



# RIB

December 4, 2006

**The Rotary Club of Bloomington Noon**

## Weekly Meetings

**12:00 Noon**

**Mondays**

**Airport Hilton  
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: Diann Kirby  
Pres Elect: Don Stiles  
Vice Pres: Carolyn Pratt  
Secretary: Karyn Arazi  
Treasurer: Brett McMahon  
Past Pres: John Swaney  
Dist Gov: Rod Shilkrot  
Sgt in Arms: Rick Sitek  
Exec Sec: Kathy Koehler  
Directors: Adam Johnston,  
Dave Senness, Lori  
Nelson, Mark Bosch,  
LuAnn Paulet, Mark  
Bellestri, Laura Bjorgo,  
Terry Stirewalt, and Dave  
Walock

## Next Week's Program

KSTP Channel 5 News Reporter Beth Jett

Carolyn Pratt has again worked her miracles to replace our last minute cancellation from Anne Hutchinson who is unable to attend next week. Join us for an interesting look into a local news room!

## This Week's Program

STRIVE students were our Guests  
Speakers: Larry Sonnek and Kristen Cooper  
"Turning a Wish List into a Road Map"



Larry Sonnek and Kristen Cooper, both counselors at Normandale Community College, shared tips on identifying and pursuing career goals. This was especially helpful to our STRIVE students, currently seniors at either Jefferson High

School or Kennedy Senior High School and approaching that decision-making time, "Do I seek a job after high school, or continue my education...and either way, where and what?"

A simple outline for success was offered.

- Know Yourself
- Know the Options
- Map How You Will Get There

Know yourself includes identifying your interests, your values, your skills and strengths, and your personal qualities. Knowing the options includes research on higher education options and what skills are best for what jobs. Mapping includes visiting and exploring the options you have discovered and deciding the best route to take.

A web site to explore: [www.iseek.org](http://www.iseek.org)



**December Birthdays**

- 03 Carolyn Pratt
- 07 Laura Bjorgo
- 10 Charlie Pokladnik
- 17 LuAnn Paulet
- 23 Jim Lucas

**December Anniversaries**

- 20 Colin Evenson 1 yr
- 23 Lori Nelson 3 yrs

**Greeter Schedule**

- Dec. 11: Ken Nordlie
- Dec. 18: Jim Wenthold
- Dec. 25: NO MEETING
- Jan. 1: NO MEETING
- Jan. 8: Jack Bouquet
- Jan. 15: David Senness
- Jan. 22: Dan Jordan
- Jan. 29: David Pederson

## Community Service

### Salvation Army Bell Ringing

Thank you to all of the Salvation Army bell ringers who made Saturday, December 2<sup>nd</sup> a great success. Our goal was to hit \$1,000. Our volunteers were:

**Don Stiles, Lee Helms, Frank Grazzini, John Swaney, Terry Stirewalt, Skipp Saaf , Sharon VanWinkel, Jeff Andrews, Gigi Brecht, Colin Evenson, Jay Stevens and his family, Jm Wenthold, and Scott Fricke.**

Pictured right: Jay Stevens and his family.



### Warm Hands Warm Hearts



Bloomington Noon Rotary participated with District 5950 in the Warm Hands, Warm Hearts campaign by donating 100 mittens and 100 hats. These mittens and hats have been donated to VEAP who is distributing them this December at their holiday Toy Store. The District's donations will serve 12 to 13 hundred families who will bring 3,000 children to shop at the store and pick out a holiday present. A pair of mittens and a hat will be given to every child as a part of their gift.

## Youth Exchange

Marcia Gerdin and Mark Bellestri along with approximately 55 other Rotarians and Rotex helped the Youth Exchange Committee for Rotary Districts 5950 and 5960 on Saturday, Dec. 2, during Youth Exchange Selection Day. It was a full day starting at 7:30 a.m. and wrapping up around 3:30 p.m. The committee interviewed about 60 students who will make up the outbound class of 2007-2008. Mark interviewed with Jan Stevens, one of several Northfield Rotarians who were part of the group. Northfield sent nine students to the Selection Day interviews and then hosted all the inbounds for a winter weekend.

