



Waunakee Rotary Club

April 22, 2010
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Rotary's Youth Exchange program spreads good will and prepares young people for international careers. At the April 15 Waunakee Rotary Club meeting, Don Mayo, who has chaired the Central States Rotary Youth Exchange program, discussed a little of its history.

Don has been involved in youth exchange since the 1970s. Initially, the only exchanges were from individual district to district. But in 1972, eight district governors from the Great Lakes area met and formed a large multi-district program – the Central States Rotary Youth Exchange.

That program has grown to 16 districts in Wisconsin, Minnesota, Illinois, Indiana, Michigan and the southern part of Ontario, Canada. District 6250, to which the Waunakee club belongs, is among the 16 in the Central States.

Among the volunteer staff for the program are inbound and outbound coordinators, along with correspondents to the different countries. The correspondents are responsible for working with those countries to set the number of inbound students to them and outbound students.

When Don was chair, this task was easier because there were fewer countries. For instance, Don's granddaughter is traveling to Croatia next year, a country that did not exist in the past.

The emergence of new countries expanded the number of exchange choices. But those existing countries had come to expect a certain number of students and were disappointed to see fewer of them as the youths ventured to other areas.

Don said the Central States program does not send students to certain countries such as Zimbabwe or Columbia, where they could be in

danger. The leaders are very concerned about the students' safety.

Each year, the Central States program has two board meetings, one in Chicago and another Grand Rapids, Iowa. They also have two executive meetings without the board of directors, and hold telephone conferences.

Several issues have come up over the years for the chairmen, Don said. When he was chair, the staff had never been evaluated. Don said he began evaluations of the correspondents, and eventually they began looking at ways they themselves could improve.

Over the years, there have been about 8,000 to 10,000 exchange students through Rotary, and only three deaths – two inbounds and one outbound.

"Youth exchange promotes good will, understanding and peace," Mayo said.

In other news:

•Laurie Dies, chair of the Waunakee school district's Scholarship Fund Committee, attended the meeting to fill the club in on the upcoming high school seniors' drive. On April 21, the students will canvas door to door, seeking donations for the scholarship fund. Every student who participates in the drive is guaranteed to receive some of the fund.

Three Waunakee high school students attended, as well, and told the club how much the funds mean to them, particularly as other grants and scholarships dry up in this economic recession. They appreciate the fact that all students are eligible for scholarship funds, they said. Laurie said the goal is at nearly \$40,000 this year.

•Pat Durden said the club now has a Facebook page, and he urged

OFFICERS

TOM REIS, PRESIDENT • BRENT ZIEGLER, PRESIDENT ELECT
PHIL WILLEMS, CLUB SECRETARY
BOB PULVERMACHER, RECORDING SECRETARY • AL DASSOW, TREASURER

DIRECTORS

ELLEN SCHAAF • JOHN CULLEN • LINDA OLSON

Calendar of Events:

- April 24, District Assembly in Wisconsin Dells.
- May 1, Rotary Work Day
- May 17, Jachin Jordan Golf Outing at Bishop's Bay
- May 21, District Conference in LaCrosse.

Rotarians on Facebook to join.

Guests: ???

Visiting Rotarians: ???

Birthdays: April 24, Leonard Allen.

Anniversaries: April 22, Kathy and Mark Cefalu; April 26, Sean and Holly Wayne; April 28, Scott and Melanie Cochems.

Prayers: April 22, Leonard Allen; April 29, Pat Durden; May 6, Susan Vergeront.

Programs: April 22, Dean Bowles, Walking the Roman Wall; April 29, Al Arnold, Dean Foundation Reading Clinic; May 6, Club Assembly.

Greeters: April 22, Gene Smith and Jim Starling; April 29, Dan Statz and Duwayne Statz; May 6, Harriet Statz and Ray Statz.

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.