



Rotary Foundation Month

President Richard opened the meeting, Mark Hansen led us in singing America the Beautiful and de Judge, Jack Schultz offered Lincoln's 1863 Proclamation of Thanksgiving as our invocation.

Visitors and Guests

President Richard introduced our only guest, Nochata "Ploy" Vittateera, our inbound student from Thailand.

Announcements

- Old Newsboys — Mark Strodel, chairman, announced a new goal of \$8,000 this year. We will sell papers on December 12th and 13th.
- Our wood sale was very successful. We have collected about \$1,800 so far and expect to top \$2,000. John Shepherd thanked each of us for his/her help.
- Dave Ziembra announced we would be ringing bells at Shoppingtown Mall on December 19th and 20th.

Happy Dollars –

Dick Robb gave \$2 for having two kids home for Thanksgiving; Bill Grossman \$1 each for a trip to SC and for seeing Dick Robb give \$2; Mel Rubenstein who missed the wood sale because of a family event

involving the daughter Judge Jack married; Ed Glassberg for the balmy weather; Frank Decker for our new member; Gay Pomeroy for Dan Maffei promising to look into a special member item that would provide a new piano or keyboard for our club meetings; John Shepherd \$1 for a great wood sale and another for SU's win over Notre Dame; Larry Schunck who went with son Kenny to the SU-ND game; Jack Schultz for the Notre Dame game; Steve Woiler for helping daughter move five blocks in Manhattan; Joe McCarthy a happy dollar for being with son to celebrate his 48th birthday and a sad dollar remembering Jack Kennedy was killed the day after his son was born; Jay Wilkins for his parent's 59th wedding anniversary; Holly \$1 for John Shepherd and the wood sale and another for Ed Glassberg bringing her son a warm hat. President Richard concluded with a buck for our new member and a buck for SU's win even though he is a lifelong ND fan. The SU win just felt right.

Induction of New Member

As part of our New member induction, President Richard asked John Arnold to speak about "His Experience of Becoming a Rotarian." John told about joining the South

Orangetown Rotary Club (NY near the Jersey line) and spending his first two years in that club. He found that it was very easy to be a Rotarian. People welcomed him and really helped him to get involved in the club and in the community. When he moved to CNY, he knew he would like to get reinvolved, but it took a couple of years to get settled here before he felt ready to jump back in. Then he met Joe McCarthy and Joe invited him to become a part of DeWitt Rotary. Now he has been with us over six years and is our President Elect. He was attracted to Rotary because it is a good way to get assimilated into a new community. He suggested we just look around us—we have a US Congressman, judges, lawyers, and people of every walk of life. He has the privilege of relating to each of us.



Then President Richard made an excellent presentation about the meaning of Rotary. He invited Kristin Hempel, Director of Community Outreach at

Manlius Pebble Hill School to come forward. Kristin has a B.A. degree from Swarthmore College and an M.A. from Vermont College of the Union Institute. Richard presented her with her pin and certificate of membership and welcomed her into the club.

Our 50/50 winner was Dan Maffei — guess he's winning all kinds of things this month.

Overheard –

One of my students could not take my college seminar final exam because of a funeral. “No problem,” I told him. “Make it up the following week.” That week came, and again he couldn't take the test due to another funeral. “You'll have to take the test early next week,” I insisted. “I can't keep postponing it.” “I'll take the test next week if no one dies,” he told me. By now I was suspicious. “How can you have so many people you know pass away in three weeks?” I asked. “I don't know any of these people,” he said. “But I'm the only gravedigger in town.” [from Pulpit Supply]

The convent had been presented with a new car, a red Mini Metro. Sister Lucy, the only qualified driver, became the chauffeur for all and sundry. Every Saturday she would drive Reverend Mother into town for the shopping. All went well till Bank Holiday weekend when the town was so packed with people and cars that it became evident that there was no earthly place to park. ‘Don't worry, Mother,’ said Sister Lucy. ‘You go into the supermarket and I'll drive round the block until you come out.’ Off sped the car, and Reverend Mother bustled round the store

quickly, picking up all the necessary goods and then rushing back to the kerbside. There she stood for five minutes, ten, fifteen, twenty. No sign of Sister Lucy. Where could she be? Eventually Reverend Mother approached a patrolling policeman. ‘Excuse me, officer,’ said she, ‘have you seen a nun in a red Mini?’ ‘No,’ replied the policeman, ‘but these days nothing would surprise me!’ [ArcaMax Jokes]

