

## Upcoming Programs

**October 1:** Lee McGrath, Institute for Justice on  
“eminent domain”

**October 8:** Twin Rivers Arts Council

**October 15:** To Be Determined

**October 22:** Mankato Area Children in Need

**October 29:** Chanhassen Theatre

**November 5:** To Be Determined

**November 12:** To Be Determined

## 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



## UPCOMING DATES TO REMEMBER

October 23, 2008  
Board Meeting

October 11, 2008  
GSE Sweden Interviews  
St. Paul

7th Annual District 5960 Founda-  
tion Event  
Prom Center  
Oakdale, Minnesota  
Keynote: Bob Scott, Rotary Founda-  
tion Trustee and Rotary Inter-  
national PolioPlus Campaign  
Chair

Look for these on the  
district website



Wednesday, October 1, 2008

# 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 2008-2009**

## CLUB OFFICERS & DIRECTORS:

Gordon Gibbs - President  
Becky Kunst - President Elect  
Wes Taylor - Secretary  
Roger Kontak - Executive Secretary/Treasurer  
Bob Weiss - Past President  
Angi Hiller - Newsletter Editor  
Kenny Klooster - Membership  
Jeremy Sullivan - Public Image  
Don Putzier - Website  
Mark Piepho - Community and Club Service  
Jonathon Zierdt - Literacy  
Don Friend - International Service  
Dave Sunderman & Doug Johnson - Rotary Foundation  
Jim Santori - Programs  
John Murphy - Area 3 Assistant District Governor

## MANKATO ROTARY CLUB MEETING MINUTES

October 1, 2008  
Old Main Village  
Mankato, MN

**WELCOME:** President **Gordon Gibbs** opened the meeting with a greeting at 12:20 PM. Those in attendance recited the Pledge of Allegiance. **Oscar Anderson** gave the invocation and **Johnathan Zierdt** led members in reciting the Four-Way test.

**VISITING ROTARIANS:** No visiting Rotarians were in attendance.

**GUESTS:** **Randy Farrow** was a guest of **Dennis Divito**, **Ake** (our Youth Exchange Student) was a guest of **Wes Taylor**, **Rolly Utzinger** was a guest of **Bob Weiss**, and **Ruth Harvey** was a guest of **Jennifer Homer**.

**BIRTHDAYS:** Rotarians celebrating a birthday between this meeting and the meeting on October 1<sup>st</sup> are **DeeDra Vosburg**, **Dick Osborne**, **Keith Stover**, and **Colby Staloch**.

**MAKE DREAMS REAL – Gordon Gibbs.**

**HAPPY DOLLARS:** Happy Dollars donated to LEEP.

### ANNOUNCEMENTS:

- Board Meeting - September 25th - 7:30 AM - US Bank
- Every Rotarian Every Year

**PROGRAM:** **Doug Johnson**, Director of Media and Technology in the Mankato Schools, shared upcoming and current educational technologies used in the classroom.



Tell me and I forget; show me and I remember; involve me and I understand.  
- Anonymous



Jean Gabriel Chelala celebrates a stop along his cycling journey between Paris and Portugal. Chelala is attempting to be the first person to circumnavigate the entire globe on his own power, and is sharing his inspiration with Rotarians along the way. *Photo courtesy of Chelala.*

### The Rwanda connection

In a cool cement and brick computer lab, deep in a part of Central Africa known for volcanic eruptions and gorilla poaching, Anglican Bishop John Rucyahana hosts a popular Facebook group, Bridge 2 Rwanda.

On this day, he's online in the United States, where he is campaigning and fundraising to save an entire generation of children orphaned in the 1994 Rwandan genocide. Today, some of those children attend the Sonrise primary and secondary school down the mud road from the computer lab. Bridge 2 Rwanda is both an online group and a charitable organization based in Arkansas, USA, that Rucyahana uses to coordinate worldwide support of Sonrise, which is an orphanage and an elite boarding school. Among those supporters are members of the Rotary clubs of Denver South-east and Westminster 7:10, Colo., USA, who equipped the computer center and raised funds for training the teachers. Rwandan President Paul Kagame and Rucyahana spoke to the members of these clubs, who, galvanized by the bishop's charisma and Kagame's appeal for investment and technological expertise, couldn't help but get involved.

Learning computer skills at a young age will make the difference of a lifetime for these Rwandan children.

As Rucyahana puts it, "We are not educating job seekers but rather job creators." It's paying dividends. Last year, Google chose Rwanda and Kenya to pioneer its application package (Gmail, Google Earth, Picasa, etc.) in sub-Saharan Africa. Already, young programmers have founded companies that are offering free texting and instant messaging services, via the Internet and are building Rwanda-made Gorilla 1000 desktop PCs.

The emphasis on a science and ICT education isn't just about finding the right economic niche for the country. It's also about readjusting a mindset and misunderstanding of "truth" that led to ignorance, gullibility, and untrue political theories during the genocide.

"The school is a nucleus around which students, parents, staff, and surrounding communities interact," says National Exam Council Secretary John Rutayisire. "Where the school fails to manage these interactions is the point that allows genocide ideologies to infiltrate the minds of students." This begins in the classrooms and ends in the dorms, says Ruberwa. "We talk to our students as individuals who belong to our school, not as individuals that belong to one district, village, or tribe." Social studies teacher John Nzayisenga says teaching history is both a burden and a privilege. "We have many children here who have very real memories of this history. We have tried to preach a divided past but a unified future," he pauses for a moment before continuing. "The computer science helps," he says, "because it gives us a basic common ground. It's the opposite of where we've been, and who we were."