



# Rotary Club of Terre Haute

District 6580, Club 84

July 31, 2018

## Written By:

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## Future Programs:

### July 31<sup>st</sup>

Mary Ann Etling, Fulbright Scholarship recipient, will discuss her year-long project to empower Ugandan families impacted by disability. She is a former president of the North Interact Club. Mary Ann is a senior at DePauw University.

### August 7<sup>th</sup>

Robyn McCloskey, publisher, Tribune-Star

### August 14<sup>th</sup>

Kristi Howe, director, Vigo County Public Library

### August 21<sup>st</sup>

Josh Minkler, U.S. Attorney, Southern District of Indiana

### August 28<sup>th</sup>

Vicki Hall, ISU Women's Basketball Head Coach

### September 4<sup>th</sup>

Robert Haworth, Superintendent, Vigo County School Corporation



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## Be The Inspiration: Presidents Rassin, McKee Challenge Rotarians

"Be the Inspiration" is this year's theme set forth by RI President Barry Rassin. Our new club president supports that vision with his ideas for our new Rotary year. Rassin encouraged Rotarians to reach beyond past efforts. "I want you to inspire in your clubs that desire for something greater. The drive to do more, to be more, to create something that will live beyond each of us." He said Rotarians must take action not just react. "Together, we see a world where people unite and take action to create lasting change — across the globe, in our communities, and in ourselves." This describes the Rotary that leaders must help build, he said.

Craig McKee encouraged our club to be in-

novative and bold by examining how we meet, where we meet, what we do, and how we interact with each other. "While being respectful of our club's long and distinguished history, we must grow and give a 21st century perspective to what we say and accomplish," he said. "I hope we can discuss membership—recruitment, retention, restoration—in a way that will also generate ideas to be innovative while expanding our mission to be the premier service club helping our community and benefiting our members."



## Rotary Reads Benefits Hundreds of Students

It's the highlight of a young student's school day. Rotarians visiting their classroom to read a favorite book to them. Rotarians say it's a highlight of their day too. An estimated 600 elementary students were reminded of the importance of being good readers by Rotary volunteers. Twenty six Rotarians visited 30 middle-school classes during the last school year. Thanks to Bart Colwell for continuing to coordinate Rotary Reads with the Vigo County School Corporation. Rotary Readers are listed at right.

P.J. Albin  
Willie Banks  
Jennifer Butler  
John Callahan  
Chad Clark  
Bart Colwell  
Lou Harmening  
Rod Heefner  
Troy Helman  
Lynn Hughes  
Polly Jeffers  
Jennifer Jones  
Rick Kohr

Kim LaGrange  
Mike Licari  
Derrie Llewellyn  
Melissa McCullough  
Craig McKee  
David Myers  
Tom Newlin  
Lisa Pepperworth  
Pat Ralston  
Charles Ray  
Ray Rickert  
Susan Smith Roads  
Martha Woods

## Donations to Rotary International Foundation More Than Double

The Foundation Minute has achieved its goal and the Rotary International Foundation was the beneficiary. Our donations to the RI Foundation increased to \$10,700 during the just completed fiscal year. That compares to \$4,740 the previous year. Thanks to Josh Zuerner for his weekly message about the work of the life-changing RI Foundation and to Past President Brien

Smith for setting a goal to increase support to the foundation.

Gary Schomer and Bill Tennis were honored July 17 for their continued support to the foundation. Gary was presented with a Paul Harris Fellow Plus Five pin and Bill was given a pin marking his Paul Harris Fellow Plus Two designation.

## Membership Update

Approved by the board for membership was Mandy Lynch, CEO of Providence Health Care. She was nominated by Kim Perkins. Lynn Maurer has resigned due to relocation.

Susie Willis is now an R85 classification member due to her long-time membership in our club.

## President's Column: Rotarians Made A Difference



Brien Smith

It has been a great honor for me to serve as Terre Haute Rotary president this past year. It seems as if the time passed quickly. Like all presidents before me, I presided over club and board meetings, appointed committee members, and reviewed club finances and budget. What surprised me the most were the little things that, when added together, make our club special. Our members have a can-do attitude and step up when a need arises. From my vantage point, our work is not an amalgam of isolated projects. What I witnessed was Rotarians having impact and "Making a Difference." (RI's 2017-18 theme)

This year we have seen an increase in our club's membership, and our contributions to the Rotary International Foundation are the highest they have been for several years. We have worked together to improve education in the Wabash

Valley by distributing dictionaries and reading to school children. In addition, our club donated a carload of toys to disadvantaged children at Christmas. We helped the needy by dedicating over 50 volunteer hours to Salvation Army bell ringing and gathering food donations for Catholic Charities. Our Goodwill drive netted 17,423 pounds of donations, a 200 percent increase over last year. Rotarians are not afraid to get dirty either. We devoted over 30 hours of labor to clean and mulch Max Erhmann Memorial Plaza, and, in April, we helped Trees, Inc. plant 12 trees along south Seventh Street. The caring spirit of our club humbles me.

