



# Excellence in Action



# Rotary Reporter

Brainerd Lakes Area

Dec. 13 .....12:00-1:15 **Rotary Club Meeting**  
Brainerd Hotel & Conference Center

Dec. 20 .....12:00-1:15 **Rotary Club Meeting**  
Brainerd Hotel & Conference Center

Dec. 27 .....12:00-1:15 **Rotary Club Meeting**  
Brainerd Hotel & Conference Center

(If you would like your Rotary Committee Meeting or Rotary event listed here please email Lakes Printing at [lkthesing@lakesprinting.com](mailto:lkthesing@lakesprinting.com))

### Birthday Report

- 12/03 - John Koupal
- 12/04 - Linda Hanson
- 12/17 - Joseph Brenny
- 12/19 - Jack Ruttger
- 12/20 - James Roelofs
- 12/29 - Bob Musielewicz
- 12/29 - David Ten Eyck
- 12/30 - Michael Bjerkness
- 12/31 - Richard Bricker

### Anniversary of Joining Brainerd Rotary

- 27 years 12/1 - Ray Charpentier
- 27 years 12/11 - Jack Ruttger
- 24 years 12/1 - Rick Bricker
- 21 years 12/11 - Dave TenEyck
- 19 years 12/29 - John Forrest
- 10 years 12/16 - Brad Person
- 5 years 12/12 - Larry Lundblad
- 2 years 12/22 - Wes Hughes
- 2 years 12/22 - Ed Menk



Charlie and Aaron



Rick and Sue



Dave Johnson



Pete, Craig and Penny



Rick-zumBrunnen



Dave Schaeffer



Mike and Loren



Liz, Don, Klements



Fitzpatrick and Alan

IS IT THE TRUTH? IS IT FAIR TO ALL CONCERNED? WILL IT BUILD GOODWILL AND BETTER FRIENDSHIPS? WILL IT BE BENEFICIAL TO ALL CONCERNED?

[www.brainerdrotary.org](http://www.brainerdrotary.org)

## ROTARY MEETING December 6, 2011

Members Present.....	55
Total Membership .....	110
Percent in Attendance.....	50%

The meeting opened at 12:10 with the singing of My Country Tis of Thee. Following the reciting of the Rotary Four-Way Test, Al Cibizar gave the invocation.

After the introduction of guests and the announcements, Sergeant-at-Arms, Monica Nieman, performed the sergeant's duties. The program was Donn Peterson's 2009 "Up the Amazon Trip."

Penny Nelson won the weekly drawing. The meeting adjourned at 1:20 with the enthusiastic singing of R-O-T-A-R-Y.

### VISITING ROTARIANS & GUESTS:

Eden Prairie Rotary Club: Cheryl Schraeder.  
Guest of Aaron Torfin: Tim Bogenschutz

### ANNOUNCEMENTS & CALENDAR:

- Greeters for December 13th : Steve Northway & Bob Nystrom
- Ann Riley Thank You Note: Ann wrote how DG Tom Riley found Brainerd Rotary an exceptional club, and expressed gratitude for the \$2,000 for Polio Plus, the \$300 gift to the Governor for the RI Foundation, the naming of 5 Paul Harris Fellows and the delicious prime rib meal.
- Annual Reports Available; Pres. Rick thanked the Club Board of Directors and the members for all their work making Brainerd Rotary a "truly exceptional club." Annual Report are available. He conveyed thanks to the Brainerd Hotel for the fine prime rib meal.
- Bell Ringing for the Salvation Army, Saturday, December 3rd: Rod Rangen thanked the members for serving as ringers. The total given outside community businesses are not yet known. Bob Musielewicz will serve as the coordinator in 2012.

- Riverside Park & Trail Update: John Forrest announced that the City of Brainerd will receive a further 38 acre parcel to add to the Park & Trail. The City is also eligible to apply and receive a federal park planning grant focused on planning a 7.5 mile Mississippi River natural trail which would go through Riverside Park across the Brainerd-Baxter area. Rotarians were invited to speak to John if interested in serving on the development committee.
- Club Foundation Survey: Where should Rotary's community project support go? Jesse Hopkins and Dave Johnson urged every member to participate in the survey this week. It will be sent by email for completion on line in about 5 minutes.
- Reverse Raffle Wrap-up: Sheila Haverkamp thanked her team in particular and everyone for making the event a resounding success again. \$12,490 is the net amount raised with 1/2 going to Club Foundation corpus where the income goes to community projects and the other 1/2 is available for immediate distribution. Special thanks was expressed to those who sold 10 or more tickets: Dave Johnson (29), John Swanson, Linda Hanson, and Mike Sands. Loren Bielke will chair the committee in 2012.
- November Service Above Self Award: Pres. Rick announced that Sheila Haverkamp was the recipient. Her outstanding leadership made the Reverse Raffle a fine success again in 2011. Thanks was further extended the Reverse Raffle team with a standing ovation.
- Holiday Rotary Social, Tuesday, December 27th: It will take the place of our regular Tuesday meeting. It will be our Tom & Jerry Day when members are invited to distribute their business and professional information.
- Winter Wonderland at the Arb, 5:00-8:00 Sundays, December 11th: 10 Rotarians are needed and 5 have volunteered to date. See Jody Drummond.
- President's Thought for Today: What will today's generation of children tell their children that they had to do without when they were growing-up?

