

ROTARY INTERNATIONAL

WAHPETON ROTARY CLUB

WAHPETON, N.D., DISTRICT 5580

AUGUST 12, 2006

MEETINGS ARE EVERY TUESDAY AT 12:00 NOON AT PRANTE'S



Rotarian of the Year Announced!
Congratulations
CARMEN PLUMMER

District Governor's Visit a great success

On August 8, District 5580 District Governor David Vose and his wife Bobbi visited the Wahpeton Rotary Club. DG Vose emphasized that the district officers are there to serve us. We have the latitude to set our own goals and objectives. The basic purpose of Rotary clubs is to create opportunities for individual Rotarians to provide efficient and effective service to people and the world. The district officers help us manage our resources and our commitments. It's our volunteer time and our money that they help us put to the best use. DG Vose sees the district as a channel for Rotary club and Rotary International information.

DG Vose encouraged our participation in Rotary Foundation programs: ambassadorial scholarships, peace scholarships, Group Study Exchanges, and matching grant programs. The matching grant program helps Rotary Clubs like ours leverage our funds. He pointed to the Guatemala project(s) we've helped with by assisting the FM AM Rotary Club. DG Vose noted how Suzanne Pehl and Dick Geiselhart had gone to Guatemala earlier this year in support of Guatemalan Rotary projects.

The district also provides leadership programs that we can use to help ourselves achieve our Club goals and objectives.

District/Club Goals (abbreviated by editor who wrote as fast as she could while DG Vose spoke):

1. Each/every club meets the criteria for being an effective club
2. Rotary International goal - every club gain 1 net member (this would result in a 3% membership increase!)
3. Support the Rotary Foundation
4. Rotary Clubs support the District
(and Wahpeton has done so with leaders who are willing to serve on the next level)
5. Extra! Apply for recognition by Presidential Citation

District Goals:

1. Reinforce *club ownership* of the District (they work for us)
2. Directly increase the direct support to clubs in District 5580
3. Achieve increased financial transparency and fairness
4. Recognize what a huge area District 5580 is (and use technology to improve communications)
5. Continue the strategic planning effort begun some time ago; culture and work life changes - we need to respond to change as it occurs to be a responsive organization

DG Vose presented CARMEN PLUMMER with the Wahpeton Rotary Club ROTARIAN OF THE YEAR award. Carmen was nearly speechless. His first comment was, "Wow!" Carmen thanked us for the honor bestowed to him. We congratulate you, Carmen. It's a pleasure and an honor to be your fellow Rotarians. You exemplify "Service Above Self!"

Upcoming events – ask a friend to join you at a meeting

August 15 – Karie Trupka, Breckenridge – South America

August 22 – Perry & Karen Engstrom on medical mission trip to Sengida, Tanzania, Africa

August 29 – Wahpeton Rotary Club Assembly

Boy, after August, we'll all feel like we've traveled the world! At least we'll know more about it!

September 4 – Labor Day

September – work on the double-decker bus resumes.

“Family of Rotary” event: Redhawks Game at Newman Field. If you didn't sign up with Renelle Bertsch before, you still may be able to get tickets in the general seating area. Maybe you can still carpool...final details TBA.

New Members?

Has anyone asked you about Rotary projects? Or asked you what your jazzy Rotary pin is for? Maybe this person would like an invitation to see and hear more about Rotary. Extend an invitation! We love to meet new people (and Rotarians are usually pretty good at it) and it could help us find prospective members.

Rotary Quiz:

See how well you do. Answers will be published below or at a later time (devilish, isn't it)?

1. What are the names of our District Governor and his spouse?
2. Have you congratulated the Rotarian of the Year yet?
3. What Wahpeton Rotary Club member has a daughter who will help initiate Rotaract in Wahpeton?

From previous quiz (thanks to President Nancy for helping the editor with this!)

What are President Nancy's goals for the coming year?

1. Scholarship criteria and funding established
2. Literacy projects *completion of the bus?
3. Membership retention
4. Participation and support of an International project
5. Awards - club, community and Rotary
6. Foundation goals - 100/member per year
7. Establishment of Rotaract club and Rotary community corps
8. Continue development and fine-tuning of organizational chart

Remember... This is your newsletter, Wahpeton Rotarians. So, what else would you like to see here? Give me as much news & info as possible and I'll do my best to share it with everyone. Call me at home 642 4149, or work 642 2442 or e-mail me at pame@702com.net.

Web Sites: Here are some handy websites that offer information on Rotary.

- www.rotary.org *Rotary International*
- www.wahpetonrotary.org *Wahpeton Rotary*
- www.clubrunner.ca/5580 *District 5580*
- www.campryla.org *5580 Camp RYLA*
- www.winnipegrotary.org/muna/index.html *MUNA Assembly in Winnipeg*

About our International Convention: Marilyn Chambers, who took notes of the proceedings and her experiences, shares them here:

June 13th, Tuesday

This morning, the first session stressed ROTARACT. Markus Granlund, Rotaract Representative 2005-06 Rotaract Committee, and Kristine Binzer, President, Rotaract in Denmark, walked onto the stage carrying a snowboard. Remember the opening ceremony where Rotarians were advised to learn to snowboard because we only know how to cross-country ski? Here are two young members that snowboard. Rotary needs both the snowboarders and the cross country skiers.

