



Rotary Messenger

Rotary Club of Eau Claire

Editor: Jerry Reinecke

October 5, 2009

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Guests

- Youth Rotar School Reps:
 - Jeff Pepowski (Altoona)
 - Barb Cizek (Memorial)
 - Justine Hildebrandt (North)
 - Kristi Herbenson (Memorial Intern)
- Kristina Skornikova

Leaves of Absence

- Sherry Mohr (5/7/2009 – 11/7/2009)
- Barb Wiedenbeck (7/21/2009 – 10/21/2009)
- Robin Shih (10/1/2009 – 12/31/2009)
- Steve Smith (10/1/2009 – 12/31/2009)

The 4-Way Test

Of the things, we think, say or do:

1. Is it the 'Truth'?
2. Is it 'Fair' to all concerned?
3. Will it build 'Goodwill' and 'Better Friendships'?
4. Will it be 'Beneficial' to all?

Jamaican Trip to Provide Music Therapy Services by Alyssa Halfman

(Thank you to Don Huebscher for providing this program summary.)

Alyssa Halfman, who completed her college work at UW-Eau Claire in May majoring in music therapy, spoke at our Oct. 5 meeting.

Our club donated \$100 toward Alyssa's trip to Jamaica in June to volunteer her music therapy services at infirmaries, shelters and schools. She was one of about 30 students from various campuses around the country to make the trip.

Alyssa explained that music therapy uses music to achieve non-musical goals working with a variety of individuals and groups ranging from schools to hospitals to senior centers.

While in Jamaica, Alyssa and the others spent their days in patient rooms using music to lift the patients' spirits. They did sing-along sessions in individual rooms and in the main rooms where there were multiple patients. Then in the evenings the students would gather to discuss what they learned during the day and exchange ideas.

Alyssa also learned about the religious and cultural significance of "drumming" in Jamaica. The native drumming style is known as "Nyabinghi" and is performed over nine straight nights to mourn and then celebrate the death of a loved one. The "keteh" drum used for drumming ceremonies is made of tunable rope, oak or bamboo and goat skin. Alyssa is seen holding a "keteh" in the accompanying photo. On the final night of the ceremony the drum is played non-stop for 24 hours.

The students also had some time to see the sites and take in the culture of the area in and around Portland, Jamaica, where they stayed. She said the area is highly impoverished, but the people were warm and welcoming to the students. The degree of poverty was eye-opening, she said.

Alyssa, of Fond du Lac, is now pursuing an internship needed to complete her degree, after which she hopes to land a job using her skills in a children's hospital.



Alyssa Halfman, who traveled to Jamaica to volunteer her music therapy services, is holding a "keteh" drum used during drumming ceremonies.

Our Calendar

October 12 – Backstage with Sara Antonson, who starred as Velma Kelly in “Chicago”

October 19 – Aquatic Therapy by Jim Deignan, CEO of Dove Healthcare

October 20 – Board Meeting at Bank Mutual

October 26 – Clear Vision Book Purchases for Elementary Students by Terry Sheridan

November 2 – The World of Professional Bike Racing by Tom McCarty and Youth Rotars Honored

November 9 – Vocational Service Offsite Meeting at the Children’s Museum

November 16 – Club Assembly

November 17 – Board Meeting at Bank Mutual

November 23 – Poinsettia, Chocolates and Coffee Pickup at Sweetwaters

November 30 – Chapter 7 Bankruptcy by Randi Osberg, Trustee for the Department of Justice

December 7 – Tele-communications Update by Scott VanderSanden, President of AT&T Wisconsin

Officers/Board of Directors for the 2009-10 Rotary Year

President – Jacqe Lahn

President-Elect – Jon Niebergall

Vice President – Sara Antonson

Secretary – Mary Knight

Exec Sec / Treas – Jerry Reinecke

Past President – Don Huebscher

Avenues of Service:

Club – Angela Hite

Community – Bob Schmidt

International – Mark Morse

Vocational – Marcia Van Beek

Youth Rotars Honored October 5

The October Youth Rotars, as selected by their respective schools on the basis of academics and school/community activities, are pictured below. We congratulate them and wish them well.



Left to right: **Annaliese Van Houten** (North), **Kaitlin Dougherty** (Regis) **Brittany Weber** (Memorial), **Will Wallo** (Memorial), **Jocelyn Petersen** (North), and **Sarah Sanford** (Altoona)

Greeters and Classification Talks Schedule

<u>Date</u>	<u>Greeters</u>	<u>Classification Talks</u>
October 12	Jeff Staads and Lisa Stelter Graf	None
October 19	John Stoneberg and Dennis Vanden Bloomen	None
October 26	Laura Talley and Pat Thoney	None
November 2	Marcia Van Beek and Barb Wiedenbeck	None
November 9	None – Vocational Service Trip to Children’s Museum	None
November 16	Janine Wildenberg and Luke Wren	None
November 23	Sam Stagliano and Dave Anderson	None
November 30	Sara Antonson and Tom Barland	None

Contact Us

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