

# The Rotary Gale

Report of the Galesburg Rotary Club meeting of June 10, 2010

## TODAY'S LEADERS

Greeter:	Louise Wolf
Cashier:	Tom Brown Sue Dutell
Pianist:	Joan Wenstrom
Invocation:	Lee Johnson
Song Leader:	Steve Cramer
Introductions:	George Inness
Presiding:	Carl Strauch

## FUTURE PROGRAMS

- June 17 Steve Jones will speak on the topic *Email: Spam, Scams, and Phishing*.
- June 24 Steve Cermak: USDA Crop Development
- July 1 Induction of new officers

## VISITORS AND GUESTS

- Dave McDonald introduced Ken and Janet Russell.
- Harry Grossman visited from Sedona, AZ.



Photo by Foley

The Distinguished Service committee selected the honorees for today's awards ceremony. Pictured are: **Rick Brown**, who was presented with the CLARENDON E. VANNORMAN SERVICE AWARD; **Carl Strauch**, club president; **Ken Russell** with the VERNE W. DOWERS EXEMPLARY SERVICE AWARD, and **Mike Godsil**, who received the ROTARY INTERNATIONAL FOUR AVENUES OF SERVICE award. Not pictured: **Larry Miller** was awarded a new PAUL HARRIS FELLOW pin with three sapphires representing an additional \$3,000 contributed to the Rotary Foundation.



The **Verne W. Dowers Exemplary Service Award** is to recognize service to mankind which might have otherwise gone unrecognized.

Dave McDonald nominated Ken Russell, Illinois Fisheries Biologist, because of his long and distinguished service to the community and the State of Illinois. Ken came to Galesburg in 1962 right after receiving his master's degree from the University of Missouri. He has declined opportunities to move on and has chosen to remain active in field work, research, and educating the public. Ken is probably one of the longest tenured state employees, and he is considered a renowned expert in small lake, pond, and strip mine lake management. He has authored numerous articles, held thousands of workshops and mentored many students.

Russell actively serves his community as the long-time clerk of Sparta Township and the Wataga Sanitary District. Most of all Ken will be remembered as a great teacher. An associate wrote, *"What is striking about Ken is the intensity he brings to his educational work. We have watched Ken drop to his knees to get at kid level and teach. After 48 years on the job the ecological fire in his gut still burns very brightly."*



The **Clarendon E. VanNorman Award** is to recognize a current member of Galesburg Rotary for active service during the past Rotary year.

Tom England made the presentation and emphasized Rick Brown's effort in stopping the downhill slide of The Rotary Travelogue as our main fund-raiser. Rick predicted that we could not only save Travelogue, but we could make it more successful than ever. And he proved his prediction with new ideas and a lot of help from the people on his committee. They spent thousands of hours on the effort, and the result was by far the largest income from Travelogue plus an outlook that has never been better. Incidentally, Rick has been the consistent top ticket sales person since he joined Rotary in 1990.

Rick's service to the club has not been limited to Travelogue. Rick and his pickup have been seen at work on the Philippine book project, the Veterans Day parade (with hayrack and food treats), and as a regular at Adopt-A-Highway work sessions. Rick has a long history of service to the club. He was president in 2007-08 and received the RI Four Avenues award in 2009.

In an emotional response, Rick expressed appreciation for being a Rotarian and for his friend T.J. Coffman, who sponsored his membership.



The **Four Avenues of Service Award** recognizes a member for active participation in each of the Four Avenues of Service: Club, Vocational, Community, and International.

Sherry Foster noted that Mike Godsil has been an active member of Rotary since 1988. Over the years he has served on our board, and he was president in 1997-98. Mike was Assistant Governor in 2001-04. He has served on our local foundation board, and he has been very active in Travelogue and RI Foundation fundraising. Mike served the international side of Rotary as GSE team Leader to Japan in 2002. He is a Major Donor and Benefactor to the RI Foundation.

Mike was a leader in his vocational life. He grew the family business from 2 employees in 1978 to 16 employees in 2000. He has worked as a professional photographer for special events and has taught photography for nearly 30 years at Knox College.

In community service Mike served as a Galesburg City Council member in 1993-94. He has served on numerous boards and committees and established the Nielson Reading Buddy Program connection to Rotary in 1999.

## HAPPY BUCK ANNOUNCEMENTS

- Louise Wolf is leaving for a family vacation in Florida.
- Doug Gibb offered \$3: one dollar was for his son who finished his first year of college; one was for his son who finished his first year of high school—with a 4.0; the third was because the grief camp for kids that he led was successful.
- Tom England has completed 7 years as Foundation chair, and today is his last official appearance in that capacity. Tom announced, **"Now you're done with Tom England."**
- Karrie Heartlein noted Knox College's recent 165<sup>th</sup> commencement.
- Harry Grossman got a call on his cell phone from his Sedona Rotary Club requesting a reservation for his presence at their induction dinner. Sorry, Harry has work to do in Galesburg.
- Derek Antoine has resolved to work as hard as Carl Strauch does both at the fitness center and at Rotary.
- Rick Brown reminded Derek that Carl can also be the life of the party.
- Carl responded with \$5; that's \$3 for the three weeks he has left to preside, \$1 for the Blackhawks, and \$1 for Tom's 7 years as Foundation chair—that's 14¢ per year.