



# Rotary Messenger

Rotary Club of Eau Claire

Editor: Jerry Reinecke

March 15, 2010

## In This Issue

- The Story of FBI Special Agent Dave Fitzgerald
- District Conference to be Held in LaCrosse May 21-22

## Guests

- Zack Lehmann – guest of Sara Antonson
- Kristina Skornikova – Rotary Exchange Student from Slovakia

## Make-ups

- Marje Bunce:
  - Superior – 3/10/2010
  - Rice Lake – 03/11/2010
- Steve Driever – Eau Claire Morning – 3/11/2010

## Leaves of Absence

- John DeRosa (10/25/2009 – 3/31/2010)
- Jeanne Chilson (1/25/2010 – 3/31/2010)
- Kris Becker (10/13/2009 – 4/13/2010)
- Glenn Horejsi (1/13/2010 – 4/30/2010)
- Ron Dulitz (11/22/2009 – 5/10/2010)
- Peter Scobie (2/17/2010 – 5/11/2010)
- Dennis Vanden Bloomen (1/1/2010 – 5/31/2010)
- Dina St. Louis (1/1/2010 – 6/30/2010)

## The 4-Way Test

Of the things, we think,  
say or do:

## The Story of FBI Special Agent Dave Fitzgerald

*(Thank you to Dave Anderson for providing this Program Summary.)*

As a kid growing up in Massachusetts, **Dave Fitzgerald** developed a passion for law enforcement that would eventually lead to his 18-year career with the FBI serving a 14-county region that includes Eau Claire.

While in college, Fitzgerald worked at the local county jail and after college, took a job in the sheriff's department by day, and attended law school at night. The master plan was that after passing the bar, he would join his father's law firm.

Fitzgerald stuck to this plan for a few years, but his passion for law enforcement was always there. Eventually he decided to go to Boston to meet with the FBI, and was later hired. The down side of this career decision was that he would have to leave his Massachusetts roots.

After completing their training in Quantico, Virginia, FBI agents can list the top five places where they would like to be assigned. Fitzgerald, like many others, specified some of the major cities around the country where there was bound to be all kinds of action and excitement. However, his superiors had a better idea, and his orders were to head west for some god-forsaken place that he couldn't even pronounce called Eau Claire.

On the drive to Wisconsin, Fitzgerald wondered what there would be to do. However, once he got here and found out that the Eau Claire office covered a 14-county region with just three agents, he learned that there was a wide variety of tasks with no down time, and he never looked back.

Fitzgerald commented that FBI Agents are called "Special Agents" because they have limited jurisdiction. They can only get involved in those activities that Congress says they can. He also noted that much of their work is a team approach with local law enforcement, and fortunately for everyone, these relationships are excellent. The FBI is also frequently aided by the general public, who love to help and participate.

While FBI Agents are not permitted to discuss much about their work or about specific cases, even with family members, Fitzgerald did share the story of one specific theft case involving the Menards racing team that was very interesting. He also commented about the responsibility of always carrying a gun, even on airplanes.

Questions followed.

*(this area intentionally left blank)*

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?

### Our Calendar

- March 22 – Classification Talks by Darin McFadden and Steve Driever
- March 29 – County Jail Options by Jeff Halloin
- April 5 – Judge Lisa Stark
- April 12 – to be announced
- April 14 – Board Meeting at Bank Mutual
- April 19 – Beaver Creek Reserve Update by Director Rick Koziel
- April 26 – to be announced
- May 3 – Group Study Exchange Team from Japan

### 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

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## District Conference to be Held in LaCrosse May 21-22

*(Editors Note: The following is reprinted from our District 6250 website. It is a letter from our District Governor Dean Dickinson inviting us all to attend the annual District Conference to be held in LaCrosse, Friday and Saturday, May 21-22. Remember that our Club will pay the hotel, meal and travel costs of any member who wishes to attend.)*

**"No one should be in Rotary for more than three years before they attend a district conference",** by Chuck Keller Rotary International President 1987.

Dear Rotarians,

Chuck Keller served as the Presidents Representative to our district conference last year and that is where he provided the quote that begins my monthly message to our membership.



Trust me on this...you do not want to miss this conference which will be held on May 21-22 in La Crosse. I would direct your attention to the district web site at [www.rotary6250.org](http://www.rotary6250.org) where you will find a link to the conference information. The conference committee has put together an amazing set of plenary sessions and tied all of it together with music... that music that we create when we "breathe a song" of Rotary service that empowers people, brings hope and makes a difference in the lives of those who are living life at the edge.

In addition to the nine plenary sessions, two wonderful off premises tours, the district business meeting, a Rotary store stocked by the good folks at National Awards Services

and the great meals that are being planned, we will also be providing three amazing activities for our attendees. The Youth Exchange students will be doing "purple pinkies" to raise monies for polio, we will provide materials for you to write a thank you note to our troops in Afghanistan and we will be packaging 10,000 meals courtesy of the Kids Against Hunger Program of Rock County. 5,000 of those meals will be donated to the food pantries in the La Crosse area and 5,000 will be sent to help the people of Haiti.

THERE IS NO REGISTRATION FEE THIS YEAR! ...You simply pay for the meals that you want and arrange for your accommodations...No need to leave the non Rotarian spouse at home...please, bring them along and have them join us as we celebrate, educate and motivate ourselves to greater service in Rotary.

Yours in Rotary,

Dean Dickinson  
 District Governor  
 Rotary District 6250