



RIB

March 21, 2006

The Rotary Club of Bloomington Noon

Weekly Meetings

12 noon
Tuesdays
Thunderbird
Hotel

Mission

An organization of leaders working together to make a difference in our community and the world.

The Rotary Club of Bloomington Noon

President: John Swaney
Pres Elect: Diann Kirby
Vice Pres: Don Stiles
Secretary: Karyn Arazi
Treasurer: Brett McMahon
Past Pres: Larry Lee
Dist Gov: Dan Barnett
Sgt in Arms: Rick Sitek
Exec Sec: Kathy Koehler
Directors: Marcia Gerdin,
Carol Hoeft, Adam
Johnston, Carolyn Pratt,
Dave Senness, Laura
Bjorgo, Dave Walock

Next Week's Program

2006 Winter Olympics, Torino, Italy
Guests: Rachel Blount, Reporter

Our guest Rachel Blount, StarTribune Reporter, has covered 5 Winter Olympics for the StarTribune. She recently returned from Torino, Italy. Did you know there were seven villages in Torino dedicated to journalists. With over 9,400 journalists, the media far outstripped the athletes and their trainers, at only 5,200. These folks covered the 15 Winter disciplines where 1,026 Medals were awarded, the United States broke 8 Olympic or World Records in Speed Skating and our own Minnesota Men's Curling team brought home the bronze.



Rachel covers sports for the Star Tribune, the leading newspaper in Minnesota, and is excited about her next assignment, the Kentucky Derby. Join us for this encore appearance, back by popular demand.

This Week's Program

Bloomington State of the City 2006
Guests: Mayor Gene Winstead
City Manager: Mark Bernhardson

Bloomington Mayor Gene Winstead and City Manager Mark Bernhardson addressed a full house at the annual State of the City presentation this week. Although fully developed, Bloomington has a great deal of construction underway or planned to revitalize the community and provide more housing options. **Reflections**, all glass façade, condominium units (pictured here) are currently being built in the Central Station development, one of the most exciting projects being planned. McGough Development is using the light rail station there as the driving force behind this \$700 million dollar development. The 43-acre, mixed-use site is located on the HealthPartners campus just east the Mall of America. The first of five phases nearing completion, Reflections has 263 units opening in July 2006. Also planned are a hotel, townhomes, offices, retail and large park.



March Birthdays

- 03 Jim Feilzer
- 03 Skipp Saaf
- 07 Rod Axtell
- 15 Carol Hoeft
- 15 Jim Truax
- 17 Frank Grazzini
- 18 Jack Bouquet
- 24 Krishna Ramalingam
- 28 Dan Barnett
- 31 Gene Fuller

March Anniversaries

- 03 Dick Young 19 yrs
- 09 Becky Amble 13 yrs
- 19 Pat DiPlacido 10 yrs
- 21 John Swaney 6 yrs
- 28 Neil Peterson 17 yrs
- 30 Brett McMahon 13 yrs

Greeter Schedule

- Mar 28: Frank Grazzini
- Apr 4: Colin Evenson
- Apr 11: Susan Freeman
- Apr 18: Dick Young
- Apr 25: Dave Getsch
- May 2: Diann Kirby
- May 9: Adam Bengtson
- May 16: Larry Lee
- May 23: Terry Stirewalt
- May 30: Ed Vogt
- June 6: Dan Jordan
- June 13: Jack Bouquet

This week's program continued:

Other development projects planned or under construction include:

- Six hotels with 1,500 rooms, including Grand Lodge Water Park of America opening in late spring.
- Up to one million square feet of office space.
- Phase II of Mall of America, comprised of 5.6 million square feet of retail, medical, museum, performing arts, hotel and office space.
- One thousand housing units in developments like Village at Nine Mile Creek, Lyndale Green, Kennedy Court and the Meadows at Oxboro.



This year, Bloomington topped the \$11 billion mark in real estate market valuations. Mayor Winstead pointed out that's up \$800 million in just one year. Bloomington has seen a number of improvements to the transportation infrastructure to support the community's development. These include the Lyle Berg Bridge over I-35W linking east and west American Boulevard, the third lane of I-494 completed last fall, and the city has applied for a grant to fund a fourth light rail station in Bloomington at 34th Avenue and American Boulevard.

City Manager Mark Bernhardson profiled what the City is doing to continue to move the community forward. Bloomington has the second-lowest average household cost for city services in Hennepin County. Yet, strong financial management has helped it obtain three triple-A bond ratings, one of just 20 cities out of 80,000 nationwide to achieve this ranking. Bernhardson also unveiled the City's strategic planning process, known as Imagine Bloomington 2025. The process will involve taking a look into the future to create the next long-term vision for Bloomington. The strategic plan will define the City's strategies for development, redevelopment, services, infrastructure and fiscal strength for the next 20 years. Your input will be needed as the City looks to the future.

Rotary International Foundation

The Rotary International Foundation supports numerous world-wide projects. RI projects promote health, education and understanding. RI also benefits our own club's international projects by offering matching grants. Our club has a proud history of giving to the Foundation drive. Please join us in keeping our fine tradition. Our club goal is 100% participation - **Every Rotarian, Every Year**.

