

The Rotary Gale

Report of the Galesburg Rotary Club meeting of April 8, 2010

TODAY'S LEADERS

Greeter:	Mark Pfleiger
Cashier:	Tom Brown Sue Dutell
Invocation:	Darrell Lovell
Song Leaders:	Rick Brown Jennifer Peck
Pianist	Joan Wenstrom
Introductions:	Quentin Brown
Presiding:	Carl Strauch

GUESTS

- Kevin Ball was a guest of **Marvin Dahlberg**
- John Cheney was a guest of **Bruce Lauerman**
- Gary Ryner was a guest of **Chris Ryner**
- Tom Maleck was a guest of **Darrell Lovell**

Birthdays

Derek Antoine waxed eloquent on the logic and lore of birthdays from Ancient Egypt to Medieval times to now including the history of *Happy Birthday*. He announced the birthdays for April. **Roger Taylor, Tom England, Milt Peterson, Michael Godsil, Chris Ryner, Dan Sherwood, Joan Wenstrom, and Tom Foley.** **Rick Brown** led in singing *Happy Birthday!*

Happy Bucks:

Ruth Peci announced **Dick Dickson** has been undergoing chemotherapy and his last tests were good. He is even feeling so good they are going to Las Vegas for her birthday.

Quentin Brown gave \$2, one for the trip he and Carol took to South America and the second was for the fact that he didn't see anyone who knew a Hawkeye.

Mike Godsil noted the sad occurrence of the passing of **Bill Pillsbury** but told of his pride at having been one of his students at Knox and to have known him as a friend. His was a life well lived.

Mark Pfleiger reported a successful Job Shadowing program and is looking forward to the next installment on April 20.

Don Anderson announced that after a history of having bought out his competition he has now sold out to a much smaller concern and plans to retire from business.

Barry Swanson took a cruise to Jamaica to celebrate his 40th wedding anniversary and is now really mellowed out and there is **NO** problem mon!

Rick Ray gave a buck to announce the Cub-Cardinal competition at Wal-Mart. The kettles will be deployed but the Cardinals are leading so far because an anonymous donor has given \$2000 on the Cardinals and no one yet has come up to match that contribution for the Cubs.

Sue Dutell wanted to correct **Derek Antoine** and to make sure he knew that both she and our founder **Paul Harris** are birthday celebrants on April 19. Next week she is going to Florida to celebrate her 60th birthday.

Tom England loved the letters from the kids who get RIF books. A couple especially caught his notice. One that thanked Rotary for donating the money to buy books but asked if she could just have the money. A more recent one thanked the club for the money and asked if we could send more money soon.

Darrell Lovell passed around an envelope with pictures of the visit to RI Headquarters he and **Tom England** made. He observed that we are in our 31st year with half a million books and a quarter of a million dollars donated so far. A new book by Tom Mallek's father on his experiences in Patton's 3rd army in Europe during World War II where he served as a medic. The book has recently been published in softcover and is available in local bookstores. The title is, *What Am I Doing Here?*

Kevin Ball gave a happy buck because he has moved here from Michigan.

Dave McDonald also paid tribute to **Bill Pillsbury**. **Bill** asked **Dave** to teach an introduction to the law at Knox College.

Sherry Foster said she was happy that Bill had sponsored her into Rotary but also that she was a student of his and had the opportunity to work with him as well as being invited to his house for peanut butter sandwiches.

Marv Dahlberg also paid tribute to **Bill Pillsbury** who was one of the first people he got to know in Rotary in Galesburg. He has also written the textbooks that Marv had teach out of when he taught. He announced the group will meet at the HyVee on E Main at 6:45 for the trip to district assembly in Springfield.

Carl Strauch: apologized for having been on vacation last week and missed all the basket ball games. He said he was to give a dollar for the Jay hawks in honor of **Dave McDonald** because he assumed that **Dave's** team had won the basketball tournament.

Items of General Interest

Galesburg Rotary Club Foundation Board was scheduled to meet at Bondi Bldg Conf Room on Friday April 9 but due to absences it was decided to postpone the meeting for a week and will meet at 8:00 a.m. 4/16/10. It is counted as a make-up.

President Carl announced that the board had met on Tuesday, April 6. Scholarship applications are available for the Ambassadorial Scholar program and one is to be awarded in our district. Applications are available at the District website and need to be submitted to the club for approval before being sent to the district. Applicants may not be related to Rotarian since this is a program paid for by the Rotary Foundation.

President Carl announced that the memorial service for **Bill Pillsbury** will be on April 24, 2010 at 1:00 p.m.

Sherry Foster has a clipboard going around for people to sign up for the Government day to be held on Wednesday April 28, 2010 again at Knox College. The speaker this year has been chosen by the Altrusa Club who are co-sponsoring this affair with the Rotary Club.

Doug Gibbs gave a reminder that there is a reception for Sam-Oh on Sunday after noon 4/11/10 from 3:00-4:30p.m.

Our next Exchange Student will be here in August from Sweden. We are now in great need for a Host family willing to host him for about three months. Since there is a long preparation time, we need that commitment now.

Upcoming Programs: President-Elect Linus VanderWyst announced upcoming programs.

- April 15: Laura Wright will speak about Blackthorn Preserve.
- April 23: Jeff Robinson will bring Interact to the club.
- April 29: Club Assembly.
- May 5: Professor Sue Hulett, Knox College, Policies in the Age of Obama
- May 13: Knox College for the Senior Scholars Program
- May 20: Sam-Oh will be presenting her program about her country and her stay here.
- May 27: Galesburg High School Top Ten Students.

Darrell Lovell introduced our speaker. Sharon Zeigler has been with the Little League Challenger Division program for a number of years, It started here in Galesburg 18 years ago and the program has been supported by Rotary for the past 12 years. It is an official division of Little League Baseball. It is a unique program and serves a very special population. A population of youngsters who are mentally, physically or emotionally disabled. It is designed for those who are 5 to 18 years of age or until completion of high school. Students are typically from the Knox-Warren Special Education District but other children are welcomed and students have been accepted from a number of neighboring communities such as Avon, Abingdon, Bardolph, Berwick, Cameron, Dahinda, and East Galesburg.

In 1992 a small core of interested parents met and in 1993 the first official season was underway. It was based on a program which had been operating in Arizona.

Challenger Division started as a affiliate of Galesburg Little League but Galesburg ceased to function within Little League baseball in 1994. The program is now affiliated with the Milan Little League. They pay the chartering fee and the insurance fees. In January letters go out to potential sponsors. In April letters are prepared for parents and there are signups in May. The regular play day is each week on Saturdays but with an alternate day on Wednesday. The players receive a shirt which is a major league licensed shirt with an official little league patch and decal for the family car.

There are some modifications to the game of baseball. It is made up of varying skill levels and abilities. Safety helmets are always in use and a rag ball is used which cuts down on injuries. No strikes are called and players have balls thrown until they make a hit. Everyone will bat and then run around the bases although some players have a substitute run for them or they are pushed in a wheelchair..

Each year there is an Awards Banquet which is held on the first Saturday in August at the VFW hall. It is a potluck dinner and every player is recognized and receives an award for their participation.



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