

Tidings

Club Announcements



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THE ROTARY FOUR-WAY TEST

- ☸ Is it the **truth**?
- ☸ Is it **fair**?
- ☸ Will it build **goodwill** and better **friendships**?
- ☸ Will it be **beneficial** to **all** concerned?

President Kevin Pechacek called the meeting to order and Garrett Gill led the devotions. Following the Pledge of Allegiance and the Four Way Test, announcements were made. Thanks to those who set up and greeted.

Welcome Guests

- Joe Johnston, a banker with Associated Bank and a potential new member. (He grew up in New Richmond and attended Stout, but recently moved here from Florida, where he was a member of Rotary.)
- Guillermo Guille, our exchange student from Peru.

Board Meeting

There will be a board meeting this Thursday at the River Falls Journal building.

Chamber Golf Tournament

The Chamber of Commerce annual golf tournament will be held next Monday.

Thanks Extended

President Pechacek read a thank you to the club from RF High School social studies teacher, Doug Hjersjo for sponsoring speaker Tim Scott’s annual talk about the Holocaust.

Car Raffle

Even if Terry wasn’t here to remind us, we were all encouraged to remember to sell raffle tickets.

River Falls Days

Scott Jones has agreed to take the lead on the River Falls Days booth this year. Cheers and thanks! (But of course, we are all obligated to answer his calls for assistance.)

President’s Pantry

Following his “work-related” golfing adventures, Garrett Gill brought back a President’s Pantry gift: the book *Around the World in 80 Rounds* written by David Wood. The copy is signed by the author, and should be an attractive addition to the bookshelves of one of our many golf aficionados.



Happy Bucks

Ted Marsh happily led the collection of Happy Bucks.

Missed and Guest Bucks

Several Rotarians made donations for previous missed meetings and almost everyone gave a happy buck for our guest and potential new member.

Mother's Day

Many Rotarians made donations for the Mother's Day weekend and the reminder it provides to thank, honor and celebrate the mothers that have made such important contributions to our lives.

Indian GSE and John Kremer

Several Rotarians noted how much they enjoyed the time with the members of the Group Study Exchange team from India, and special recognition was extended to John Kremer for his tireless work with the program—although John noted that he didn't consider it to be "work," because of all the fun that he had with the program and the people involved.

University Graduations & Connie Foster

A number of members honored the university graduations that are planned in the next weeks. Steve Schroeder contributed in honor of his "fellow runner" Connie Foster and her work at the university. This was followed by several other "Connie Bucks." Connie, in turn, gave a "sad buck" for the state budget.

Other News to be Happy About

Jerry Taft gave a "dog-eared" dollar bill for his dog, Sadie, who discovered that she had a literal taste for money. Happily, enough of the bill was saved to still make it legal tender, even if it was thoroughly "tenderized."

Bill Montgomery has been reading the autobiography of Colin Powell and been getting out of the house too—attending the new Star Trek movie and *Caroline or Change* at the Guthrie Theatre. He said that *Caroline . . .* was one of the best musicals that he had ever seen.

Tom Westerhaus is preparing for his move to River Falls and celebrating family birthdays.

And Amy Luther is getting ready for the Grand Opening this weekend and was happy about travel "up North."

Rotarians have much to be happy about—and that happiness continues to pay dividends for the work of the club.

OUR OFFICERS

President:	Kevin Pechacek
Pres Elect:	Diane Odeen
Vice Pres:	Tom Garfin
Treasurer:	Marti Piepgras
Secretary:	Carole Mottaz
Past Pres:	Carrie Fisher

2008 SERVICE DIRECTORS

Club:	Randy Cudd
Community:	Brian McQuade
International:	Heather Logelin
Vocational:	Tom Palmer
Youth:	Elaine Bauman
Membership/PR:	Kris Ainsworth
Programs:	Tom Bloom
Sergeant:	Ted Marsh
Communication	Samantha Bluhm
Bookkeeper:	Marti Piepgras
Photography:	Samantha Bluhm
Website:	Steve Leitch
Club Historian:	Tom Bloom
Grant Writing:	Jim LaPoint

ROTARIAN OF THE YEAR

2003:	Tom Bloom
2005:	Tom Garfin
2006:	Dale Jorgenson
2006:	Kevin Pechacek
2006:	Jerry Tack
2007:	John Kremer
2008:	Carole Mottaz

PAST PRESIDENTS

1999:	Tom Bloom
2000:	Gorden Hedahl
2001:	David Brassfield
2002:	Randy Cudd
2003:	Bill Montgomery
2004:	Tom Palmer
2005:	Connie Foster
2006:	Steve Schroeder
2007:	Carrie Fisher

River Falls Rotary Charter member and Past President Connie Foster (finally) gave her classification talk on May 12th. Somehow she “missed” the opportunity to speak as the club was getting started, so her “re-classification talk” got reclassified.

