

Upcoming Programs

Sept. 1: ISD 77 Administrator

Sept. 8: Mankato Merely Players: Minnesota 'n' Ice, It Could be Worse—Judy Sellner, Gerry and Carol Larson

Sept. 15: Club Assembly—Wes Taylor

Sept. 16: Board Meeting—US Bank 7:30 a.m.

The Four-Way Test

Of the things we think, say, or do . . .

First—Is it the Truth?

Second—Is it Fair to all concerned?

Third—Will it Build Goodwill and Better Friendships?

Fourth—Will it be Beneficial to all concerned?

Rotary Websites

www.mankatorotary.org
District: www.rotary5960.org
International: www.rotary.org



Did you know that you can learn great new things about Rotary and other related topics on-line, and receive make-up credit if you missed a meeting?

Log on to our website and look to the lower left of our home page for the "Rotary Club One" icon shown above.

You may contribute to the on-line club if you desire.



Wednesday, September 1, 2010

Club #2154 District #5960

ROTARY CLUB OF MANKATO

Chartered January 11, 1935

P.O. Box 63 Mankato, MN 56002
Wednesdays, 12:10 p.m.
Meetings at Old Main Village

Rotary Year 2010-2011

CLUB OFFICERS & DIRECTORS:

Wes Taylor - President
Nick Meyer- President Elect
Jo Bailey - Secretary
Gordon Gibbs - Executive Secretary/Treasurer
Luke Robinson - Past President
Kenny Klooster - Membership
Larissa Mrozek- Public Image
Don Putzier - Website/Newsletter
Mark Piepho - Community and Club Service
Jonathon Zierdt - Literacy
Don Friend - International Service
Dave Sunderman & Doug Johnson - Rotary Foundation
Herb Kroon and Jim Santori - Programs
Asst. District Governor—Dean Portner

MANKATO ROTARY CLUB MEETING MINUTES

Wednesday, August 25, 2010
Old Main Village
Mankato, MN

WELCOME: The meeting was called to order at 12:20 PM by **Wes Taylor**. The Club recited the Pledge of Allegiance. **Gordon Gibbs** gave the invocation. **Carol Larson** led the club in reciting the Four-Way test.

GUESTS: None.

VISITING ROTARIANS: None.

BIRTHDAYS: Gerald Larson on 8/31

HAPPY DOLLARS: Happy Dollars were donated to the Boy Scouts of America (100th anniversary)

ANNOUNCEMENTS:

Mankato Rotary's 75th Anniversary upcoming program – we need any old photos, articles and other items of interest for the program. In addition, volunteers are needed to prepare a 75th Anniversary program. Please contact Luke Robinson if you'd like to help out.

Our International Exchange Student arrived August 21. She is from Columbia, is going to West HS and is on the tennis team. Don Friend is again coordinating. Rotarians can participate in a number of constructive ways even if not one of the three host families. The first host family is Scott Olson.

“Minnesota’ N’ice – Could Be Worse” is a comical play written by Carol and Gerald Larson and performed recently in New Ulm, with an upcoming performance by Mankato’s Merely Players, will also be presented here at Rotary on September 8.

The upcoming Club Assembly meeting will be September 15. One of the activities will be the updating of the member portion of our website with pictures and bios.

“Night to Unite” for “communities and neighbors joining together” is scheduled for Tuesday, August 31, 6-9pm, across Mankato. Details and event hosting information can be found at www.ci.mankato.mn.us or by calling 507-387-8790.

PROGRAM: Todd Miller recently assumed the position of Mankato Public Safety Director. He most recently was a chief of police in Texas. He spoke about his new position where he is a strong proponent of “community policing,” where building partnerships and problem solving outreach programs are emphasized.

Rotary Peace Fellow tells her story

Kelly Nicholls as told to Stephen Yafa
The Rotarian -- September 2010

I was in a taxi on the way to testify before Congress on the situation facing Colombia's human rights defenders, the first time I was to appear before a congressional hearing, and I had the jitters. I turned to my Colombian colleague – a human rights lawyer with two decades of experience backing the victims of Colombia's 40-year war – and asked if he felt anxious too.

“What makes me nervous is the thought of returning to Colombia after these hearings and what could follow,” he responded. In that moment, he summed up the challenge of my job as executive director of the independent U.S. Office on Colombia and as an advocate in Washington, D.C., defending human rights workers. None of it would have been possible without the Rotary Peace Fellowship I was awarded for 2005-07.

I'd just returned from working with indigenous communities in the Ecuadorian Amazon and Chiapas, Mexico, and wanted to promote peace and conflict resolution, but had no idea how to move forward without a master's degree. Then a person I met while volunteering for Oxfam told me about the Rotary Peace Centers program. Being Australian, I contacted the Rotary Club of Roseville Chase, in a suburb of Sydney, and a few months later, I was selected as one of 50 fellowship recipients.

The program brought me to the University of Bradford in the United Kingdom to study international conflict resolution where I focused on mediation and politics. I developed friendships with other fellows – two of them came to Australia for my wedding. I was able to research human rights, regional politics in Latin America and Africa, internal displacement, religion, and conflict resolution.

I was fortunate to do my applied field experience – a requirement of the Rotary Peace Fellowship – with the United Nations independent expert on minority issues. I examined human rights abuses against Afro-Colombians, who have been disproportionately affected by conflict, especially by forced displacement.

Go www.rotary.org or the September *Rotarian* for the remainder of this article.

