

Upcoming Programs

- October 15:** Nicollet Historical Society
October 22: Mankato Area Children in Need
October 29: Chanhassen Theatre
November 5: TBD
November 12: TBD
November 19: Holiday Sharing Tree
November 26: TBD
December 3: TBD

UPCOMING DATES TO REMEMBER

- October 23, 2008**
Board Meeting
- October 17, 2008**
District Grants Monthly Meeting (formerly WCS)
Boy Scouts of America
393 Marshall Avenue
St Paul MN 55101
11:45 am to 1:45 pm
- Look for these on the district website



**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

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



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 15, 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 **Steven Mangskau** led members in reciting the Four-Way test.

VISITING ROTARIANS: Visiting Rotarians in attendance were **Gary Peer** from Stephenville, TX.

GUESTS: Tezary was a guest of **Denise Zernechel**.

BIRTHDAYS: Rotarians celebrating a birthday between this meeting and the meeting on October 15th are **Roland Meyer** and **Elizabeth Beske**.

MAKE DREAMS REAL – John Votca.

HAPPY DOLLARS: Happy Dollars donated to the Girl Scouts.

ANNOUNCEMENTS:

- Service Above Self Luncheon
 - January 21, 2009
 - Nominations are to be sent to Gordon Gibbs
 - Bring old Rotary magazines for distribution at the luncheon
- Rotary Youth Exchange – There is a need to individuals to volunteer to help with the program.

PROGRAM: **Shannon Robinson** shared information about the Twin Rivers Center for the Arts (TRCA). The TRCA is a nonprofit organization that is an information hub for arts and culture in the Greater Mankato area. The TRCA advocates for the arts; connects people to arts and culture; and creates partnerships between the business, cultural, and academic communities - all to ensure that the arts thrive in Greater Mankato.

São Paulo Rotarians help American family in need

Carol Buzbee didn't know a soul in São Paulo, Brazil, when she arrived by medevac flight with her daughter, stricken by an unknown illness while volunteering with an international charity.

Buzbee had no Brazilian currency, no visa, no luggage -- and she couldn't speak a word of Portuguese.

After 48 hours alone in the hospital by her daughter Samantha's bedside, she was stunned when she received a telephone call from Rotarian Victor M. Esteves de Moraes, of the Rotary Club of São Paulo, offering to help her in any way he could.

"Victor came to the hospital that night and handed me Brazilian money. He took my dirty clothes home to his house to be washed," recalls Carol.

Samantha had been volunteering with Amigos de las Americas in Paraguay when she became ill. Local doctors were initially unable to diagnose her illness, and her condition worsened. Shortly after her mother was flown in from their home in Mantua, Ohio, USA, Samantha was transferred to Albert Einstein hospital in São Paulo.

Moraes and his wife and children welcomed Carol into their home when the hospital told her she could no longer spend the night in her daughter's room.

"Once I knew someone needed help and it was in my reach to do it, I had to do it. Period," says Moraes.

Dulce Mara Romanin, District 4610 grants subcommittee chairperson, also stepped in, offering to take Carol out to lunch and to buy clothes and supplies.

"She looked at me and said, 'Just think of me as an old best friend. Ask me anything; tell me anything,'" says Carol of Romanin.

Romanin and Moraes learned of the Buzbees' predicament after Samantha's grandmother, Phyllis Boldon, contacted the Rotary Club of Mantua on the chance that someone involved with Rotary might be able to help. Pearl Austin, president of the club, sent an e-mail to four district governors in São Paulo.

Austin also tracked down a Youth Exchange host family in Ohio that had students from the São Paulo area. The students called their parents, who found an English-speaking doctor to visit the Buzbees in the hospital and reassure them.

Samantha was eventually diagnosed with bacterial pneumonia. Once she was on the correct antibiotics and her condition improved, she was discharged, and the Buzbees returned home.

