



SERVICE Above Self

Fargo West Rotary

Newsletter November 2009

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

President's Message

by David Wrolstad

“Lessons Learned From Kids Running Around..... & The Rotary Foundation”



My youngest son, Aaron, just finished up his senior Cross-Country season at Fargo South High School. After having my two sons participate in just about every sport under the sun during their childhood, X-C became my favorite sport for a number of reasons. What lessons can be learned from a bunch of kids running around just being kids? There are plenty:

1. Everyone plays. Unlike other sports, no cross-country athlete is cut from the team and they all get to complete in organized races depending on age & ability.
2. There is no 'coasting' in running. Unlike riding a bike, there is no coasting – it is one foot in front of the other until you get to the finish line.
3. There are no shortcuts for success or improvement. It is simply 'hard work'. If everyone puts in the work, everyone will improve.
4. I am a great believer in 'Luck' – “The Harder I work, the luckier I get”. You only get out what you put in.
5. Things do not always go as planned – (yes – bad things can happen to good people).

Aaron is not the most talented runner – he is blessed with my genetics and not naturally fast. What Aaron did do all season was work extremely hard and put himself in a position to possible finish in the top 20 at the State Meet to become 'All-State' if he had a “good day”.

Under difficult conditions, Aaron did not have a good day - he was one of many kids that fell under muddy conditions. What Aaron did do was get up and finish the race. I am guessing Aaron learned more about himself and his character that day than if he had a “good day” and finished All-State.

Ah – my “*Amazing Technicolor Rotary Sports Coat*”. Two patches on my sports coat are **The Rotary Foundation** and **Every Rotarian Every Year**. I might sound like a broken record (OK – I do), but I can't emphasize how important it is for each Rotarian to support *The Rotary Foundation*.

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Foundation Month

*Rotary Foundation
Banquet Nov 3rd at the
Fargo Country Club
&
Christmas Social
December 10th at
Sharon & Steve
Hilger's New Home*



Meet Our New Member



Cindy Magnuson

"I have admired the work Rotary does for the community and for the world and am honored to now be a member of Fargo West Rotary. Thank you!"

I grew up in the F-M area and graduated from Moorhead Senior High School in 1980 and MSU in 1985 with a BS degree in Business Administration.

After college, I went to work for NCR Corporation, which became AT&T. I was transferred to Grand Rapids Michigan but moved back to the area to marry my husband, Steve. Steve and I have been married seventeen years and have two beautiful daughters, Marissa 15 and Katie 12.

I have traveled many years while working in the Medical Device Industry for Johnson & Johnson, Medtronic, and Boston Scientific. In 2008 I decided to pursue my interest in Investments and Finance and joined Edward Jones Investments as a Financial Advisor. Working for Edward Jones, has allowed me to spend more time at home with my family and become involved in the community.

Becoming part of Rotary was a lifelong goal. I remember when I was growing up, my Dad talking about being a Rotarian, when he was The Moorhead City Engineer.

Pres. Message *cont*

How can lessons learned from kids running around be applied to *The Rotary Foundation*? Let's take a look.

1. Everyone can play.....participate! Everyone can pledge a \$100 per year (Cory can bill \$25 per quarter) and everyone can become a Sustaining Paul Harris Fellow. Think of other ways we spend \$100 during a given year?
2. There is no 'coasting' for The Rotary Foundation. There are always programs & projects to support around the World. They never cease. We have almost won the battle against Polio – now is not time to coast. The Rotary Foundation needs your support. *"Every Rotarian Every Year"*.
3. There are no shortcuts for The Rotary Foundation. It simply takes dollars to work – that means you and me helping support The Foundation.
4. Things do not always go as planned. Other things come up on a regular basis that require our financial resources. I know I have not always supported The Foundation with a \$100 each of my 22 years being a Rotarian. But I am certain if you support The Rotary Foundation, you will have a higher sense of 'Ownership' in Rotary and in our Club!