## Name That Rotarian

This Rotarian grew up in Rock Island, Illinois, where his father was an algebra teacher and coach. He received a BS in accountancy from the University of Illinois. Because he was an ROTC student, this Rotarian received orders to report to Army Field Artillery the day he graduated from Illinois. He worked for 34 years for John Deere as an auditor and controller. It was while he was there that he met his wife Margaret. They had two children. This member joined Bloomington Rotary, in 1988. He's been involved in the STRIVE program since its conception, now serving as the co-chair. He was named Rotarian of the Year in 2001.

**Is it?**

- a) Gene Fuller    b) Don Stiles    c) Lee Helms    d) Jack Carlson**  
**See page 4 RIB**

## Rotary Minute - Membership

How many times has a guest of yours stated "this organization does good work, I would be interested in finding out more about Rotary". This could obviously be a good prospect for Rotary.

As you maintain and nurture your contact with this individual, let the membership committee help. Please send contact information concerning this individual to Terry Stirewalt at [terrys@rbcu.org](mailto:terrys@rbcu.org) and Karyn Arazi at [karynarazi@aol.com](mailto:karynarazi@aol.com). They will immediately be placed on the RIB's distribution list.

## Sunshine

**Abul Sharah** reports from International Village Clinic in India that he is purchasing the ultrasound and the x-ray equipment donated funds for and that he will have some money left over to add additional needed supplies.

**Michael Brunkow** is proud to announce that he has been hired by Remington Hotels to remain at the Hilton Minneapolis/St.Paul Airport Hotel. It's Official!

**Adam Bengtson** reports that the Chamber will be hosting a behind the scenes tour of the Center for the Arts, Bloomington Civic Plaza, led by our own **Carolyn Pratt** on Thursday, Dec. 7<sup>th</sup>, 11:30 – 1:00 PM.

**Carolyn Pratt's** son Jackson Thatcher has been deployed to Iraq from Kuwait. He is in transit currently. See his most recent letter home on page 5 RIB. His e-mail is set up and you can communicate with him at [Jacknight554@gmail.com](mailto:Jacknight554@gmail.com).

## Visitors and Guests

**Rotarian Greg Margarit**, Bloomington Daymakers, CPA

**Rotarian Debbie Belfry**, Bloomington Daymakers, Education Administration

**Rotarian Bob Stehlik**, Edina Noon, Banking

Karen Nortstrom, Bloomington City Council Member, Guest of Don Stiles

The Bloomington Kennedy and Jefferson STRIVE students, their counselors, chaperones, and Principals. We hosted 18 Kennedy students, 10 Jefferson students, one Jefferson parent, and the following school guests:

- From Kennedy High School: Ron Simmons (Principal), Kris Krenz (Student Dean), Michelle Christenson (Work Counselor)
- From Jefferson High School: Steve Hill (Principal), Deb Holman (Asst. Principal), Jeff Pawlicki (Student Dean)
- From Normandale Community College: Ralph Anderson (Student Dean), and our speakers Larry Sonnek and Kristen Cooper (Counselors)
- Plus four individuals from NCS Pearson led by Mike Pelto (Business supporters of STRIVE).

## President's Column

### Diann Kirby

This past Monday, the Membership Committee heard a report from Kathy Koehler on our current membership status. As of this week, Bloomington Rotary has 85 members. We've inducted five new members since September - Jeff Andrews (sponsored by Adam Bengtson), Dr. David Simmer (sponsored by Jae Mellin), Don Peterson (sponsored by Brian Emerson), Ghidei Zedingle (sponsored by Bernie Bryant) and Scott Fricke (transferring from Eden Prairie). Our new members are already active, ringing bells for the Salvation Army, selling raffle tickets for Harold Larson Party, and editing the RIB newsletter.



**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?

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**President's Column Con't:** Membership Committee Chair Terry Stirewalt will be telling us next week about an exciting new initiative to attract more high quality members like the ones listed above. It's modeled after a project that met with a lot of success in Chanhassen. The Membership Committee is also working on something that was requested in our member survey earlier this year. Stay tuned to more details next week!