“Rotary is an organization of business and professional men and women united worldwide who provide humanitarian service, encourage high ethical standards in all vocations, and help build



CONNIE FOSTER

Charter Member and Past President Connie Foster was the focus of the program as she gave her classification talk. She indicated that she was fairly comfortable talking in public, but not used to talking about herself. However she made a fascinating presentation that traced the many steps of her life that brought her to River Falls, and happily, to Rotary.

MILITARY CHILD, BUT DEFINITELY NOT A BRAT: Connie was born in Oklahoma, the oldest of four children and the daughter of an engineer. Shortly after her birth, her father joined the Air Force and the family began a series of moves around the world. She spent her first years of school in Japan (K-2). When she returned to the U.S. and school in Ohio for third grade, she felt the need to catch-up so she began reading—which she has continued to greatly enjoy.

A number of moves continued throughout her school years. She moved to the desert, down the street from Chuck Yeager; then to Lafayette, IN where her father completed a Master’s degree. In California she attended a large public school, where she found it harder to make friends and meet people. But in 8th grade, she met a young woman who has continued to be her best friend, and who has visited Connie and our club on multiple occasions.

Connie attended high school in England and began her college career in Germany with an extension program of the University of Maryland. Her 40th High School reunion back in England brought together old classmates from all over the world.

QE1: After 3 1/2 years away, Connie and her family returned to the U.S. on the Queen Elizabeth 1 and drove across the country with her mother and 3 siblings. (Her father had been assigned to Vietnam.) She recalled the culture shock of returning to America, and was specially struck by the southern bathrooms with “Colored” and “White” signs.

She started back to school in California as a sophomore, and fell in love with education, earning her bachelors degree from Cal State Long Beach, with a major in Psychology and a minor in Physical Education. She student taught in Elementary Ed.

PRE-TITLE IX: Connie was raised prior to Title Nine and the advent of women’s athletics. Somehow she got enrolled in a gymnastics class as a sophomore and she discovered how much she enjoyed it. After her bachelors’ she continued as a gymnastics coach and got her Master’s in Sports Psychology and worked with the newly developed aerobics movement.

Connie had friends in St. Paul and she came to the Midwest, working with kids and beginning a PhD program at Minnesota in Sports Psychology. She also joined a running club, and ran her first Boston Marathon in 1981. At that point, women marathon runners were rare (the first women’s marathon at the Olympics was in 1984), and Connie remembers the cheers she received as she passed Wellesley College.

FAMILY: At the U of M, Connie was asked to team-teach with Fred Roethlisberger, a former Olympic gymnast and the head gymnastics coach. Connie and Fred were married in 1981 (or 82? she says), and she became the step-mother to two future Olympians. Together they also have a son who was a diving champion at RFHS.

UWRF: In 1984, a job opened up at UWRF that perfectly fit her qualifications. She coached gymnastics for 9 years here, then served as Athletics Director and department chair, prior to becoming Dean. She later became Interim Provost and Interim Chancellor because she “says YES to things.” We all should be happy that she said “yes” when asked to join Rotary!

WHAT’S NEXT?: Connie plans to retire from the university on June 30th. She says that she has no big plans, but because she spent so many years living all around the world, lots of travel has less appeal. She plans to stay home in River Falls and wants to get more involved with Rotary. (Insert a big *cheer* here!)



Set Ups, Devotions & Greeters

<u>Date</u>	<u>Devotions</u>	<u>Greeter/Setup</u>
May 19	Debbie Griffin	P. O'Malley/Diane Odeen
May 26	George Hauser	D. Odeen/Alison Page
June 2	Gorden Hedahl	A. Page/Tom Palmer
June 9	Tony Jilek	T. Palmer/Kevin Pechacek
June 16	Dale Jorgensen	K. Pechacek/Marti Piepgras
June 23	John Kremer	M. Piepgras/Jeff Rodewald
June 30	Jim LaPoint	J. Rodewald/Dan Ross

Please note this responsibility. If you are unable to be present, make arrangements to trade with someone else.

