



## Waunakee Rotary Club

Jan. 26, 2012  
Vol. 46 No. 20

Many Waunakee area residents know John and Maureen Van Dinter for their service to the EMS. John is also the Westport Town chairman.

But both are also members of the U.S. Coast Guard Auxiliary, and they described that volunteer work at the Waunakee Rotary Club's Jan. 19 meeting.

Maureen actually outranks John, he pointed out, adding that means she wins most of the disagreements in their household. Still, on their boat, he's the captain, she said.

The Coast Guard Auxiliary is an organization of volunteer men and women with over 40,000 members, John said. It was chartered 75 years ago to assist the Coast Guard. The Auxiliary members also have uniforms almost identical to the active Coast Guard members'. They are trained in everything active members are except military and enforcement duties.

The Coast Guard Auxiliary is the primary provider of recreational boater classes. The Auxiliary members also offer support to active members during crises such as 9/11 and Hurricane Katrina.

Maureen said the Coast Guard provides statistics on boating accidents, adding that the most common factors in accidents are speed and inattention. The Coast Guard is supporting a bill in Wisconsin that would require all children to wear life jackets on board, she said. Wisconsin is the only state without such a law.

The Auxiliary members also assist with patrols, helping the sheriff's office with vessel assists on the lakes. During an average

day, they will assist 56 people, save one life and save \$729,000 in property damages.

The Auxiliary provides occupational support, administrative support, ice rescue training and other services. They help to recruit active members, educate about boater safety, provide vessel safety checks, and help with public affairs and fundraisers. On the Rock River, they trained 17 police agencies in search and rescue, Maureen noted.

The members also enjoy a lot of fellowship, Maureen said.

Membership in the Coast Guard Auxiliary is open to all ages 17 and over who have good vision, hearing and mobility. Anyone who joins must pass a background check.

### Other news:

- Jim Leonard announced he has new great-grandson – James Leonard O'Connor. Susan Vergeront, too, is a grandmother to newly born Henry James Vergeront.

- The Super Raffle is planned for March and tickets will soon be on sale. This is a chance to win and give back to the community.

- The fundraising committee members will be talking to us about Every Rotarian Every Year and efforts to eradicate polio, Phil Willems said.

- President John Cullen said Chuck Hanson, District Governor, announced that Rotary has met the \$200 million challenge grant, with a total of \$200.6 million raised in January. The Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation will provide another \$50 million.

### OFFICERS

JOHN CULLEN, PRESIDENT • SHELLEY MOFFATT, PRESIDENT ELECT  
PHIL WILLEMS, CLUB SECRETARY  
BOB PULVERMACHER, RECORDING SECRETARY • JOY MCMERTY, TREASURER

### DIRECTORS

ELLEN SCHAAF • LINDA OLSON • SEAN WAYNE • GORDON MEFFERT

- John also recognized Duke and Dave Raemisch for their donation of a box trailer to store the Waunakee Rotary Lights

Guests: Duke and Dave Raemisch, guests of the club; Kelly and Cole Cefalu, guest of Kathy Cefalu.

Visiting Rotarians: Dean Dickson.

Birthdays: Jan. 26, Jim Meyer; Jan. 26, Mark McFarland; Jan. 27, Pat Durden; Jan. 29, Gary Epping.

Anniversaries: None.

Prayers: Jan. 26, Pat Durden; Feb. 2, Leonard Allen; Feb. 9, Susan Vergeront.

Programs: Jan. 26, Paul Vilwock, classification talk; Feb. 2, Club Assembly; Feb. 9, Kim Schaeffer (CEO of Great Wolf Resorts); Feb. 16, Katie Gruber, Teen Challenge (recovery program for young people); Feb. 23, Mark McFarland, classification talk.

Greeters: Jan. 26, Peggy Acker-Farber and Leonard Allen; Feb. 2, Robert Arntz and Kenneth Ballweg; Feb. 9, Roberta Baumann and Conrad Blau.

### Make up meetings online

It's easy to make up a meeting on the Internet. The site is [www.rotaryeclubone.org](http://www.rotaryeclubone.org). Print out the form and give it to Phil Willems, the club secretary.