



SERVICE Above Self

Fargo West Rotary

Newsletter July 2010

Fargo West Rotary, PO Box 9237, Fargo, ND 58106

President's Message

by Heather Johnson-Kjos



How quickly the 2½ years since I was nominated as VP have gone by. I am anxious for my year, as well as a little nervous, as I have big shoes to fill after the wonderful year that David led us. I want to thank David for all he did for our club this last year and I hope that my year will be as successful.

I was raised in Minot where my dad was a Chemistry Professor at Minot State and my mom taught history and was an assistant principal. They later moved to Bismarck where my mom was the Assistant Superintendent of Schools. I graduated from Minot High School and received my BS in Accounting and BA in Management from Minot State. After college I enlisted in the US Army as an Accounting Technician. After getting out of the service I worked in a variety of accounting jobs in the construction, wholesale and manufacturing industries. It was when I relocated to the Twin Cities that I went back to school for my MBA. I was also working part-time at a group home for developmentally disabled adults where I met my husband, Shane. He also lived across the road from me in our townhouse development but it took working together to start our relationship. We moved to Fargo in 2005 when I graduated with my MBA and he received his BS in Criminal Justice.

My mom and sister's family live in Minot and as of the end of June, I have a new niece. She was their foster child that they adopted. I also have 2 nieces and 1 nephew. My brother is a retired FBI agent and lives in the San Francisco area with his wife.

I enjoy spending my free time reading and working in my garden. We have also rediscovered the joys of camping and hope to take a couple of weekend trips this summer to check out some of the state parks.

I joined Rotary in 2006 after hearing so much about it from my mom who was a member and past president of the Bismarck club (now in the Minot club) for many years. I heard about all the great things Rotary did internationally, as well as their local projects, and thought it would be a great way to serve my community.

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Mark your calendars!

8/2 is Rotary Golf Fundraiser

8/18 is Miracle Field
Motorcycle Run

8/13 & 14 is LobsterFest

What A Year It Was!

Welcome to our new president, Heather. We know you will do well, too, and look forward to an even more successful year.

We thank David for his great leadership and his outstanding year as our president. As you know, David's motto was spending other people's money. We certainly did raise the money and donate it!

Here is a breakdown of our donations for 2009-10.

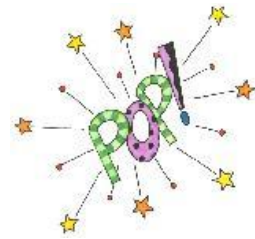
- Minnesota State Community and Technical College Scholarships: \$1800
- Wadena's Tornado Donation: \$500
- United Way School Supply Drive: \$1170
- ALS: \$500
- Dictionary Project: \$1,000
- Festival of Wreaths: \$1,000
- Fill The Dome: \$427
- FM Rotary Foundation (playground): \$1,000
- Northern Lights Council: \$300
- Dennis Walaker Paul Harris Fellow: \$1,000
- YWCA: \$660
- Guatemala Relief: \$225
- PolioPlus: \$600
- Another Guatemala Donation: \$1,000
- India International Project: \$1,000
- Camp RYLA: \$1,425
- Nepal Village Project: \$500
- International Exchange Student: \$867
- Shelterboxes for Haiti: \$5000 (\$2500 came from direct donations from members; rest from Happy Dollars)
- Rotary Foundation: \$1,000

We raised \$7300 in Happy Dollars — another record for our club! David asked several times for us to 'dig deep' to donate to special causes, and you certainly responded well.



Pres. Message *cont*

So, here I am and now you have made me your President. I look forward to a fun and interesting year helping our community and our international partners. I hope that everyone will participate in our many projects and fund raisers. You get out of Rotary as much as you put in.



Congratulations to the following members who had perfect attendance for 2009-10:

*Cory Badinger
Jill Berg
Brad Dahl
Jennifer Dahl
Arden Glanzer
Clif Hamilton
Yvonne Hamilton
Heather Johnson-Kjos
Paul Nelson
Betty Opheim
Judy Pearson
Steve Shark
Mark Shaul
Dan Thomas
David Wrolstad*

They will be awarded their tabs when the District Governor visits.

