



"The Downtowner"



KIWANIS CLUB OF ROCHESTER

ROCHESTER, MN.

www.kiwanisroch.org

January 8, 2018 Coming Programs

January 11 – Olmsted County Drug Court
 January 18 A Sanctuary Church
 January 25 Students of the Month and 4-H Student Leaders
 February 1



The Circle of Service for January is Mary Tompkins, Linda Hull, Bonnie Schultz. Circle of Service for **February** is Clare Warren, Dan Carlson, and Scott Oesterle (Circles

should send Clare their programs as soon as possible so they can to have them included in the Downtowner.)

Stay alert for signup opportunities online at www.kiwanisroch.org

Expense Report:

The only activity this period is the continued exp. in paying the Hotel for our space and meals. The income taken at the door covers the meals, but the room and gratuity come out of the treasury.



Dec 21 Tracy
Visited our group for the second time. She is the daughter of good friends of the Jorgensen's. The parents were with Tracy, Merle Thompson and wife

Jane. Dee Dee Jorgenson, Austin's wife, rounded out the group.

Tracy is back in the States. She married a Muslim man a bunch of years ago and has lived most of her adult life in Middle Eastern Muslim countries. She and husband have 4 sons. Tracy described her life; a Christian married to a Muslim. She reviewed the 5 pillars of Islam:

1. Faith
2. Prayer 5 X a day
3. Charity
4. Fasting
5. Pilgrimage to Mecca at least once during life.

Women are expected to do 'home care'. Men get the education. Tracy says she always wears her hijab in public. The hair must be covered. This is for anonymity. Covering of the face is not a religious thing, but 'cultural.'

A percentage of the wealth is expected to be given each year. 1/3 to poor, 1/3 to you, 1/3 to ??

The once in a lifetime visit to Mecca is becoming more social than religious.

We look forward to future visits by Tracy for more description on raising her family in a different country and religion.

Very Interesting!



Jen Gaul, Key Club Advisor at Mayo, brought three of her club members including Alhem Asmon, current president. She gave a very brief report on

their activity this year. She says they often have about 100 members and all are involved in many community events in varying degrees. (Running Lungs event, Christmas Anonymous, and helping at some of our Kiwanis events like Pancake Breakfast) Always good to have Key Club visits.



Bill Kalmes gave us a preliminary report on the Hockey Tournament this year. Indications are that it was a 'success'. They don't

have any final report ready, but Bill felt that club member participation was what could be expected, attendance was good, and we had a Rochester team win the tournament. That meant very good attendance the last night.

We sure want to express our thanks to Bill and his team. They spend the entire year with the details needed to put on this kind of event. Bill thinks that the clubs should each come away with about the same as last year. Kudos Bill!



Kit Muellner

Kit was another return program. She was here 10 years or so back. As in the past, Kit arrived with her dog to help illustrate how she

uses animals in her social work approach. She had a PowerPoint show to help us see the extent she uses horses, dogs and cats to develop 'trust' in the animal and her patients. They have an extensive program set up on 8 acres west of the city.

If you have a need or know someone who might benefit, go to her website www.hoperanchteam.com Hope Ranch They have many events open to the public during the year.

Now we get to what we all look for in the Downtowner.....



Checking out at the store, the young cashier suggested to the much older lady that she should bring her own grocery bags, because plastic bags are not good for the environment.

The woman apologized to the young girl and explained, "We didn't have this 'green thing' back in my earlier days."

The young clerk responded, "That's our problem today. Your generation did not care enough to save our environment for future generations."

The older lady said that she was right -- our generation didn't have the "green thing" in its day.

The older lady went on to explain: Back then, we returned milk bottles, soda bottles and beer bottles to the store. The store sent them back to the plant to be washed and sterilized and refilled, so it could use the same bottles over and over. So they really were recycled. But we didn't have the "green thing" back in our day.

Grocery stores bagged our groceries in brown paper bags that we reused for numerous things. Most memorable besides household garbage bags was the use of brown paper bags as book covers for our school books. This was to ensure that public property (the books provided for our use by the school) was not defaced by our scribbles. Then we were able to personalize our books on the brown paper bags. But, too bad we didn't do the "green thing" back then.

We walked up stairs because we didn't have an elevator, much less an escalator in every store and office building. We walked to the grocery store and didn't climb into a 300-horsepower machine every time we had to go two blocks.

But she was right. We didn't have the "green thing" in our day.

Back then we washed the baby's diapers because we didn't have the throw away kind. We dried clothes on a line, not in an energy-gobbling machine burning up 220 volts. Wind and solar power really did dry our clothes back in our early days. Kids got hand-me-down clothes from their brothers or sisters, not always brand-new things.

But that young lady was right; we didn't have the "green thing" back in our day.

Back then we had one TV, or radio, in the house -- not a TV in every room. And the TV had a small screen the size of a handkerchief (remember them?), not a screen the size of the state of Montana. In the kitchen we blended and stirred by hand because we didn't have electric machines to

do everything for us. When we packaged a fragile item to send in the mail, we used wadded up old newspapers to cushion it, not Styrofoam peanuts, or plastic bubble wrap.

Back then, we didn't fire up an engine and burn gasoline just to cut the lawn. We used a push mower that ran on human power. We exercised by working so we didn't need to go to a health club to run on treadmills that operate on electricity.

But she's right; we didn't have the "green thing" back then.

We drank from a fountain when we were thirsty instead of using a cup or a plastic bottle every time we had a drink of water. We refilled writing pens with ink instead of buying a new pen, and we replaced the razor blade in a razor instead of throwing away the whole razor just because the blade got dull.

But we didn't have the "green thing" back then.

Back then, people took the streetcar or a bus and kids rode their bikes to school or walked instead of turning their moms into a 24-hour taxi service in the family's \$45,000 SUV or van, which cost what a whole house did before the "green thing."

We had one electrical outlet in a room, not an entire bank of sockets to power a dozen appliances. And we didn't need a computerized gadget to receive a signal beamed from satellites 23,000 miles out in space in order to find the nearest burger joint.

But isn't it sad the current generation laments how wasteful we old folks were just because we didn't have the "green thing" back then?

Please forward this on to another selfish old person who needs a lesson in conservation from a smart a-- young person.

We don't like being old in the first place, so it doesn't take much to p-- us off... especially from tattooed, multiple pierced smart---es who can't make change without the cash register telling them how much.

