



Waunakee Rotary Club

Nov. 15, 2007
Vol. 41 No. 18

Dennis Tiziani had many mentors to follow before he, himself, became a mentor to professional golfer Steve Stricker.

At the Nov. 8 Waunakee Rotary Club meeting, Dennis talked about Stricker's career and the life of a professional golfer.

Dennis is a former UW golf coach and currently heads up the Cherokee Country Club.

Incidentally, he is Steve Sticker's father-in-law.

Steve comes from a great family in Edgerton, Dennis said. Dennis tried to recruit him to the UW during Steve's junior year, but he accepted a full scholarship elsewhere. Still, Dennis continued to coach him, much to the chagrin of some of his own players.

During Steve's senior year, he worked at Cherokee Golf Course, where Dennis' daughter met him, and the two eventually married.

"He had no money for a ring," Dennis said. Dennis said Steve was the third prospective groom whom he had loaned money. But he was the only one to pay him back.

For a while, Steve's golf performance was less successful, but financially, he did well. Dennis had to renegotiate some of his contracts.

"When everybody says he was unsuccessful, he may have been in tournaments, but he trumped," Dennis said.

As Steve flourished financially, he had many people pulling at him. Dennis related one story about a man from London who asked Steve for money after losing a bet on him.

But over the last two years, Steve has grown to become a mentor and his golf game has improved.

"He had to decide how badly he wanted to be there," Dennis said.

Much of the motivation to win is financially driven, he added. Now Steve is the fifth-ranked player in the world.

"It can be a lucrative business outside of charities given," Dennis said. "That's the drive."

Some professional golfers just want a top 10 finish in the tournaments.

"This guy Steve is bigger than all that," Dennis said.

One of his goals is two wins in the Ryder Cup, he added.

As Steve developed and became successful, he is now acting as a mentor to others. Steve financed the Very Special Arts Wisconsin program in 2007 and has been involved with Madison's elementary schools.

Other items:

- Help is still needed for the 9 a.m. shift at the Thanksgiving Breakfast Nov. 22 at the Village Center. The committee can also use a pancake grill and toaster.

- Tammy Reeve said Santa at the Depot will be held at the Village Center the first Saturday in December. She will be passing around a sign-up sheet for anyone wishing to provide cookies.

- Club members will be working to install displays and lights at the Village Park Saturday, Nov. 9. They could use help. Show up at 8 a.m. but not after the Badger game.

OFFICERS

LYNNE SPIELMAN, PRESIDENT • DAN STATZ, PRESIDENT ELECT
PHIL WILLEMS, CLUB SECRETARY
BOB PULVERMACHER, RECORDING SECRETARY • KIM LENGFELD, TREASURER

DIRECTORS

TOM REIS • LORI DERAUF • BILL ERICKSON

Calendar of Events:

Thanksgiving breakfast, Nov. 22.

Rotary in Lights, Nov. 26-Jan. 1

Guests: Bob Case, guest of Harriet Statz; Joy McMerty, guest of Kim Lengfeld; Ken Statz, guest of Dan Statz.

Visiting Rotarians: None.

Birthdays: Nov. 21, Ted Pertzborn.

Anniversaries: None this week.

Prayers: Nov. 15, Pat Durden; Nov. 22, Msgr. Kramer; Nov. 29, Susan Vergeront.

Programs: Nov. 15, Dr. Tom Schlenker, overview of public health; Nov. 22, not meeting, Thanksgiving; Nov. 29, Ian Weller on travels in Jordan; Dec. 6, Club Assembly.

Greeters: Nov. 8, Kevin Even, Mike Fehrenbach; Nov. 15, Betsy Flanagan, Greg Garton; Nov. 22, Amy Gile Enge, Jeremiah Gollon.

See you next week!

Make up meetings online

It's easy to make up a meeting on the Internet. The site is www.rotaryclubone.org. Print out the form and give it to Phil Willems, the club secretary.