, Dubuque Key City Rotary Club
- June 17 – “Club Goals, 2004-05,” Carter Newton
- June 24 – President’s Dinner, Eagle Ridge Resort & Spa (no noon meeting)
- July 1 – The New President “Sounds Off,” Ed Schmit
- July 8 – Open
- July 15 – Habitat for Humanity, Rev. Bob North.

Greeter Assignments

- May 27 – Doug Weeder/Bob Wehrle
- June 3 – Lois Wiennen-Knautz/Andy Willis
- June 20 Romer Wilsek/Dick Woodruff
- June 17 – Tim Zito/Dick Alexander



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 - P. Carter Newton
- President Elect - Ed Schmit
- Past President - Romer Wilsek
- Treasurer - Vicky Vondran
- Secretary - B’Ann Dittmar

Newsletter

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