Markus was in Rotaract until he turned 31. He was also an Ambassadorial Scholar. To quote Markus, “His involvement with Rotary played a very important part in his life”. It is sad that some Rotaract are not invited to join Rotary after their time is up in Rotaract. Marcus said this because he was not invited to join a Rotary club. Young members need to teach snowboarding and to be taught how to cross-country ski.

The next session was on the Rotary Foundation. “Every Rotarian, every year,” is necessary to allow the Foundation to continue. If every Rotary member contributed \$100.00 per year, that would generate \$12,000,000.00 per year. The Foundation would like that figure to grow to \$20,000,000.00 in order to keep projects going. Rotary will start a project and then piggy-back with other organizations to get things done. Rotary is known for its “trust.” It can be trusted to start and complete a project. Because of that, Mel Gibson donated \$10,000,000.00 to help Mexico recover from a hurricane last year. The monies were entrusted to Rotary because, “Rotary can be trusted”.

“Every Rotarian, every year” should encourage every club member to consider the 4 T’s;

- **T**hinking, consider projects
- **T**alent, use the knowledge the members have
- **T**ime, invest your time
- **T**reasure, dollars that can be contributed

This morning was a difficult time. Once the sessions were over, the voting delegates were required to render a decision on a very pressing matter. The voting delegates were cordoned off in a very secure area of the hall. Only delegates with the official stamp and badge were allowed in that area. The Sergeant-at-Arms monitored each and every delegate. The rest of the audience was strongly advised to be totally silent.

In short, it concerned the 2007-08 RI Presidential election. The person originally chosen, Mr. Osborn was removed from the position when RI discovered irregularities in the nomination process. It was found that a group of Mr. Osborn’s friends had starting campaigning for him in February of 2005, when the names of the nominees can only be submitted in August, 2005.

Following procedure, M. Osborn was removed as the nominee and a new nominating committee was chosen. Mr. Osborn’s name was included as were all the other original candidates. When Mr. Osborn was not chosen, he retained an attorney and sued RI for not following the by-laws. The lawsuit was thrown out of court in Illinois, citing RI did follow correct procedure. This morning the delegates were to vote on whether or not RI’s procedures should stand as is, or if the decision should be reversed. After hearing the information presented by both Mr. Osborn’s representative and RI’s, it was time to vote. The “yeas” outnumbered the “nays”. So Mr. Osborn was not to be President in 2007-08.

There cannot be campaigning for a candidate. Monies spent trying to influencing the nominating committee will not be tolerated in RI. The people representing Mr. Osborn said that they would support whatever decision was made by the voting delegates. But a lot of feelings were hurt so only time will tell the true results of the decision.

Editor's note:

Sincere thanks to Marilyn Chambers for her excellent observations and reporting. Don't you feel as if you were there with her? We'll have more in the next newsletter.

Another note – Rotary is a large and complex organization. But seeing how well difficult situations are handled can make us feel proud that we are members of an organization that can handle such problems with respect and dignity.

And one more thing! Are you ready for some football?!

If you don't have your football books yet, see Dan Zink now. This is one of our best fundraisers. We do this so we can provide the *service above self* that Wahpeton Rotarians are known for! Go, team, go!

WHAT MARRIAGE IS ALL ABOUT

He ordered one hamburger, one order of French fries and one drink. The old man unwrapped the plain hamburger and carefully cut it in half. He placed one half in front of his wife. He then carefully counted out the French fries, dividing them into two piles and neatly placed one pile in front of his wife. He took a sip of the drink, then his wife took a sip and set the cup down between them.

As he began to eat his few bites of hamburger, the people around them kept looking over and whispering. You could tell they were thinking, "That poor old couple - all they can afford is one meal for the two of them."

As the man began to eat his fries a young man came to the table. He politely offered to buy another meal for the old couple. The old man said they were just fine; they were used to sharing everything.

The surrounding people noticed the little old lady hadn't eaten a bite. She sat there watching her husband eat and occasionally took turns sipping the drink. Again the young man came over and begged them to let him buy another meal for them. This time the old woman said "No, thank you, we are used to sharing everything."

As the old man finished and was wiping his face neatly with the napkin, the young man again came over to the little old lady who had yet to eat a single bite of food and asked "What is it you are waiting for?"

She answered (This is great)
"The teeth."

NOTE NOTE NOTE NOTE

Upcoming **GROUP STUDY EXCHANGE (GSE)** to District 1740 in **FRANCE** June 2-29th...applications for team members & team leader now open and forms are available at www.clubrunner.ca/5580. Now where have you seen that before? Check it out! Lots more info available there!