WOW! What a Raffle



2010 Harley winner, Dr Ed May

2010 was quite the year for our Harley Davidson raffle! We weren't sure how the economy was going to affect the sales. We tend to go through this every year. The angst can be very draining for **Brad & Jen Dahl**, who put their hearts and souls into the sale.

Who knew we would break a record for our annual donation to the zoo? We had our usual Mr Toad's Wild Ride during the sale wondering if we would sell enough tickets to pay for the motorcycle. Then it was wondering how many tickets can we sell? We sold 472 tickets, making it one of our best years!

Dr. May, the winner of the bike, and Geoff Hall, past Fargo West Rotary member, both donated their winnings to the zoo. The value of the bike was \$17,375 and Geoff won the \$1,000 second place prize. So this year, we had an unprecedented \$41,514.93 to donate.

Our total donation to the zoo is a whopping \$226,670.08! Congratulate yourself on a job well done. This is very impressive — by any standard!

Mega thanks, too, to **Cory Badinger** who has served as the treasurer for this fundraiser. We couldn't do what we do without his contribution to this and to our club, where he also serves as treasurer.

New Board Takes Over

July marks the start of a new Rotary year. That means new leadership — Rotary International, districts and clubs change officers and their board of directors.

Our gratitude goes to **Jill Berg** and **Steve Shark** for serving on the board. Their contributions are invaluable. (Thank you, Steve, for bringing your projector to our meetings.)

Our new board members are **Gerry Brossart**, **Rick Larson** and **Leann Wolff**. They will serve for three years.

The committee chairs for 2010-11 are:

Ambassadorial Scholarships — **Judy Pearson**
 Donations — **David Wrolstad**
 F-M Rotary Foundation — **Paul Nelson**
 Festival of Trees — **Cathy Hanson**
 Foundation Banquet — **Rachel Clarke**
 Friendship Exchange — **Betty Opheim**
 Greeter — **Leann Wolff**
 Group Study Exchange — **Betty Opheim**
 Harley Raffle — **Brad Dahl**
 Literacy — **Ryan McManus**
 Membership — **Zac Paulson**
 Newsletter — **Betty Opheim**
 Peach Sale 2010 — **Dave Wrolstad**
 Programs — **Ryan McManus**
 Public Relations — **Deb Magnuson**
 Retention Committee — **Sheldon Emil**
 Rotary Foundation - **Jill Berg**
 RYLA — **Penny Crowder**
 Sergeant at Arms — **Gerry Brossart**
 Social Committee — **Carol Rogne**
 Website — **Zac Paulson**



17th Annual Peach & Pear Sale

By David Wrolstad

Fargo West Rotary ‘17th Annual Peach & Pear Sale’ is currently underway. This is our major fundraiser for the club to be able to financially support both local & international projects. The ‘**Big Day**’ for delivery and distribution of the peaches & pears is **Monday, August 23rd** – which replaces our regular scheduled noon meeting that day. I will have a sign-up sheet out in mid-July to volunteer that day.

Special ‘**Thank You’s**’ go out to fellow Fargo West Rotarians for ‘**Service Above Self**’:

- **Jed Krieg** (Olaf Anderson & Son) — Postage \$250
- **Jim Thompson** (Eide Bailly) — Postage \$250
- **David Wrolstad** (Gate City Bank) — Postage \$250
- **Dave Zieske** (Marco) — Paper & Printing \$150
- **Mark Hulbert** (Scheels) — Mailing Labels & Mailing Seals \$50

These donations totaling \$950 go directly to the bottom line for our fundraiser and are additional funds that can be distributed to worthwhile & needy organizations locally & internationally.

Other special ‘**Thank You’s**’ go out to these fellow Fargo West Rotarians for ‘**Service Above Self**’:

- **Brad Dahl** (JC Assurance) — use of conference room for mailing party
- **Jill Henning** (State Farm Insurance) — official statistician to maintain peach & pear list data base
- **Todd Ness** (Gate City Bank) — design of 2010 Peach & Pear Flyer
- **Mailing Party Volunteers** — you know who you are — thanks!

Now that the flyers are all mailed, **every Fargo West Rotarian** needs to **SELL, SELL, SELL** both peaches and pears. We currently have 1,750 lugs of peaches ordered & 100 lugs of pears ordered.

