

## Upcoming Programs

**November 5: Veterans Special:** Member recollections

**November 12:** Dr. Ed Harrington, Health Volunteers Overseas

**November 19:** Liz Brown, Holiday Sharing Tree

**November 26: Veterans Special:** Member recollections

**December 3:** Sen. Kathy Sheran on health care

**December 10:** Christina Pierson, Partners for Affordable Energy

**December 17:** Evening Christmas Party

No meetings on December 24<sup>th</sup> and December 31<sup>st</sup>

## 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

November 20, 2008  
Board Meeting

December 13, 2008  
DG Nominee 2011-12 Interviews  
Northern Star Council  
BSA  
393 Marshall Avenue  
St Paul, MN

Look for these on both our website and the district website



Wednesday, November 5, 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

November 5, 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 **Bruce Gratz** led members in reciting the Four-Way test.

**VISITING ROTARIANS:** Visiting Rotarians in attendance were **Kevin Keenan**.

**GUESTS:** **Casandro Roschen** was a guest of **Jessica Roschen** and **John Alesio** was a guest of **Don Friend**.

**BIRTHDAYS:** Rotarians celebrating a birthday between this meeting and the meeting on November 5<sup>th</sup> are **Dan Kapsner**.

**MAKE DREAMS REAL – Elizabeth Beske.**

**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
- Salvation Army Bell Ringing - **Nathan Crane** and **Dennis Devito**
- Rotary Youth Exchange – There is a need to individuals to volunteer to help with the program
- Salvation Army Bell Ringing - **Nathan Crane** and **Dennis Devito**
- Sign up for the Veteran's program!

**PROGRAM:** Chanhassen Dinner Theatres – **Kris Howland** - Public Relations Director at Chanhassen Dinner Theatres shared information about Chanhassen's history and current offerings.

## Home-schooled students form Interact club

From her vantage point as a public librarian in Norman, Oklahoma, USA, Basha Hartley could see how hard home-schooling parents work to educate their children.

She also noticed how home-schooled children can become isolated from their peers at public high schools.

"I began noticing these great kids who are kind of invisible in our community," says Hartley, a member of the Rotary Club of Norman. "I don't think most of our club was aware of this fairly large group of home-schooled children."

After three years of talking to home-schooling families, Hartley was able to persuade a group of teens to begin an Interact club in August 2007. The Norman Home School Interact meets monthly in the library with Hartley and Joe Gil, of the Rotary Club of Norman-Cross Timbers, as sponsors -- and held its charter banquet in June.

"Parents, for a whole variety of reasons, decide on home schooling their children," says Hartley. "I thought it would be really great to get these kids involved in Rotary because Rotary is all about helping our kids."

Hartley and RI staff believe the club is one of the first, if not the first, for home schoolers. In addition to its regular meeting, the club takes part in a service project every month with the Interact club at Norman High School, creating valuable bonds between the students.

The two Interact clubs have bought Christmas presents for foster children, volunteered at an animal sanctuary, and taken part in a "crop walk" to raise money for world hunger. One of the leaders in the home-schooled group also launched a project with the local 4H club, purchasing pet food at a discount and repackaging it in small bags to distribute to pet owners in the Meals on Wheels program.

"What they were finding is that some of the Meals on Wheels clients were feeding their meals to their pets because they didn't have enough money for pet food," Hartley says. "What was great about this project was that many of the Interact kids from the high school didn't know much about 4H before this."

Hartley says the home-schooled students often have a more flexible schedule and are eager to volunteer their time. That involvement increases their visibility in the community and helps their parents get connected as well.

"Being a member of Interact has made my friends and me want to be more involved in our community and really help people in need," says Becky Seewald, 2007-08 club president. "Through Interact, we all now share a greater sense of investment in our environment, our relationships, and the vision we share for our world."

