



# Rotary Messenger

Rotary Club of Eau Claire

Editor: Jerry Reinecke

April 26 and May 3, 2010

## In This Issue

- GSE Team from Japan Visits Eau Claire (May 3, 2010)
- Health Insurance... A Quick Overview (April 26, 2010)
- District Conference to be Held in LaCrosse May 21 and 22

## Visiting Rotarians:

- Eau Claire Morning:
  - Ann Kaiser
  - Donnie Magadance
- Chippewa Falls:
  - Karen Hebert
- Menomonie:
  - Bill Butsic
  - Marilyn Fanetti
  - William Powell
  - Elizabeth Spader
  - Aaron Wingad
- Marshfield Sunrise:
  - Mary Ann Lippert

## Guests

- Dennis Spader
- Jane Butsic
- Kristina Skornikova – Rotary Exchange Student from Slovakia

## Resignation

- Rob Kreibich

## GSE Team from Japan Visits Eau Claire

*(Editor's Note: Thank you to Mark Morse and Donnie Magadance (Eau Claire Morning Club member and Assistant District Governor) for planning and executing the GSE Team visit. Thank you to the Rotarians who hosted our guests or in any way contributed to the success of this Exchange.)*

The Group Study Exchange team from Japan arrived in our District 6250 on April 25 and will be staying for one month visiting Rotary Clubs and attending our District Celebration in LaCrosse. Their stay in Wisconsin included a one week visit to the Chippewa Valley, during which we had the privilege of meeting the team, and listening to their remarks about their country, families and vocations.

### Meet the GSE Team... excerpts from the Team Member Biographies:

- Team Leader **Hiroshi Kaneoya**, age 63, was born in Sakura city, Chiba prefecture. He graduated from Waseda University in 1970, and his business career included working for an electronics company. He and his wife Miyuki have two daughters. Hiroshi has been a member of the Rotary Club of Chiba-South since 1991. As a Rotarian, he has been very active at both the Club and District levels, including serving as District Secretary and on the District 2790 Foundation Committee, and by leading another GSE team to our District 10 years ago.



GSE Team Members from left: **Yasuharu Tada**, **Masuyoshi Kita**, Team Leader **Hiroshi Kaneoya**, **Hideko Aoki**, **Michiyo Imori**.

During this visit, Hiroshi is looking forward to renewing old acquaintances, making new friends, and improving the understanding between our Districts.

- **Yasuharu Tada**, age 26, works at Chiba Bank, a regional bank in Chiba prefecture. He graduated from Rikkyo University with a Management degree and is interested in learning more about management and finance. In his spare time, Yasuharu enjoys playing soccer, baseball, volleyball and the guitar.

## Leaves of Absence

- 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)
- Julie Pangallo  
(3/22/2010 – 6/30/2010)
- Vicki Hoehn  
(4/26/2010 – 11/1/2010)

## The 4-Way Test

Of the things, we think,  
say or do:

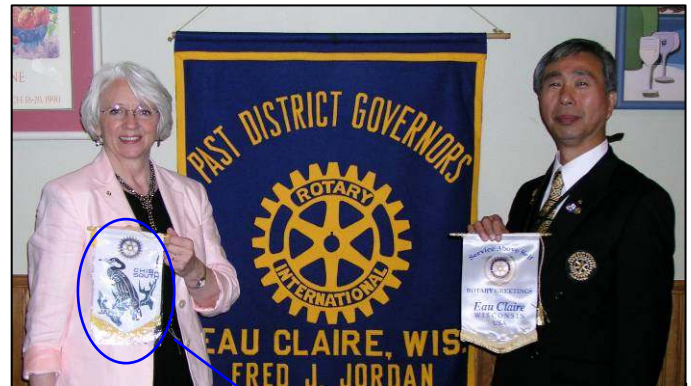
1. Is it the 'Truth'?
2. Is it 'Fair' to all concerned?
3. Will it build 'Goodwill' and 'Better Friendships'?
4. Will it be 'Beneficial' to all?

## Our Calendar

- May 10 – Area Toastmasters Speech Contest Winner Barb Weissenberger Presents her Award Winning Speech
- May 17 – Our Exchange Student Kristina Skornikova
- May 21-22 – Rotary 6250 District Conference at LaCrosse Center
- May 24 – Junior League's "Kids in the Kitchen" Program by Robin Shih. Also, Scholarships Awarded to Area High School Seniors
- May 31 – No meeting... Celebrate Memorial Day
- June 7 – Bolton Refuge House Update by Director Gerald Wilke
- June 14 – Recognition and Installation Banquet at Fischer's on the Green – No Noon Meeting

- **Masuyoshi Kita**, age 36, was born in Yachiyo city, Chiba prefecture and now lives in Chiba city with his parents and wife Fumie. He is an English teacher and has been at Chiba Reimei Senior High School, a private school in Yachimata city, for the past 13 years. He is kept very busy by also providing guidance counselor services to seniors, and serving as a basketball coach. Although he coaches basketball, baseball is his favorite sport.