Check your mail, your contribution letter and envelope are included. There are two ways to donate: Participate in the Paul Harris Fellowship at \$1,000 per year, or make an annual gift at a level of your choice. **Respond this week.**

By doing so, you are truly making a difference in the world.

Contacts: Mike Fewer, mike_fewer@ajg.com

and Frank Grazzini,

frank.grazzini@carciofini.com



EVERY
ROTARIAN
EVERY
YEAR

MAKE YOUR GIFT COUNT

Bloomington Rotary
Youth Exchange

Youth Exchange
Officer: Mark Bellestri
(612) 481-0406

2005-2006 Student:
Leonardo Cordeiro
(Leo)

News Leo has now won two letters, the first for his performance in swimming, the second, an academic letter. Congratulations, Leo! We are all very proud of you.

E-mail:

leocordeiro182@hotmail.com



Meet me at the Wheel & Crowne

The **Second Annual New Member Orientation and Social** is scheduled for Friday, April 28, 2006, at the Crowne Plaza Hotel, Hwy 494 and Hwy 100, Bloomington. New member orientation will take place from 4:30 to 5:30, then all Rotarians and their families and/or guests are invited to arrive for a social time to mix and meet and enjoy light appetizers and refreshments that will run from 5:30 to 7:00.

For more information contact Jay Stevens (952) 230-9020, jstevens16@mn.rr.com or Skip Saaf (952) 944-5340, saafs@msn.com.



Guests and Visitors

There were around **200 attendees (guests and Rotarians)** at this week's State of the City event. **Sponsored in partnership by the Bloomington Noon Rotary and the Bloomington Chamber of Commerce**, thanks to both organizations for their part in planning. Displays from several community organizations enhanced the information that we were able to learn.

District Conference

Being held at the Hilton Hotel, Bloomington, you are encouraged to attend the District Conference on April 21 and 22, 2006. On Friday afternoon April 21st, from 3:00 to 4:00 the conference will celebrate "Why I am a Rotarian" at a special reception. Rotarians from all clubs in District 5950 are being asked to contribute their story. Write your short comments on **Why you are a Rotarian** and e-mail to Mary Brindle at mbrindle@mn.rr.com before April 1st. If you have not registered your attendance, **Register Today!** It's simple...just e-mail our own Kathy Koehler at Kkoehler@usinternet.com.

Member Survey Still Underway

Deadline is March 28

This is the last week to participate in the survey sent out to each member of our club. By returning the survey, you will help us set goals and activities for the upcoming 2006-07 Rotary year that reflect the wants and needs of our membership. So far, over 60% of our members have taken the opportunity to tell us what they think. For a copy of the survey, check the club web site or contact Diann Kirby at 952-563-8818 or dkirby@ci.bloomington.mn.us.

The 4-Way Test

1. Is it the TRUTH?
2. Is it FAIR to all concerned?
3. Will it build GOODWILL and BETTER FRIENDSHIPS?
4. Will it be BENEFICIAL to all concerned?

RIB Editor:
Karyn Arazi

ADDRESS
Bloomington Noon
Rotary
P.O. Box 20300
Bloomington, MN 55420

PHONE
Kathy Koehler
952-837-1111

E-MAIL
kkoehler@usinternet.com

Upcoming Meetings

March 28: **Rachel Blount, 2006 Winter Olympics**, Star Tribune Sports Reporter

April 4: to be announced

April 11: to be announced

May 2: **Cancel Meeting Date, Reschedule for Thursday, May 4th!**

Calendar of Events

April 21-22: District 5950 Conference, Airport Hilton, Bloomington, It is time to send in your registration! This will be a fun filled family weekend.

April 28: 2nd Annual Wheel and Crown Social and New Member Orientation
Crowne Plaza Hotel, 4:30 – 7:00 PM Contact: Skipp Saaf saafs@msn.com

May 5: Golden Valley Rotary Club Fundraiser. They sponsored two tables at our Harold Larson Party. Mark your calendars. Let's help support them, too.

May 19: Club Social - Bloomington Civic Theater musical "Wonderful Town"
Contact: Carolyn Pratt. Reception scheduled before the play. Tickets will be approximately \$28.00 for the evening.

July 14-16: Gopher State Prep Showcase Basketball Tournament Save these dates on your calendar...all club members are needed to make this a success!

Rotary Information

Bloomington Noon Rotary
www.bloomingtonrotarymn.org

Rotary International
www.rotary.org

Rotary District 5950 Newly Renovated...visit and watch our progress!
www.rotary5950.org

Meeting Make-ups
http://www.rotary5950.org/where_meet.html

Rotary on Bloomington Cable, Channel 14:
Brigadier General Denny Schulstad, Retired
National Guard and Reserve

Tuesday, March 28, 2006 10:25 PM

Wednesday, March 29, 2006 4:25 AM, 10:25 AM, 4:25 PM

Thursday, March 30, 2006 9:00 PM

Friday, March 31, 2006 3:00 AM, 9:00 AM, 3:00 PM

Bloomington Schools Update, 2006
Dr. Gary Prest, Superintendent

Monday, April 3, 2006 10:30 AM

Tuesday, April 4, 2006 4:30 AM, 10:30 AM, 4:30 PM