



Lend a Hand



Breakfast Rotary—Jefferson City, MO



www.jeffcityrotary.org

April, 2004

Every Wednesday 7:00 a.m. Capitol Plaza Hotel 415 W. McCarty St. Jefferson City, MO

DAN'S DISSERTATION

(WORDS FROM OUR ROTARY CLUB PRESIDENT)



In an earlier column I encouraged each of you to work on recruiting new members for our club. This is a message that bears repeating. The membership chairman

for District 6080 recently sent an update on the membership trends to date for the district as a whole and for each of the clubs within the district. Both the district and our club individually have fallen short of the goals set out at the beginning of the Rotary year. The district set a goal of a three percent increase in membership. Through the end of February, membership had declined by 1.95%. Your board of directors likewise set a goal for our club of a net membership increase of five persons. As of the end of February, our membership instead showed a net loss of five persons.

There is still time to turn this trend around. All of us know people who would be good members. It is just a matter of approaching them about the benefits of Rotary and inviting them to visit a meeting. We have printed a number of brochures about the club that will answer many of the questions a prospective member will have, such as a listing of our activities and an explanation of our dues. Copies of those brochures are available at the table when you sign-in at each meeting. I would encourage everyone to pick up a few copies to give to prospective members. Then go out and talk to people you know from your

professional activities, from your church, from other civic and community activities with which you are involved.

I have always been proud of the active role our club takes and the eagerness all of you show to actively support so many worthwhile projects. New members who are committed to the ideals of Rotary and willing to be active participants bring a freshness and energy that will ensure the legacy you have created will continue. Let's all do our part to find those people and bring them into the fold.

Meals on Wheels

The MARCH MADNESS "MEALS" dream team was once again successful - baby! After several "fast breaks" and a few "slam dunks". They again delivered about 75 hot meals to many very deserving local families. Please congratulate them on another big victory. This month's team was: Rob Angstead, J.T. Yarnell, Bill Yarnell, Bob Sfredo, Ron Medin, Jim Jackson and his wife Willy Jackson and Ryan Burson. On the bench as back up if needed was Larry Vincent (although he wasn't sure about doing slam dunks). A special thanks to Ryan Burson who signed up on fairly short notice after a problem developed for one of the earlier volunteers. This service is a real credit to our Rotary Club. Thanks to you all for your contributions.

Al Laffoon

Truck Delivered to Cáritas de Monterrey

President Dan McPherson received a letter from the President of the Monterrey Metropolitan Rotary Club thanking all who helped in the purchase of a truck to be used to make deliveries for a food bank in Monterrey, Mexico. JC Breakfast Rotary donated \$500, the West Club donated \$500 and District 6080 matched that with \$1000.



Dear Dan ...

Greetings from Monterrey. It is a pleasure to inform you that last Friday we held a very nice dinner with our friends from Lake Conroe in which we officially donated the vehicle to the Monterrey food bank.

We have received the final payment of \$23,037 from the Foundation and the vehicle has been purchased. It should begin to deliver much needed food to over 1,200 new families right after Easter.

We are very honored that your clubs participated in this project. Thank you!

12 members of the Lake Conroe club were in Monterrey over the weekend. We spent several hours planning future projects. For the Rotary Centennial, Lake Conroe and Monterrey Metropolitan plan on doing another matching grant project. Once we have specific project proposals we would like to explore the possibility of working with your clubs for the Centennial.

Thank you again for all of your support.

David W. Eaton
President
Monterrey Metropolitan Rotary Club

About *Interact*

Interact is RI's service club for young people ages 14-18. *Interact* clubs are sponsored by individual Rotary clubs, which provide support and guidance, but *Interact* clubs are self-governing and self-supporting.

Each year, *Interact* clubs complete at least two community service projects, one of which furthers international understanding and goodwill. Through projects, *Interactors* develop a network of friendships with local and overseas clubs. In the process, *Interactors* develop leadership skills and learn the value of hard work.

As one of the most significant and fastest-growing programs in Rotary service, with more than 8,600 *Interact* clubs in some 110 countries and geographical areas, *Interact* has become a worldwide phenomenon.

From <http://www.rotary.org>

New INTERACT Club Elects Officers

The officers are:

Emily Van Zandt	- President
Evan Frazier	- Vice President
Laura Maloy-Edmondson	- Secretary
Jackson Otto	- Treasurer

Directors:

Sarah Vallandingham
Bryce Stuckenschneider

The club is working on developing a community service project that can be performed before the end of the school year.

April Programs

Apr 7th - General Svmanski
War in Iraq
(Introduced by Norb Plassmeyer)

Apr 14th - TBA

Apr 21st - TBA

Apr 28th - TBA

Jefferson City's To illustrate why it was important for U.S. Rotarians to devote time and money to literacy projects, RI Director David Roper provided statistics from the National Institute for Literacy, a government agency administered by the secretaries of Education, Labor, and Health and Human Services. Among the facts he quoted: adults who can't read are hospitalized at twice the rate as those with better reading skills; 43 percent of those at the lowest literacy level live in poverty; 60 percent of prison inmates are illiterate; and 85 percent of youthful offenders have trouble reading.

"Adults who can't read can't help their children to read, and the cycle of illiteracy and poverty is passed on. The ramifications of illiteracy are endless," said Roper. "Helping people to achieve literacy and numeracy skills and become self-sufficient is the most critical tool available for fighting poverty. Regardless of the community, there are