"The Future of the Fargo West Rotary Club.....IS IN YOUR HANDS." How can YOU make a difference as a member:

1. Come to weekly meetings
2. Invite a friend to a meeting
3. Invite a friend to join
4. Get involved.....ASK (You only get out what you put in)
5. Read.....the monthly club newsletter (Thanks, Betty), the monthly district newsletter and The Rotarian magazine
6. Fargo-Moorhead 'Rotary Foundation Dinner' – Tuesday, November 3rd @ Fargo Country Club
7. Fargo West Rotary '25th Anniversary Lunch' – Monday, December 14th @ noon
8. Joint District Conference in Winnipeg, Manitoba – Thursday, May 13 – Saturday May 15, 2010 (Delta Hotel – Conference Host Hotel)
9. **'Every Rotarian Every Year' – become a Sustaining Paul Harris Fellow**
10. *"Eat Chili – the rest will become history."*

CP Money - 'ES' out.

It's Number 3 For Trent!

Trent and Sarah Gerards had baby number three. Griffin was born 12:29 Monday, October 19. He weighed 6 lbs and 12 oz. and was 18 ¾ in. Everyone is doing fine and they came home on Thursday, October 22.

Big sister and brother are excited and can't wait to have another person to play with. Congratulations to the Gerards family!



Happy Birthday!

- 11/2 Heather Johnson-Kjos
- 11/10 Reed Stigen
- 11/12 Kathleen Toft
- 11/20 Belinda Forknell
- 11/26 Jed Krieg
- 11/28 Steve Shark



Vikings fans have to make do with what they have...

Dictionary Wrap-up & Ell

by Ryan McManus

I would like to start by thanking everyone for their support and commitment to Literacy. We could not have fulfilled our commitment without you. We completed the dictionary delivery project in October and are now getting ready for our club commitment to Adopt-A-School and the Carl Ben Eielson English as a Learners Language program.

Dictionary Project

A huge thank you to Herb Schmidt from the FM/AM club, he was very instrumental in the planning and completion of the dictionary project. Fargo West Rotary, FM/AM Rotary, Fargo Rotary and the Fargo City PTA all assisted in completing the dictionary deliveries this past month. A few highlight points over the course of the project.

- Visited 111 classrooms in 22 different schools:
 - 3rd and 4th graders in Fargo Public Schools and Fargo Parochial Schools.
 - 3rd graders in West Fargo Public Schools.
- Donated 2430 Dictionaries to students and teachers
- Over 55 different Rotarian volunteers.
- Over 12 PTA volunteers.
- Over 150 total hours volunteered.
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We received many thank you letters from students and teachers, they have been very grateful. This was a very timely and needed project for our community as many of the students did not have access to their own dictionaries. We hope to make this an annual project so keep this in mind for next year, and if you would like to assist in the planning, there will be opportunities.

English as a Learners Language

Each year Fargo West Rotarians have assisted Carl Ben Eielson ELL students. These students are new to the United States and the English language. Volunteers help students read books, pronounce words, and assist with other homework needs. We ask volunteers for one hour of their time each week over the months of December, January and February. Sign-up sheets will be passed around shortly and I urge everyone consider making time to spend one-on-one with the ELL students during this project, it is very rewarding.

Thank You to Our Volunteers

The success of every Fargo West Rotary project is directly correlated to the number of members who volunteer their time and talents.

We owe the following people a hearty “Thank You!” These people served on eighteen different days delivering the dictionaries to the various schools — several of whom volunteered many times:

Bruce Opheim, Kathleen Toft, Ryan McManus, Heather Johnson Kjos, Jill Henning, Pat Devine, Paula Grimstad, David Wrolstad, Yvonne Hamilton, Cliff Hamilton, Zac Paulson, Steve Shark, John Stern, Jill Berg, Rachel Clarke, Brad Dahl, Penny Crowder, Arden Glanzer, Sharon Miller, Joyce Linnerud-Fowler and Dani Arnold.

Enjoy the photos of our dedicated members. We are sorry we missed some of our volunteers.