### SERGEANT -AT-ARMS, Monica Nieman

- Jody Drummond was fined for forgetting Dan Hegstad in the attendance count.. Dan Brown was fined for sending his children to stand in as bell ringers. Ben Thuringer was fined for his pic-

ture in the paper at the Chamber of Commerce Holiday Social. Bell Ringer no shows were fined \$5.00 and ringers in heated places a \$1.00.

- Denny Ducette was proud to announce the birth of a grandson, Benjamin Joseph, who weighed in at over 8 lbs. Linda Hanson enjoyed celebrating her birthday. John Fitzpatrick was very sad that 3 Rotarians who were seated by him got up and moved elsewhere. Steve Esser was also happy not to be sitting next to John Fitzpatrick. Lee Seipp considered aloud how all this teasing was building good will.
- Dave Johnson was glad it was not possible for all the women to sit at one table, so that Jennifer Person could sit at his. Dan Hegstad was pleased to have had fresh chocolate cookies for breakfast. He challenged the club to place a team in the upcoming AAUW trivia contest. Bill Potvin was happy to have celebrated the annual Potvin family reunion at Cragun's including his 8 sisters and 3 brothers along with their children and grandchildren, 76 people in all..
- Dutch Cragun was happy that Bill has a large family. Rod Sterol is happy to have thrown his crutches away and that his Achilles heel surgery proved to be a success. John Forrest was happy that he was not sitting next to John Fitzpatrick today. Jesse Hopkins enjoyed the family wedding in ND and was happy that all the festivities are over. Rick zumBrunnen was happy to be going to Arizona to visit his 2 beautiful granddaughters.

**PROGRAM:** "Up the Amazon, 2009," Don Peterson  
Donn started his picture presentation with the "choir of Rotarians" singing his version of "Cruising Down the Amazon." He called the trip his winter-summer 2 week cruise on the Pacific Princess with 688 passengers which went from Fort Lauderdale to Manaus, Brazil near the equator. The land area of Brazil is slightly larger than the US lower 48. Six languages are spoken there. The Amazon which runs from its headwaters in the Andes of Peru to the Atlantic Ocean, along with a number of other river tributaries emptying into it, constitutes a major transportation system for Brazil.

Much of the Amazon is brown with sediment, while many of the tributaries are black, having less sediment. When the waters meet it takes a while for them to mix due to temperature, acidity, density and the sediment. Much of the Amazon has a depth of 300 feet, and is navigable way up stream. It is 200 miles wide at its mouth. It carries 20% of the world's fresh water out into the Atlantic.

The land all along the river floods regularly. Housing, schools and public buildings are built on stilts or as house boats. Subsistent living is the standard for most rural people: manioc roots, rice and fish along with some beef and goat products. Yes, piranha – mostly a vegetarian fish – are good eating and relatively plentiful; meat is used for fishing bait, however. Tourism is vital to the river economy along with freight transportation. The people get around by boat.

Roads in the tropical forested Amazon are mainly near cities.

Manaus, 1,000 miles inland on the Amazon, is a city of 1.2 million. It is a commercial, transportation and tourism hub. It was dependent on the natural rubber white sap from rubber trees, and in recent years has been making the switch to manufacturing. It is Brazil's tropical center for business, education, and medical services. Managing and treating malaria is an ongoing need.

Submitted by Dan Klement



Jennifer and Theresa

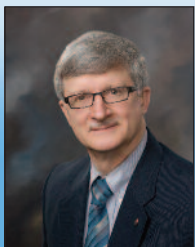


Yvonne



Larry and Brad

## Brainerd Rotary Club Officers



**PRESIDENT**  
Rick zumBrunnen



**VICE PRES.**  
Dan Hegstad



**TREASURER**  
Yvonne Leiser



**SECRETARY**  
Dan Brown