



Excellence in Action

- Dec. 2712:00-1:15 **Rotary Club Meeting**
Brainerd Hotel & Conference Center
- Dec. 27Christmas Caroling
- Jan. 312:00-1:15 **Rotary Club Meeting**
Brainerd Hotel & Conference Center
Program - John Luce, Winnipeg
- Jan. 1012:00-1:15 **Rotary Club Meeting**
Brainerd Hotel & Conference Center
Program - Dan Hegstad, Health Care Directives
- Jan. 1712:00-1:15 **Rotary Club Meeting**
Brainerd Hotel & Conference Center
- Jan. 2412:00-1:15 **Rotary Club Meeting**
Brainerd Hotel & Conference Center
Program - Joe Brenny, Grieving
- Jan. 3112:00-1:15 **Rotary Club Meeting**
Brainerd Hotel & Conference Center
Program - Jim Oraskovich, Youth Corrections
- Feb. 712:00-1:15 **Rotary Club Meeting**
Brainerd Hotel & Conference Center
Program - Bob McLean
- Feb. 14.....12:00-1:15 **Rotary Club Meeting**
Brainerd Hotel & Conference Center
Program - Surprise
- Feb. 2112:00-1:15 **Rotary Club Meeting**
Brainerd Hotel & Conference Center
- Feb. 28.....12:00-1:15 **Rotary Club Meeting**
Brainerd Hotel & Conference Center
Program - Jeff Torfin, Brainerd Realty Update

(If you would like your Rotary Committee Meeting or Rotary event listed here please email Lakes Printing at kthesing@lakesprinting.com)



Rotary Reporter

Brainerd Lakes Area

December President's Message December 1, 2011 December is Rotary Family Month.

When we talk about "Family", we usually think about our immediate family – our spouses, parents, brothers, sisters, children and other close relatives. Our families are an important part of our being as we travel through our journey of life. Their impact in our lives is significant and their contribution to our security and happiness is very much appreciated. Our families can play a vital role in Rotary too. Our club can benefit immensely when they become involved with our efforts as Rotarians in trying to improve the quality of life in or communities and the world we live in.

However, Rotary Family, our theme for this month, also applies to a much more wide-spread, diverse association of the people of Rotary – members of our Club, Rotarians in our District 5580 and all the other Districts around the globe. With all the conflict, poverty and destruction that ravage our world, it is only through the strong bond and united effort of the Family of Rotary that we can have any impact on righting the wrongs and creating a world of peace.

Our most important tool in this fight for peace is found in the Rotary Foundation. It provides all Rotarians financial support to carry out our humanitarian projects. Through the financial support of the Foundation we can afford to contribute our time and talents to improve the lives of others. With the strong bonds of clubs around this globe we can support and encourage each other to live our Rotarian ideals of doing good in the world!

As RI President Jonathan Majiyagbe states:

"When Rotarians perform... caring actions [for other Rotarians], they strengthen the bonds of the club so that they mature and ripen into [those of] true friendship rather than mere acquaintanceship. And it is these bonds that will make Rotary strong because friends don't leave each other. I am convinced that if all of our clubs offered the kind of caring fellowship that I and so many others have enjoyed in Rotary, no members would ever want to leave. That is why the family of Rotary committees is so important to increasing our membership, something that will happen only if we improve our retention rates. Let us remember not only why we joined Rotary, but why we stayed. Most of us joined Rotary because we wanted to help others and because we didn't want to do it alone. I believe that most of us stayed because we made friends and because Rotary became an important part of our lives."

The Family of Rotary is making a difference, so let us make it stronger to be more capable in confronting the problems in the world. Become more active, recruit new Rotarians and support the Foundation financially. Let us all work together to strengthen our bonds within our family of Rotary – then we have an improved our opportunity to change the world!



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

ROTARY MEETING December 20, 2011

President Rick zumBrunnen opened the meeting following our luncheon. Following the singing of My Country 'Tis of Thee led by John Luce; Al Cibuzar gave the invocation.