We need to sell out our order – so **SELL, SELL, SELL.**

Please contact **Betty** or myself if you need another copy of the ‘2010 Peach & Pear Flyer’ in .pdf format to send to your email contact list.

Please sell to your relatives, friends, co-workers, neighbors!!! Really, the peaches & pears sell themselves – people just need to be asked to buy!

PP Other People’s Money – ‘ES’ & ‘BO’ out.

Thought for

It's the Soldier, not the reporter

Who has given us the freedom of the press.

It's the Soldier, not the poet,

Who has given us the freedom of speech.

It's the Soldier, not the politicians

That ensures our right to Life, Liberty and the Pursuit of Happiness.

It's the Soldier who salutes the flag,

Who serves beneath the flag,

And whose coffin is draped by the flag.

Happy Birthday!

7/1	Rick Larson
7/4	Gerry Brossart
7/8	Matt Gruchalla
7/14	Paula Grimestad
7/18	Dan Thomas
7/19	Keri Dick

Changeover Meeting

June 28th was our changeover meeting when David Wrolstad turned the presidency over to Heather Johnson-Kjos. If you weren't there, you missed a lot of fun. David put his personal stamp on the proceedings. Instead of certificates for people who participated during the year, he brought gold coins made of chocolate in special Gate City Envelopes. Here are some photos from the day — enjoy.



More Changeover Photos



Heather was sworn in with her hand on the Rotarian magazine....



Miracle Field



Garrett, a local athlete eager to see the field completed, poses for a special edition Miracle League baseball card. "I always wanted to play on a real baseball field just like the real players."

more children with disabilities will be able to experience the exhilaration of a game and the fellowship of being on a team. "This is something we have wanted to offer our local communities for some time now," said Holly Heitkamp, Recreation Division Manager for Moorhead Parks. "We are so thankful to have the Rotary clubs champion the effort and are pleased to see the progress to date."

Last year Fargo-Moorhead Rotary clubs accepted the challenge to bring a very unique baseball field to the special needs children of our communities. Through an alliance with The Miracle League organization, a committee of local representatives has nearly made this a reality. On land already secured from Moorhead Parks and Recreation in the Southside Regional Park, groundbreaking will take place this summer with a targeted completion date before the end of the year.

For the many children who already participate in baseball and other sports through groups like the FM Challengers and HOPE, Inc., this field cannot come soon enough. "I was very fortunate to meet some of the special athletes and their families while preparing for our upcoming fundraising activities," explained **Sharon Miller**, committee member from the Fargo West Rotary Club. "I was overwhelmed by their spirit and enthusiasm and it is their stories that make this project so significant." Her visits inspired the video that can be viewed on the web site. "We are not just building a field we are building an experience and an opportunity unlike any other for these athletes." Miller added.

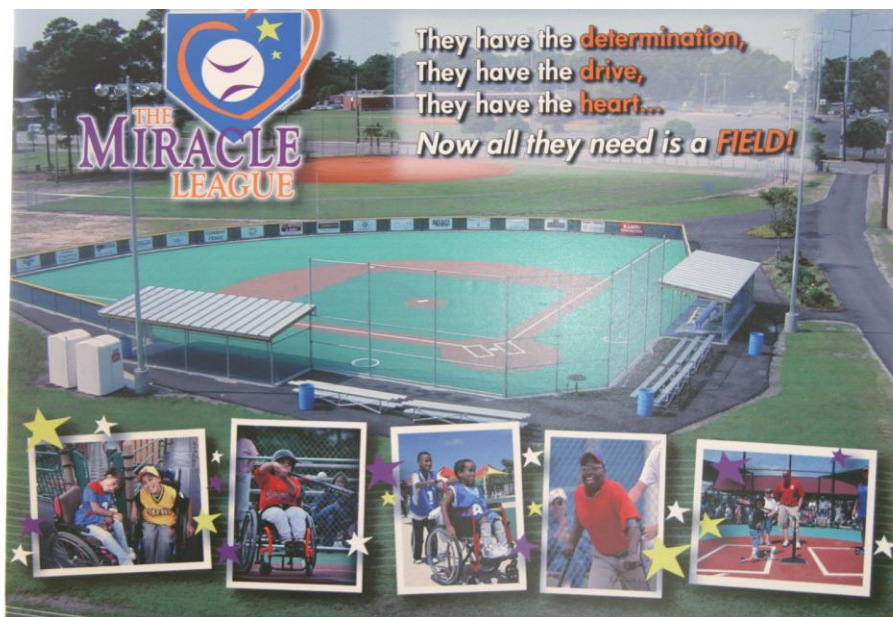
Many times the limitations and disabilities these children possess, physical or other, are isolating. By providing this safe environment, many more children with disabilities will be able to experience the exhilaration of a game and the fellowship of being on a team. "This is something we have wanted to offer our local communities for some time now," said Holly Heitkamp, Recreation Division Manager for Moorhead Parks. "We are so thankful to have the Rotary clubs champion the effort and are pleased to see the progress to date."

