



September 22, 2015

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**Future Programs:**

**September 29**

Jim Luzar  
Purdue Extension Office  
Trends in Local Agriculture

**October 6**

Laura Gronbeck and  
Matteo Giardini  
Rotary exchange students  
from Denmark and Italy

**October 13**

Richard Baker  
ISU Flight Academy  
Unmanned Flight Systems

**October 20**

Dottie King, President  
SMWC  
New strategic plan



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## President's Column – Results of Recent Club Survey

In early August our club took place in a "Networking Luncheon". This event substituted for our "normal" program and allowed each Rotarian a chance to get to know each other a little better. We were assigned tables and took part in an activity in which each Rotarian told their tablemates two truths and one "fib" on themselves. It was up to each of the tablemates to decide which fact was the fib. Many of you commented to me that, although uncomfortable at first, you liked the networking and

enjoyed getting to know some fellow Rotarians a little better. I hope to do this type of networking program every couple of months. I truly believe that a vital part of being a Rotarian is that of networking. We need to get to know each other better in order to become a better club.

Speaking of becoming a better club, on that day in early August each table was given two questions to answer. The questions and answers are below. I don't think you will find the an-

swers to the questions surprising; I know I didn't. I presented the answers to the Board at our September meeting. We all want our club to increase membership and become an overall better club. I know the Board took your answers to the questions very seriously and will work hard to make our great club even better. Plans are already underway to visit with the Terre Haute Young Leaders club, discuss our dues structure more in-depth prior to the 2016-17 club year and work on overall ways to market our club better.

### What is ONE thing you would like to see our club do a better job of?

- Directly contact businesses & explain Rotary – for businesses to see if anyone wants to join.
- Community Activities – such as National Night Out
- Pictures in Tribune-Star on Sunday paper.
- Club speakers at different groups – to explain about Rotary.
- Publicize what we do.
- Publicity of service activities.
- Form a new committee for fundraising ideas going forward.
- Explain what dues cover.
- Programs – be proactive in inviting people, different speakers, diversity
- Mix table participation on a regular basis.
- More group activities instead of solo stuff.
- More Community Service activities
- Don't do enough to get to know each other.
- Diversity
- Look at an after-hours social.
- Brief biography at a meeting (member introduces themselves)
- Joint effort with morning Rotary club.
- Does Interact need our help?
- Greater participation in club projects by more members.
- Better Attendance by members
- Participate at the District Level

*(Continued)*

## President's Column – Results of Recent Club Survey (*continued*)

### What is ONE thing our club can do to attract new/younger members?

- Focus on new members in general.
- How can the Rotary dues be reduced?
- Younger members don't understand what Rotary is about.
- Time commitment
- Recognition jar – shout out at beginning of meeting
- Birthday month – bring gift certificate, \$15 or under & raffle off.
- Identify and invite personally
- Community participation and mentoring
- Emphasize networking opportunities; explore “Young Leaders” affiliation.
- Contact Young Leaders group
- Lower dues rate for under 35 years old.
- Diversity – ISU
- Include males in Interact.
- Young Leaders Group (presentation to them)
- Dues structure

### **New Member Has Expertise in Computing Systems**

The newest member of our club has been a speaker at international conferences dealing with computer-supported cooperative work and social computing. Aimee Jacobs is currently a full-time lecturer at ISU teaching courses including Intro to Business, Business Information Tools and Statistics. She also works as an Insight Manager for iKontakt in London. Her work background has always been at the interface of technology and marketing with experience as a campaign man-

ager, business and systems administrator. For many years, she did freelance consultant work developing technological solutions in billing or tracking systems for businesses. Aimee received her undergraduate degree in management information systems and the MBA from Indiana State University. She earned her doctorate degree in informatics from the Henley Business School in England.

Aimee has been an active volunteer for many years with her recent focus on helping with fundraising events for John

Paul II Catholic High. Aimee is also currently helping with a gait trainer project in Ibarra. She likes to travel and experience other cultures while enjoying new and interesting foods. Aimee also enjoys rollerblading along the Heritage Trail. She was nominated and inducted as a Rotarian by Paul Stanley.

### **Board Selects New Club Director**

The Board of Directors at its meeting Sept. 14 selected Chad Cates as a new member of the board. Cates joined Rotary in 2007. He is a vice president at Sycamore Insurance Associates where he specializes in com-

mercial property & casualty accounts, primarily in the healthcare, social service, manufacturing and agricultural industries. He holds licenses in property, casualty, life and health insurance in Indiana and Illinois. A Terre Haute na-

tive, he graduated from Indiana State University with majors in insurance, risk management and business administration.