Yesterday I was buying a large bag of Purina dog chow for Toot, the wonder dog, at Wal-Mart and was about to check out. A woman behind me asked if I had a dog. On impulse on this stupid question, I told her that No, I didn't have a dog, but I was starting the Purina Diet again. Although I probably shouldn't, because I'd ended up in the hospital last time, but that I'd lost 50 pounds before I awakened in an intensive care ward with tubes coming out of most of my orifices and IVs in both arms. I told her that it was essentially a perfect diet and that the way that it works is to load your pants pockets with Purina nuggets and simply eat one or two every time you feel hungry and that the food is nutritionally complete so I was going to try it again. (I have to mention here that practically everyone in the line was by now enthralled with my story.) Horrified, she asked if I ended up in intensive care because the dog food poisoned me. I told her No, I stepped off a curb to sniff noses with an Irish Setter and a car hit us both. I thought the guy behind her was going to have a heart attack, he was laughing so hard! Wal-Mart won't let me shop there

anymore! [from M. Dean Blanck, The Good Clean Funnies List]



HAPPY THANKSGIVING

Recently I received a parrot as a gift. The parrot had a bad attitude and an even worse vocabulary. Every word out of the bird's mouth was rude, obnoxious and laced with profanity. I tried and tried to change the bird's attitude by consistently saying only polite words, playing soft music and anything else I could think of to “clean up” the bird's vocabulary. Finally, I was fed up and I yelled at the parrot. The parrot yelled back. I shook the parrot and the parrot got angrier and even ruder. So, in desperation, I threw up my hands, grabbed the bird and put him in the freezer. For a few minutes the parrot squawked and kicked and screamed. Then suddenly there was total quiet. Not a peep was heard for over a minute. Fearing that I'd hurt the parrot, I quickly opened the door to the freezer. The parrot calmly stepped out onto my outstretched arms and said “I believe I may have offended you with my rude language and actions. I'm sincerely remorseful for my inappropriate transgressions and I fully intend to do everything I can to correct my rude and unforgivable behavior.” I was stunned at the change in the

bird's attitude. As I was about to ask the parrot what had made such a dramatic change in his behavior, the bird continued, "May I ask what the turkey did?"

HAPPY THANKSGIVING!

[from Dr. Michael Miller]

"Five fat turkeys are we.
We sat all night in a tree.
When the cook came around,
We couldn't be found.
So that's why we're here, you see."
[Thanksgiving greetings from Beliefnet.com]



From the District and Rotary International

- Dec, 12th & 13th – Old Newsperson's Sale
- Dec 19th & 20th – Bell Ringing for the Salvation Army at Shoppingtown Mall
- March 13th - 14th, 2009 – Multi-District PETS, Double Tree, E. Syracuse, NY
- April 4th, 2009 – Rotary Leadership Institute - RLINEA, BOCES, Verona

READER'S CHOICE –

The ABCs of Rotary, Cliff Dochterman, RI Pres, 1992-93

FOUR AVENUES OF SERVICE

The term "four Avenues of Service" is frequently used in Rotary literature and information. The "Avenues" refer to the four elements of the Object of Rotary: Club Service,

Vocational Service, Community Service and International Service.

Although the Avenues of Service are not found in any formal part of the constitutional documents of Rotary, the concept has been accepted as a means to describe the primary areas of Rotary activity.

- "Club Service" involves all of the activities necessary for Rotarians to perform to make their club function successfully.
- "Vocational Service" is a description of the opportunity each Rotarian has to represent the dignity and utility of one's vocation to the other members of the club.
- "Community Service" pertains to those activities which Rotarians undertake to improve the quality of life in their community. It frequently involves assistance to youth, the aged, handicapped and others who look to Rotary as a source of hope for a better life.
- The Fourth Avenue "International Service" describes the many programs and activities which Rotarians undertake to advance international understanding, goodwill and peace. International Service projects are designed to meet humanitarian needs of people in many lands.

When a Rotarian understands and travels down the "Four Avenues of Service," the Object of Rotary takes on even greater meaning.

HOW TO MAKE A MARRIAGE LAST ...

My wife and I have the secret to making a marriage last: Two times a week, we go to a nice restaurant, have a little wine, some good food and companionship. She goes Tuesday's, I go Fridays. We also sleep in separate beds. Hers is in Sydney and mine is in Melbourne. I take my wife everywhere, but she keeps finding her way back. I asked my wife where she wanted to go for our anniversary. "Somewhere I haven't been in a long time!" she said. So I suggested the kitchen. We always hold hands. If I let go, she shops. She has an electric blender, electric toaster and electric bread maker. Then she said, "There are too many gadgets and no place to sit down!". So I bought her an electric chair. I married Miss Right. I just didn't know her first name was Always. I haven't spoken to my wife for 18 months. I don't like to interrupt her. The last fight was my fault. My wife asked, "What's on the TV?".... I said, "Dust!" In the beginning, God created earth and rested. Then God created man and rested. Then God created woman. Since then, neither God nor man has rested.

Respectfully submitted,
Bill Grossman, Editor