Fundraising, activities, and events will take place throughout the summer months, including a motorcycle run September 19th. To learn more about how you can make a donation, participate in an event, or become a sponsor of the project, visit www.fmmiraclefield.org.



Fargo West Rotary thanks **Sharon Miller** and **Belinda Forknell** for all of their dedication and hard work. They represent our club on the planning and implementing of this awesome baseball field, and they have outdone themselves!

More Miracle League Photos



Big kudos to all Fargo Moorhead Rotarians... this ball park is as good as the Universal Playground at Lindenwood Park, which we also had a hand in providing.

Rotarians are very generous with their time and their money. We recognize the need and try our hardest to find a solution — whether it is locally or in a 3rd world country. We do our best to make sure we lend a helping hand.

Thanks again, Sharon and Belinda for giving of your time and talents. You rock!

'Building Communities — Bridging Continents' is 2010-11 RI theme

http://www.rotary.org/en/mediaandnews/news/pages/100118_ia10_theme.aspx

RI President Ray Klingensmith, Kirksville, Missouri, chose 'Building Communities — Bridging Continents' as his theme for 2010-11.

Klingensmith said he arrived at the theme after reviewing RI themes of years past. He noticed that only a few spoke to non-Rotarians.

"As a result, I decided to search for a briefly stated theme that would fulfill two objectives: the first to explain Rotary to non-Rotarians, and the second to validate our work for Rotarians," he said. "The words I have selected to describe Rotary's current mission and to highlight our achievements are what we do best: *Building Communities -- Bridging Continents*."

The president-elect described how his 50 years of Rotary experience have contributed to his focus on communities at home and abroad. For example, as a Rotary Foundation Ambassadorial Scholar, he studied for a year in South Africa, becoming the first student from his small town of Unionville, Missouri, USA, to study abroad.

The timing of the theme announcement, which took place in the evening, was a break in tradition from past assemblies and a reflection of Klingensmith's willingness to embrace change. He encouraged district governors-elect to reexamine traditional procedures that were no longer best practices and to begin new traditions where appropriate.

He also paid homage to Rotarians of the past who helped raise Rotary to a place of prominence on the world stage. He urged district governors-elect to meet the past RI presidents and other former officers in attendance to deepen their connection to Rotary's past.

"I love it," says Governor-elect Robert Martin, of District 5020 (British Columbia, Canada; Washington, USA). "I'm going to be promoting Rotary pride in our district next year and Building Communities -- Bridging Continents is something we can all be proud of."

Important Rotary Info

July Meetings

Greeter: Deb Magnuson

7/5 No Meeting — July 4th

7/12 Zac Paulson — New Fargo West Rotary Website

7/19 Betty Shipley — Riding on Angels Wings

7/26 Steve Scheel — Guatemala Mission Work

Make up meetings at any of these local clubs:

Fargo West Rotary meets Monday noon at the Holiday Inn

Moorhead Rotary meets Tuesday noon at the Moorhead Country Club

Fargo Rotary meets Wednesday noon at the Radisson Hotel

FM/AM Rotary meets Thursday at 7:00am in the Overture Room at the Ramada Plaza Suites

FM/PM Make up meeting is at 5:15 pm on the 1st & 3rd Wed of every month at the Winery



RI 2010-11 theme