



September 8

Burt Riskedahl

September 14

Mike Schwab

September 22

Myron Atkinson

September 26

Dennis Meyer

September 26

Robert R. Peterson

September 29

Tim Hennessey

September 30

Kari Knudson



The International Committee needs items for the Dec. 1 "An Evening Abroad" wine and cheese auction at BAGA. Items from around the world will be auctioned to raise money for Polio Plus and a primary school in Ecuador. If you have items to donate or contacts abroad who would send items, please contact Zack Pelham (220-2084) or zep@pearce-durick.com

September 7

9/11 Tribute Gary and Jeanette Nelson



September 14 Jan Swenson
Badlands Conservation Alliance

September 21 Charlene Seifert
Central Dakota Humane Society

September 28 Al Watrel
Rotary Foundation

Buffalo Horn



"Short and to the Point"

OFFICIAL ORGAN OF THE BISMARCK ROTARY CLUB

(since Oct. 10, 1921)

Chartered March 24, 1920



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Sept. 7, 2011 2011

Committee Reports *Last week's meeting featured reports from several committees:*

Ken Schiele of the Arboretum Committee told us 21 new identifying signs are up. It's the perfect time of year to visit the Bismarck Rotary Arboretum at the northwest corner of the Tom O'Leary golf course. What a beautiful place.

Tim Hennessey is with the 4-H Committee. The 70+ year 4-H Banquet is scheduled for Mon. Oct. 17 at the Fairgrounds building. Volunteer sign-up sheets will circulate soon. Hundreds of young 4-H'er's and their families gather for fellowship, food, and awards for the year's projects. This is a fun way to serve.

Burt Riskedahl concludes after forty years of Rotary that international service is the most rewarding aspect of the club for him. Local funds are matched with district and foundation money to finance significant projects such as the water purification project our club developed in Ecuador. This committee is hard at work planning the Dec.1 auction fundraiser at BAGA.

Joy Wezelman of the Foundation Committee explained how the matching grant process works. Paul Harris memberships, named after Rotary's founder, provide the funding for the Foundation's work. A former member now in St. Paul is offering financial assistance for new and current Paul Harris members. The annual Foundation Dinner, a gala evening for all Rotarians and their guests, is Thurs. Nov. 3 at 5:30 at the Apple Creek Country Club.

The Fundraising Committee is off the a creative start. Dan Schreck reported on plans to sell fair trade coffee, host a gourmet dinner, and offer a concert featuring young musicians home for the Christmas break.

The social committee's first gathering is NEXT WEEK, reported Lorraine Dopson. See below for details. It will be a better party if YOU are there.



Peach Pie social
Guests invited!
Tuesday, Sept. 13 5-9 pm
Ice cream, sliced peaches, and other peach desserts as well.

306 N.
Brandon
Loop

The Bismarck Rotary Club
meets at the Elk's Club every Wednesday at noon



Pres. Brenda Blazer



President Elect Ann Perry



Vice President Tracy Potter



Treasurer Bob Peterson



Secretary Brandi Pelham



Sergeant-at-Arms: Dan Schreck

Directors:

First Year Janell Devine, Zack Pelham

Second Year Dave Mason, Rob Meltzer

Third Year Linda Butts,
Christine Hogan

Past President Mike LaLonde



Group hopes to raise \$3 million to restore Rotary founder's home

For nearly 40 years, Paul and Jean Harris hosted Rotary meetings and entertained visiting Rotarians at their home on Chicago's South Side. Today, Comely Bank, which they affectionately named after the street in Edinburgh, Scotland where Jean grew up, is in need of repairs. The Paul and Jean Harris Home Foundation hopes to raise \$3 million to carry out renovations, repay its debt from the house purchase, and add enhancements to make the site a worthy tribute to Harris. "Comely Bank is the Mount Vernon of Rotary -- it's the home of our founder, and it's too important an asset to not do something about it," said Robert C. Knuepfer Jr., 2010-11 governor of District 6450 and president of the Harris Home Foundation.

After Paul Harris died in 1947, Jean sold Comely Bank. It remained in private hands until the Paul and Jean Harris Home Foundation bought it in 2005 with money borrowed from the charitable foundation of the Rotary Club of Naperville. The Harris Home Foundation replaced the basement floor and made a few immediate structural repairs so Rotarians could safely visit the house during Rotary's centennial year. Since then, the restoration project has come to a standstill. The foundation hopes to restore the home to the way it looked when the Harris's lived there. It also wants to install digital monitors in each room that would display archived films, speeches, and photos of Harris.



During a celebration of the end of the Rotary year in late June, Knuepfer took a group of outgoing district governors and their spouses on a tour of Comely Bank. The 50-plus visitors checked out the basement where Harris held meetings around a table made of plywood and sawhorses, viewed the fireplace where he held his fireside chats, walked through the friendship garden where he planted trees in honor of his visitors, and stood in front of the bedroom window that he was looking out when he died.

"It's got a serenity in it," said Sunil K. Sharma, 2010-11 governor of District 5890 (Texas). "You feel like you want to sit and think."

"To me, it was like walking in Rotary history," added his wife, Rashmi. After the tour, the Rotarians agreed to help with the restoration efforts on behalf of their class of district governors.

Eventually, the Harris Home Foundation would like to establish an endowment fund to pay for the home's maintenance. **The foundation's board envisions creating a Rotary history trail, with stops at Comely Bank, Harris's nearby gravesite, and Room 711 at RI headquarters -- a recreation of the office where the first Rotary meeting was held.** Knuepfer says Comely Bank could also be used as a meeting place for the RI Board and local or visiting clubs, and for Rotary Foundation function. *article by Diana Schoberg Rotary International News -- 7 July 2011*

New Policy for Young Members!

Ann Perry of the Membership Committee noted the new club policies below. Her committee's goal is to include seven new members this year. We are on our way to meeting this, with 4 recent additions to the club. Your help is crucial in reaching this goal.

Concerned that the amount of Rotary dues could turn away prospective young members, the Rotary Board recently approved a new dues policy to attract those just starting out in their careers.

The policy states "a new member 40 years of age or younger, whose membership dues will not be paid by his or her employer, will be eligible for reduced dues of \$25 per month provided the new member is active in the club. The new member is eligible for reduced dues for a maximum of five years or when the member turns 40 years of age, whichever occurs first. The new member will be responsible for one-half of the cost of the member's badge and other induction materials."

In addition, when a prospective Rotarian (of any age) is invited by a member the club will pay for three meals for the prospective member, not just one.



It's easier than ever to interest a young professional in joining our premiere service organization. New policies will be reviewed regularly to assess their effectiveness.