**Win a free Rotary one-year membership – Propose and induct a new member before July 1, 2016 and you may not have to pay dues for a year.**

## Interact Selects RYLA Participants

Allyson Low, Mallory Pendergast, Shelby Taylor and Madison Longyear will be sponsored by our club to attend the Rotary Youth Leadership Awards program Oct. 30-Nov. 1 at Bradford Woods in Morgan County. Each year, more than 9,000 young people are

sponsored by Rotary clubs in 25 countries to attend RYLA activities. During RYLA, participants learn how to create positive group behaviors, improve their self confidence, and leadership skills. The North Vigo High School Interact Club's fall volunteer activities include

helping the Terre Haute Humane Society and raising funds for the March of Dimes.

## September 30 – Deadline for Vocational Service Award Nominations

Only a few days remain to nominate a Rotarian for the club's annual Vocational Service Award.

noos@yahoo.com before Sept. 30 (Wednesday). The award will be presented on October 20.

Susi Willis, Craig McKee, Gary Morris, Brian Miller, Sam Hulbert and Mike Dinkel.

Send information supporting your nominee to awards committee chairman Jim Tanoos at jimta-

Past winners include Rob Coons, Earl Elliott, Beth Tevlin, Steve Arnold, Dr. Roland Kohr, Tom Mason, Dan DeBard,

## Volunteer for Rotary Reads

Help at-risk elementary students learn the joy and importance of reading by volunteering for the Rotary Reads program which is now in its sixth year. "Rotary Reads was created to encourage literacy skills among at-risk students at Davis Park, Deming, Farrington Grove, Benjamin Franklin and West Vigo elementary schools," explained Bart Colwell, who continues to coordinate the program with the

school corporation. Rotarians are asked to visit a classroom once a month to read books selected by the teacher.

a new teacher, or you can indicate a specific teacher or grade level. New volunteers will be assigned to a teacher or you can request a specific school and/or grade level.

Bart noted that the program not only encourages students, it also lets teachers and their students know that members of the business community are interested in our schools. Past Rotary Reads volunteers can continue partnering with the same teacher, be assigned

Each reading session a Rotarian completes counts for one make up to improve your Rotary attendance. Contact Bart at bcolwell@thsb.com to participate in Rotary Reads.

## Reports from Grace and Hannah

The two exchange students our club is sponsoring report the beginning of their year with host families in the Netherlands and Slovakia has already been a positive experience as both have started school and are learning a new language.



Grace Bertsch

Grace Bertsch is living in Laren which is near Amsterdam. Her school has 780 students aged 11 to 18 years of age. "My bike and the train have been my two best friends, as they are my personal primary mode of transportation. Dutch people really do use their bikes to go everywhere, and in any weather. This past weekend I

biked to the train station in the pouring rain, just like everyone else," she said. In the next four months she will visit Germany, Poland and England. She will travel with her host family to Dubai during the Christmas holiday. Her e-mail ended with the following, "Dank jullie wel!" from Holland, (Thank you all!).

You can learn about Mannah Mace's experiences in Slovakia by accessing her blog at:

<http://mannahmaceslovakia.wordpress.com>.

Mannah has met other exchange students from Mexico, Brazil, and Ft. Wayne. She says her school is "nothing like school in the US." Among the subjects she is studying are Slovak and Ger-



Mannah Mace

man. "Today I had my first futbol (i.e. soccer) practice and it went very well. I thought I was going to be good, but come to find out I think the team I am playing on could beat any girls' team their age in the USA. The team was very nice and welcoming even though they spoke little English. I had a great evening with my host family walking around the Košice town center and I cannot wait to see what is in the future for me!," she stated.



**Mark your calendar  
Rotary/Goodwill Drive  
Saturday, November 7**

Volunteers needed:  
Sept. 28 – Oct. 2  
  
Rotary  
&  
Wabash Valley  
Community Foundation  
  
*Dictionary distribution project  
to elementary school classes*  
  
Contact Beth Tevlin  
(812) 232-2234

**Happy Birthday & Club Membership Anniversary!**

**Birthdays**

Day	Member
2	Harmening, Janet
3	Finch, Alfred
6	Cress, Sondra
6	Garrison, Neil
10	Jeffers, Polly
10	Powell, Barry
11	Shriner, Bill
12	Junker, Howard
13	Kohr, Rick
13	Shagley, Richard
14	Loudermilk, Aaron
17	Jukes, Thomas
20	Menefee, Kenneth
22	Arnold, Steve
23	Randolph, Brennan
25	Welsh, Stephanie
28	Petit, George
28	Way, Barrett

**Anniversaries**

Years	Member (Day)
5	Shaw, Michael P (17th)
7	Fears, Troy (30th)
7	McCullough, Melissa (9th)
12	Elliott, Earl (2nd)
14	Kauffman, Bill (11th)
22	Cieciura, Libby (1st)
28	Rourke, William (28th)
28	Songer, Steven (22nd)
33	Dever, Thomas (30th)
51	Wiemuth, Robert (1st)

**Don't keep Rotary a secret! Who do you know who would be an excellent new Rotarian?**