

The *Rooter*

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Last Week at Rotary... March 10th: We talked Rotary membership! Tom F, Jerry B. Scott A. and Dave A, are Captains of their competing committees to build our membership. The gloves are off.

This Week at Rotary... March 17th: Strive students from Red Wing High School will be visiting our meeting, so even though its St.Patrick's Day, I expect you all to behave.

Next Week at Rotary... March 24th: Dave Anderson will lead the Tea book discussion at the YMCA.

Upcoming Rotary Programs & Events

- March 24th:** David Anderson (our District Book Czar) has challenged us to read the book *Three Cups of Tea* by Greg Mortenson. RW book discussion will be at the YMCA..
- March 31st:** Our Rotary friend from Grahamstown, South Africa Mr. Bill Mills will be visiting Red Wing. Mr Mills hosted Red Wing's Ambassadorial Scholar CoeLita Finke and also helped our International Service projects in South Africa succeed. Meeting in the Summit Room.
- April 17-19:** District Conference in River Falls
- April 28-May 3:** GSE Team from Sweden in Red Wing
- April 28** **Rotary Day in Red Wing.** 5 to 7pm Colvil Park. How will we represent Rotary?
- June 20th** Red Wing Rotary Marching Band Classic is back downtown at Noon... be there

Red Wing Rotary Receives \$5000 Strive Grant

A Compassion Capital Fund grant of \$5000 was recently awarded to go to the Strive program of Red Wing Rotary. President Clare is inviting the Rotary board of directors and participants in the STRIVE mentoring program to a reception on March 19, 3-6 pm Indigo Room (Light snack and soft drinks). The reception will be where we are awarded our \$5000 grant. This will also be an orientation as to how the Compassion Capital Fund grant will work. Rotary is one of the big winners with this grant program and it's critical that we learn more about the grant since our Rotary club will be quite involved.

If you are going to attend this event please RSVP to Clare by end of day Monday 3/16.

STRIVE – A Letter From a Grateful Parent ... Pam, my gratitude to you and the Rotary is more than you will ever know. When Jen entered this program while attending Roseville Area HS....she was hesitant. Each day she met with you Pam, she came home with more determination and sparkle for interest in further education. She also gave me menu suggestions at Bakers Square :) Please know you are and have been a HUGE impact in Jen's life. Jen's homelife has been more than NOT stable. You, Pam, have showed Jen what it is like for a person to do what they say they are going to do, and care. She is so lucky to have met you. I have been checked out from reality and life lately. Last Wednesday as I sat working Jen entered the house in tears. I had no idea what was up. She was just coming home from meeting with you. She was overwhelmed with your generosity. I looked at her, was told the story and I joined in the cry fest. I had no idea Jen had been so pent up over tuition, not registering for classes, and felt extremely anxiety filled. Had I not been in my own personal agenda, I could of (sic) helped, walked her through the process, I was not there. You came to her aid and rescue. Jen loves her schooling. To see her passion for her field makes my heart smile. That is a dream to love what you are doing. If there is ever a thing I can do to help the program, please call or email. I will help in anyway possible. Thanks for making a HUGE difference in the lives of the Johnstone's. **(From the Governor's District newsletter)**

Board and Membership Agree to Support Morning Club Effort

The possibility of starting a morning Rotary Club in Red Wing has been tossed around for years and now we would like to give it an extra push. A morning meeting time and that breakfast may be a cheaper meal alternative are two of the reasons that prospective Rotarians may be attracted to this new organization. At the recent Board meeting and at the noon meeting following, this morning idea was discussed voted on and approved. Our Noon Club will help bring this club to life but then it will be up to these new 20 Charter members to determine many of the facets of their club (dues, meal costs, location, name, leadership...). So it takes 20 members to charter a club and then we have a little Rotary sister to watch over and work with. Our upcoming membership efforts and our April 28th Rotary Day in Red Wing will recruit members first to our noon club, but also offer them an option to be a charter member of a new morning Rotary Club.

Why I Joined Rotary

I arrived in Red Wing in January of 1986. I came because my company (ADM) transferred me here from Mankato. I had started with ADM in 1978, spent four years in Kansas City, Missouri working at a Soy bean processing plant and then four years at the Soy bean processing plant in Mankato. My job up to this point was in maintenance and other supervisory positions in production. This position was my first as a plant manager. When I came I knew I should get involved as much as I

could in local affairs. I was also somewhat encouraged to be involved in the community by my supervisor. In about March of the same year I was visited a few times by Rolland Wilsey as was typical of all charter members. He of course mentioned Jerry Borgen as being on board along with other names of charter members. How could you not succumb to the wisdom and truth of Rolland? His sincerity was overwhelming. He explained how Rotary was the number one service organization in the world and he discussed how big and important the local Kiwanis organization was. I believe he said they were the second largest club in the state. I can't remember if I had already been to a few Kiwanis meetings as a guest or not. I was somewhat impressed with the Kiwanis but could clearly see that Rolland's vision of Red Wing's club needed help. So for these reasons and more I told him to count me in. Also I wanted to continue my personal growth, to be a more informed citizen of my town and state, to develop more friendships and to live up to the standards of the four way test. Rolland Wilsey was the driving force and I often wonder if I would have become a Rotarian if someone else had pushed for a club in Red Wing. I respect Rolland very much and now know he is for real. Although I have not been as active as I thought I would be, I have never regretted joining this great Rotary organization.

When I retire I plan on volunteering as much as I can and Rotary will be a big part of that.
Dave Turner, Charter Member Red Wing Rotary



Roland Wilsey (our founding father) with the spouse of the man he dedicated the effort to, plus our Charter President Jerry B.