River Falls Rotary Membership

Last	First	Work	Home	Email	Classification
Ainsworth	Kris		425-9755	skainsworth@sbcglobal.net	Finance/HR Retired
Baumann	Elaine	425-1835	425-57	Elaine.Baumann@rfsd.k12.wi.us	School Administrator
Bloch	Peter	426-0866	426-0866	pbd@presenter.com	RE Development
Bloom	Thomas	425-5182	425-0427	Tbloom47@yahoo.com	Veterinarian
Bluhm	Samantha	651-470-3252	425-0003	samantha@powerfulperspectives.net	Writer/Life Coach
Bogel	Sarah	425-8233		bogels@comcast.net	Dentist
Boles	Joseph	425-7281	425-6540	joe@rodlibeskar.com	Attorney
Bump	Rosanne	425-2533	426-6505	rosanne@rffchamber.com	CEO Chamber of Com
Cicchese	Larry	425-6179	425 6179	larrycicchese@baumancpa.com	Accountant
Cudd	Randy	425-9566	425-9102	Randy@randycudd.com	Real Estate-Sales
Ericson	Tim	715-629-7070		vj5148@msn.com	Historian
Fisher	Carrie	749-4116		cfisher@wppisys.org	Manager-Utilities
Foster	Connie	425-3774	425-6826	Connie.d.foster@uwrf.edu	Higher Ed Admin
French	Nelson	425-5738	612-869-8149	nelsonfrench@kinniriver.org	KRLT Director
Garfin	Tom	425-9135	425-1593	tgarfin@era-usa.com	Independent Business
Gill	Garrett	425-9511	425-8554	garrett@gilldesigninc.com	Golf Architect
Griffin	Debbie	426-1048		dgriffin@rivertowns.net	Journalist
Hauser	George	651-306-1671	425-5795	ghauser@csbnet.net	Banking-Commercial
Hedahl	Gorden	Retired	426-6082	ghedahl@comcast.net	Higher Ed-Fine Arts
Jackson	Nate	425-1050	425-9805	Nate.Jackson@edwardjones.com	Investments
Jilek	Tony			ajilek@dishup.us	Higher Ed -Ag Sciences
Jones	Scott	425-6811		sjones@anchorbank.com	Banking
Jorgenson	Dale	426-1890	425-2786	djorgenson@riverlandlaser.com	Laser Marking
Kremer	John	612-590-9540	381-9799	john@kremerservices.com	Automotive Dealer
LaPoint	Jim	247-3285	425-8301	lapoint@hotmail.com	Director
Leitch	Steve	425-0159	425-8044	steve@leitchinsurance.com	Insurance Sales
Logelin	Heather	426-4503	381-2788	Heather.logelin@allina.com	Philanthropy
Luther	Amy			amy@cohseniorliving.com	Management
Marsh	Ted	425-6309	651-442-8982	inhispresents@hotmail.com	Clergy
McQuade	Brian	612-590-8243	715-307-0802	bmcquade@purechoice.com	Info Technology
McKay	Terry	651-210-5669	425-1109	terry.mckay@ERA.com	Realty Marketing
Montgomery	Bill	Retired	425-5426	wm13@presenter.com	Clergy
Morrisette	Scott	426-7813	425-8993	scott.morrisette@associatedbank.com	Banking-Commercial
Mottaz	Carole		425-7903	mottaz@presenter.com	Educator
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O'Malley	Pat	425-9882	425-9882	pomalley@wildblue.net	Aviation
Odeen	Diane	612-336-9315	426-5325	diane@lommen.com	Attorney at Law
Page	Alison	612-810-3918	425-8772	alisonhpage@yahoo.com	Health Care Administration
Palmer	Thomas		426-7956	tpalmer@fnbrf.com	Banking-Management
Pechacek	Kevin	425-8100	426-2036	kevin@thewestwind.com	Restaurateur
Piepgas	Marti	425-6177	425-2077	marti@stcroixgas.com	Utilities Management
Ross	Dan	425-9011	425-9061	dross@rosscm.com	Construction-Manager
Schroeder	Steve	386-2822	425-1704	icasws@comcast.net	Insurance/Finance
Tack	Jerry	426-3122	246-7514	jtack@fnbrf.com	Banking-Credit Mgr
Westerhaus	Tom	425-1800	715-3070021	Tom.Westerhaus@rfsd.k12.wi.us	Superintendent
Wulf	Wayne	866-559-1800	426-1800	Wayne.S.Wulf@ampf.com	Financial Service
Young	Jodie	425-8788	386-2402	info@bakken-young.com	Funeral Director