VISITING ROTARIANS: Lynn Hunt, Central Lakes, Ted Spring from West Virginia

GUESTS: Amy McLean, guest of Lynn Hunt; Matt Kilian, guest of Kathy Gaalswyk

GREETERS NEXT WEEK: Brad Person and Paula Persons

ANNOUNCEMENTS:

- President Rick received the District Governor's report, and we received an excellent report.
- Holiday Social will be next week, December 27th. Members are encouraged to bring guests for some holiday cheer.
- Rick Bricker noted that the Haiti electrification project is still moving forward and is close to being complete. The partnership is working on getting some additional grant funds.
- First announcement for a proposed new member: Tim Bogen-schutz proposed by Jeff Torfin. Tim is the publisher of the Brainerd Dispatch and his membership application has been approved by the membership committee and the Board.
- Jill still needs to find one or two host families for an in-bound foreign exchange student. On the recent survey conducted by the Foundation, support of the foreign exchange student was rated as the number 1 priority of the club. So please let Jill know if you can be a host family.

SERGEANT-AT-ARMS:

Sergeant-at-Arms Monica Nieman fined Mike McConkey for his cell phone ringing during the meeting when he was seated right

next to her. Dutch Cragun donated 4 tickets to Thursday's Gopher men's basketball game to be auctioned. The winning bid was \$70 from Mike Sands. Anyone not wearing Christmas colors was fined \$1.

Several happy dollars were offered including Dan Klemment who is celebrating 50 years of marriage and Jesse Hopkins on his 8th year anniversary. Tables were asked to share a favorite Christmas story – and most of them had to do with their grandkids!

PROGRAM

It was a club meeting day, so trainer Dave Johnson discussed three events in the Rotary year: RYLA camp, Winnipeg Goodwill Trip and District Conference.

RYLA

Kevin Thesing and Denny Doucette talked about how RYLA, a youth leadership camp, is a worldwide effort through Rotary with differences in every program. The central theme of RYLA is leadership and our district has focused on those students who are entering their junior or senior year of high school. All students who attend really find the experience enriching and Denny noted how his daughter uses her RYLA experience every day in her 3rd grade classroom.

We would like to send at least 2-4 youth from our club each summer. If you have someone who would be a good RYLA candidate, get in touch with Theresa Goble and she will get you the materials.

Winnipeg Goodwill Trip

John Luce and Hanspeter Borgwarth noted that the Winnipeg Goodwill Trip was started in celebration of Rotary going international with the establishment of the Winnipeg club 87 years ago. It is an opportunity for fellowship with fellow Rotarians and offers curling opportunities, hospitality suites, programs, tours of Winnipeg and entertainment. Hanspeter and Gisela have gone every year since 1965 with the exception of two extenuating circumstance years – that's 44 years of attending!

This year's trip is February 17-19. If you are interested in attending, please let John Luce know.

District Conference

District Conference is scheduled for April 12-15 in Cloquet and all Rotarians are encouraged to attend. Every year's conference provides educational and fun opportunities with a highlight being the presentation put on by the exchange students. This year's keynote speaker also promises to be a good session with a man from India who suffered from polio speaking to the group.

Registration is online at the district website and Dan Brown has a block of rooms reserved for anyone who needs to make reservations.

DRAWING

Theresa Goble won the weekly drawing

Meeting closed at 1:15 with the singing of Rotary!
Submitted by Debby Erickson

Birthdays Report

- 1/1/ Donn Peterson
- 1/6 Ed Menk
- 1/9 John Gaffney
- 1/9 Craig Nathan
- 1/16 Vernon Smith
- 1/18 Becky Best
- 1/18 Keri Larson
- 1/20 Dave Johnson
- 1/24 Chuck Klecatsky
- 1/25 Denny Doucette
- 1/25 Buford Johnson
- 1/26 Dave Schaeffer
- 1/26 Terry Johnson
- 1/27 Aaron Hautala
- 1/29 Charlie Sheets
- 1/30 Floyd Jensen

Date Joined Brainerd Rotary Anniversary

- Mark Erickson 01/01 30 years
- Sally Ihne 1/5 24 years
- John Gaffney 1/24 23 years
- John Luce 1/7 20 years
- John Swanson 1/12 13 years
- Ray Gildow 1/18 12 years
- Mike Hamad 1/18 7 years
- Jody Drummond 1/02 5 years
- Jennifer Person 1/29 4 years



Brainerd Rotary Club Officers



PRESIDENT
Rick zumBrunnen



VICE PRES.
Dan Hegstad



TREASURER
Yvonne Leiser



SECRETARY
Dan Brown