During his GSE trip, Masuyoshi is looking forward to making friends with his fellow team members, other Rotarians and the people in Wisconsin.



**President Jacqe Lahn** (left) exchanges Club flags with Team Leader **Hiroshi Kaneoya**.

- **Hideko Aoki** works for Nihonbasi-gaakann University as an instructor in Chinese and Chinese literature. She believes that, both economically and politically, the United States is a very important country to Japan. Therefore, during the GSE visit, Hideko wants to learn about American society and culture. She also believes that learning about the US will be very helpful in continuing her Chinese literature research.

- **Michiyo Imori** is married, has three daughters, ages 5, 9 and 12, and works for Choshi City Hall. She confesses that her English isn't very good, but looks forward to communicating in English during her GSE visit and improving her skills. Michiyo's hobby is Japanese flower arranging.



## Activities During the Week



GSE Team takes part in the Japanese language class at Memorial High School



Julie Wren (not pictured) gives GSE a working tour of Highland Fitness Center

## 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

## Contact Us

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Rotary District 6250

[www.rotary6250.org](http://www.rotary6250.org)



Tracey Smiskey (left) gives the GSE Team a tour of the Boys and Girls Club



Yasuharu Tada (second from left) is very interested in fishing, so the GSE Team visited Buroker's Bait and Taxidermy Shop on Birch Street. Mark Morse (not pictured) explained that even if it is 1:00 AM, and you have an emergency need for worms, this vending machine is just what you need.



GSE Team Visits beautiful Phoenix Park

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## Health Reform Quick Overview by Peter Farrow, General Manager and CEO of Group Health Cooperative of Eau Claire (April 26, 2010)

*(Editor's Note: A Rotary Messenger reporter was unable to attend Mr. Farrow's presentation. Therefore, no "Program Summary" is available. However, Mr. Farrow was kind enough to provide the following outline of his remarks. My apologies to our loyal readers.)*

- 🗨 Many little changes – several that need federal rules to be written.
- 🗨 Immediately:
  - ▶ May have the federal government reviewing rates soon.
  - ▶ Temporary reinsurance program for early retirees until 2013.
  - ▶ Small business tax credits.
- 🗨 Six Months:
  - ▶ No more annual limits.
  - ▶ No rescissions, no preexisting conditions for children.
  - ▶ Dependent coverage up to age 26.
- 🗨 2011:
  - ▶ Medical Loss Ratio requirements
    - ◆ 80% for individual and small group.

- ◆ 85% for large group.
- ▶ New limits on HSA spending.
  - ◆ No OTC's.
  - ◆ Increased penalties for nonqualified withdrawals.
- ↳ 2012 (ish):
  - ▶ Uniform benefit language.
  - ▶ New fees on health insurance to fund comparative effectiveness.
- ↳ 2013:
  - ▶ FSAs limited to \$2,500 per year.
  - ▶ Increased itemized deduction threshold from 7.5% to 10.0% AGI.
- ↳ 2014:
  - ▶ Exchanges for small groups and individuals.
  - ▶ Rating restrictions.
  - ▶ Guarantee issue.
  - ▶ Broker commission limits.
  - ▶ Minimum benefits.
  - ▶ Required employer coverage/penalties.
- ↳ "Revenue Increases"
  - ▶ 2010 – 10% tax on tanning.
  - ▶ 2011 – New fees on pharmaceuticals, increasing to \$2.8 billion per year.
  - ▶ 2013 – Medical device sales tax of 2.3%.
  - ▶ 2013 – 0.9% increase in Medicare taxes on income over \$200,000.
  - ▶ 2013 – 3.8% tax on all interest, dividend, income for same group.
  - ▶ 2014 – Non-deductible premium tax on insurers and TPAs: \$8 billion, \$11.3 billion in 2015 & 2016, \$13.9 billion in 2017 and increasing...
  - ▶ Doesn't include the penalties on individuals, employers, etc.

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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 and our March 15 Rotary Messenger. 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. Several members are attending... contact Jacqe Lahn for more details and possible car pooling arrangements at 715-836-9660 or [lahnapr@sbcglobal.net](mailto:lahnapr@sbcglobal.net) )*



**"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