Thanks to the hard work of Nick Mahurin and our programs committee, our noon gatherings have been entertaining and, at times, inspiring. Numerous programs have exposed that there is still great need in our community and, at times, a void of leadership to make a difference. As Rotarians, we think differently and act responsibly. Our club, through its members, connects a wealth of resources and there are seemingly limitless avenues of service to direct goodwill. As a new year unfolds under new club leadership, let us raise the bar on the impact we shall have and reflect seriously on the thought that, as Rotarians, we should be "Making a Difference".

## Old Max's Yard Never Looked Better

Max's yard needed cleaned up, so a dozen Rotarians spent a couple of hours July 14 and spruced up the Max Erhmann Plaza (aka the Crossroads of America). The Saturday work was the second time this year Rotarians have mulched, pulled weeds, trimmed bushes and trees at the plaza. There was discussion at the work session about Rotarians improving the landscaping by planting daffodils and other spring blooming flowers in late fall. The cleanup was aided by a

donation of mulch from Hank Metzger Landscaping and the use of a small, front end loader and its operator provided by Bill Tennis and Goodwill Industries. Thanks to the following members who participated: David Bolk, Holden Davis, Jane Nichols, Thom Foster, Dave Piker, Mike Collins, Brian Ross, Chuck Shutt, Dorothy Chambers, Richard Shagley, and Bryan Sponsler.





## **“This is a Premier Club,” Says District Governor**

It seems very appropriate that new District 6580 Governor Sue Wright began her club visits by speaking to us on July 17. She praised our club as a leader in the district while noting our increased giving to the RI Foundation, our members involvement in leadership positions at the district level, and the success of our service projects. DG Wright asked for support to achieve three goals she wants to achieve during her year in office: increase diversity among members, create

new ways for clubs to share best ideas and practices, and increase membership by challenging each district club to recruit at least three new members. She is a former president of the Clarksville Rotary Club which honored her as its Rotarian of the Year. Prior to retirement, Sue was a manager for AT&T. During her presentation, the district governor announced that Kim Ingalsbe has been selected as the newest assistant governor in our district.



## **Interact Never Stops Volunteering: Rentschler Scholars Named**

Forty-four service projects completed in one academic year! That's impressive. It's why the North Vigo High School Interact Club has to be one of the best organizations of its kind in any Rotary district. Members volunteered for the YMCA Kids' Night Out, 14th and Chestnut birthday parties, elementary school fall festivals, and Hurricane Harvey Relief. They collected dental hygiene products for young students, supported the March of Dimes fundraiser and helped stage the first annual Women's Leadership Seminar. And, that's only a sampling of their activities.

Last month, our club honored two Interact seniors with the annual James Rentschler Scholarship. Recipients of the \$1,000 scholarship were Amy Bowen and Kimmie Collins (daughter of Mike and Gary Schomer's granddaughter). The scholarship is named in honor of James Rentschler, long-time middle-school, high-school and university educator. Rentschler was district governor and long-time secretary of our club.

Interact also received a \$420 donation from our club when it hosted us during its annual luncheon at the high school.

## **10 Helping Recruit Future Speakers**

More than 40 times each year, someone has the opportunity to speak to our club. Who determines the subjects that would be of interest to us? Who invites the person to talk about those subjects? This year, more Rotarians are involved in scheduling speakers. A ten-member program committee met for the first time July 20. The committee is

chaired by club Vice President Kim Perkins. Other members are Chuck Shutt, Bill Aubin, Dave Piker, Sally Stewart, Brien Smith, Marty Woods, Melissa McCullough, Susan Smith Roads and Kim LaGrange. If you have an idea for a future speaker and/or topic, contact a member of the committee.



## A Rotary Year



*Santhana Naidu receives his District Governor Elect pin from Sue Wright*



*Rotarians prepared 1,520 dictionaries for distribution to elementary students*



*19 club members collected 17,423 pounds of materials to be used in Goodwill stores*



*Bill Felts, director of the 14th & Chestnut Community Center, receives one of the 2017 Rotary grants*



*Bobby Moore receives the Four Avenues of Service Award*



*P.J. Albin was one of several Rotarians who helped collect food during the Stamp Out Hunger project*



*Rob Coons joined other Rotarians to help Trees Inc. plant new trees along South 7th Street*



*Mary Kramer received the Paul Harris Community Service Award*