Remember our Troops



Veteran's Day is November 11th. This is a great time to remember the troops who are serving our country and keeping us safe. The holidays of Thanksgiving and Christmas are particularly difficult for our overseas military personnel. Make plans now so they receive their packages for Christmas.

Operationkomando.com provides all the information you need to send care packages to the troops. You'll find lists of both small-ticket and big-ticket items to send. You'll also learn where to send your care packages. But maybe you'd like to make a more personal connection with a soldier. In that case, head over to [Any Soldier](http://AnySoldier.com). The site posts e-mail messages from soldiers. You can read about where they're stationed and what it is like to be serving in the military.

You can also request a soldier's address. That means you can send a care package directly to the soldier! It's a great way to help the troops!

You can donate books, CDs and DVDs. Or donate money so that our men and women overseas can have video calls with their families back home. You can also sponsor care packages provided by the USO. Here's a list of ways you can support our military. I'm sure there's one thing that you can do to brighten a service member's holiday far from home. Check the list now by clicking [here](#).

A man in Phoenix calls his son in New York two days before Thanksgiving and says, "I hate to ruin your day, but I have to tell you that your mother and I are divorcing; forty-five years of misery is enough."

"Pop, what are you talking about?" the son screams. "We can't stand the sight of each other any longer," the father says. "We're sick of each other, and I'm sick of talking about this, so you call your sister in Chicago and tell her."

Frantic, the son calls his sister, who explodes on the phone. "Like heck they're getting divorced," she shouts, "I'll take care of this." She calls Phoenix immediately, and screams at her father, "You are NOT getting divorced. Don't do a single thing until I get there. I'm calling my brother back, and we'll both be there tomorrow. Until then, don't do a thing, DO YOU HEAR ME?" and hangs up.

The old man hangs up his phone and turns to his wife. "Okay," he says, "they're coming for Thanksgiving and paying their own way."

November is Rotary Foundation Month by Bruce Opheim

Rotary International sets a theme for each month and year. November is Rotary Foundation Month.

November is Rotary Foundation month. You have heard a great deal about The Rotary Foundation in recent weeks, particularly because of the upcoming Paul Harris banquet. This is a wonderful event that the four local Rotary clubs hold every year to recognize and celebrate those Rotarians who have financially committed their support. It's also a great time to learn more about the programs and the outstanding work that The Rotary Foundation is doing throughout the world.

One of the reasons that I am so thoroughly committed to The Rotary Foundation is because it is an extension of my love for Rotary. Being a part of our local Rotary club is really great, and I eagerly look forward to our weekly meetings. I also like getting involved with all of our club projects and giving back to our community. However, beyond those things, I can't personally do a great deal more, which is where my support of The Rotary Foundation comes into play. By supporting the foundation, I am able to reach out beyond my local involvement and really make a difference in the world. Our contributions to the foundation literally change lives every day.

On my own, I can't stop Polio in countries where it is still prevalent, but by combining my resources with thousands of other Rotarians, the ravages of Polio have nearly been wiped out. I can't personally dig a well in Honduras or build a school in India, but with the resources of The Rotary Foundation and the dedication of hundreds of Rotary volunteers, those things are getting done every year. Rotary is one of the most widely recognized organizations in the world, for their tremendous works and generosity. Where ever you may travel in this world, the Rotary Wheel is one of the most recognizable symbols you can find. It makes you proud to be a Rotarian.

In the next couple of weeks, you will be hearing a lot more about the programs of The Rotary Foundation. You will also be asked to make a financial commitment to the foundation. If every member of our club would commit to at least \$100/ year, every year, it would go a long way in providing the support needed to continue the work of The Rotary Foundation. Remember the theme: **Every Rotarian Every Year.**

Important Rotary Info

November Meetings

Greeter: Zac Paulson

11/2 **Cass Country Jail — offsite**

11/9 **Mark Chaffee — Titanic Story**

11/16 **Thanksgiving Lunch — Natasha Nodsle**

11/23 **Jarret Brachman — Global Jihadism**

11/30 **Bruce Opheim — Rotary Foundation**

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 Inn & Suites

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



RI 2009-2010 theme