## Upcoming Meetings

December 11: **Beth Jett, KSTP Channel 5 News Reporter**

December 18: **"Holiday Program"**, at Bloomington Civic Plaza, Joint with Bloomington Daymakers Rotary

December 25, 2006 and January 1, 2007: **NO MEETINGS**

January 8: **"Filtering the Air for a Cleaner World"**, Bill Cooke, CEO Donaldson Corporation

January 15: **"Rotary District Blue Ribbon Task Force on Respect Report"**, Rotarian Phyllis Karasov

## Calendar of Events

**January 20: Mid-Term District 5950 Assembly, St. Cloud, MN**

**January 29: Meals on Wheels**, Rotary members deliver meals today! Mark your calendar. We start early as we pick up meals at 11:00 AM for our deliveries.

**January 31: STRIVE Mock Job Interview** (with Rotarians...you are needed!)

**April 26-28, 2007: Rotary District 5950 Conference**

**May 19: District 5950 Assembly**, Club officer and Board member training.

**June 17-20, 2007: RI Convention in Salt Lake City, Utah**

## Rotary Information

**Bloomington Noon Rotary**  
[www.bloomingtonrotarymn.org](http://www.bloomingtonrotarymn.org)

**Rotary International**  
[www.rotary.org](http://www.rotary.org)

**Rotary District 5950**  
[www.rotary5950.org](http://www.rotary5950.org)

**Meeting Make-ups**  
[http://www.rotary5950.org/where\\_meet.html](http://www.rotary5950.org/where_meet.html)

**Rotary on Bloomington Cable, Channel 14:**  
**Marvin Lao, "2008 Women's Open Golf Tournament"**

Tuesday, December 19, 2006, 6:00 PM

Wednesday, December 20, 2006, 12:00 AM, 6:00 AM, 12:00 PM

**December 18<sup>th</sup> Holiday Program, "Angelica Cantanti"**

Tuesday, December 19, 2006 9:00 PM

Wednesday, December 20, 2006 3:00 AM, 9:00 AM, 3:00 PM

**Name That Rotarian: c) Lee Helms**

**News from IRAQ:** Jackson Thatcher, Carolyn Pratt's son is now deployed to Iraq. He would welcome letters, cards, or e-mail messages from home.

Here is Jack's e-mail: [Jacknight554@gmail.com](mailto:Jacknight554@gmail.com)

and APO address (for cards, letters etc): Sgt Thatcher, Jackson  
303rd MP CO  
FOB Summerall  
APO AE 09393

and a recent message from him:

Email title line: Live from Kuwait, it's Jack Thatcher!

Hello everybody....well, when I left I said I would try and send a monthly update on how I was doing....that didn't work out as well as planned, (there wasn't much time to use the internet during training at Ft. Dix.)

At any rate, here I am at Camp Buhring in Kuwait, we have been here for about a week doing a little training and getting ready to move north soon. Training at Ft. Dix was long, exhausting and at times quite pointless, however I did learn a lot and feel confident in the abilities of both myself and (more importantly) my team. After my unit "validated" at Ft. Dix I was able to come home for a few days in the week before Thanksgiving. It was great to spend time with my family and of course my wonderful girlfriend Anne.

Here is a breakdown of just what is going on with my deployment:

Rank: Sgt (E-5)

Position: Team Leader

Bravo Team, 3rd squad, 3rd Plt, 303rd MP co.

I have been designated as the aid and litter team for my squad during the deployment. Both myself and my team members have gotten extra first aid training from our Medic. Also I have put my team through many hours of aid and litter drills. Our job is to deal with any casualties or squad encounters, to include civilians and injured prisoners of war. This is an extremely important secondary job, and I have done my best to get as much training on it as I can.

Mission: I can't go into details about my mission as of yet. I want to again personally thank the officers and civilians of the Madison police department. All of the things I learned while interning for the department are MISSION CRITICAL, and will play a huge role in helping my squad to do our job. Everything from police procedure and IPC skills to data analysis and surveillance. All of it was great experience and will help me a lot. Thanks MPD!

Location: Until I get there I can't tell you where I am going in Iraq.....

Overall, I am doing great. I have made a lot of good friends in my unit and morale is generally high. Being away from home kinda sucks, but I know I will be back eventually...

Please feel free to respond to this e-mail and I can try and answer any questions you may have, or just say hello. Also feel free to forward it to any people who SHOULD be on my mailing list but got lost in the many transitions....!

**NOTE from Carolyn:**

We received a call about 2 AM this morning from Jack. He is now in Iraq, not yet at his final destination, but en route. Thanks again for everyone's kind thoughts and prayers for Jack and our family as we continue this long journey together. Carolyn