



"The Downtowner"

KIWANIS CLUB OF ROCHESTER, Rochester, MN

www.kiwanisroch.org

June 15, 2019 Coming Programs

June 20 (Roger K.)

June 27 Club Fundraising. May substitute with something else. (Bill K.)

July 11 Fred Krebsbach on Viet Nam (C. Graham)

July 18 (Irv Nehring) Kristin Mannix interim director of Rochester's Elder Network

July 25 (Paul Austinson)



Circle for June is Roger, Bill and Dan. Circles should send Clare their programs as quickly as possible so they can be included in the **Downtowner**.) It helps if one person reports for the entire circle. The Circle for July is: Charlie Graham, Irv Nehring, Paul Austinson.

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

Significant Expenses since last issue:
Contribution of \$300 to Bolder Options.

Good News! We have received word that the Pancake Breakfast next year can be held at the VFW.



Sometimes you just don't know who is coming to lunch! This week we were pleased to have 6 Mayo Key Club members. They were a welcome addition and were able to hear and participate with the program presenter, Mr. Tang. K-C is always welcome. (It would be helpful if you would contact Mr. Lun, the liaison, so we'd be sure to have places for you and food to eat.)



Mr. Tang is a teacher and coach at JM High School. His talk was autobiographical. He is a native of Viet Nam and really 'buff' at the tender age of 50. He was brought to USA at the age of 10. He

doesn't know why they were dropped in Rochester, but here they are. He says his father was an interpreter at the US embassy. The family was 'poor' and had been all their lives. (Cont'd on Page 3)

ACTIVE MEMBERS

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23 Active members as of August 10, 2018

- *Senior Member **Privileged Member ***Honorary Member
- **** Senior & Long Term Perfect Attendance
- *****Life Member

The preceding list reflects the official roster of active members according to Kiwanis International. If a name is missing or one is present that should not be, please let C. Warren know.

PRIVILEGED & HONORARY MEMBERS

| | |
|-------------------|--------------|
| ***Peggy Anderson | 288-3985 |
| ***Jim Bouquet | 651-560-4292 |
| ***Bob Fiss | 288-7480 |

The Kiwanis Club of Rochester meets every Thursday at the Meeting Room in the Hilton Hotel adjoining the Saints on Second Restaurant. Parking is free at rear of hotel & under the structure. Meetings last about one hour. Lunch is a buffet including an entree, fruit, salad, and drink for (\$13.50)

Newsletter Changes

Remember to call Clare Warren at 254-2087 if you have anything you feel is newsworthy. We are trying to get the newsletter out every other week. It can be effective if you feed in the right information. Feel free to contribute something for publication!

Be sure to read the roster once in awhile and report any errors to C. Warren

Why not! If you have a computer, why not try to receive the Kiwanis Newsletter via e-mail. It is a quick and easy way for us to get the letter to you on time. We now have 21 ACTIVE members receiving it regularly. They enjoy the ability to get it in COLOR.

at www.kiwanisroch.org 2018-19

Mary Tompkins
Linda Hull

Co- Presidents



David Nelsen
Roger Krsnak
Austin Jorgenson
Clare Warren
Austin Jorgenson

Immed. Past Co-Presidents

Co-Vice President
Treasurer
Secretary

Committees

Club Rep to District Dan Carlson

Membership, Growth & Education

Roger Krsnak, Charlie Graham, Del Lawson, Paul Austinson

Public Relations Mary Tompkins, Colleen Maddox, Ron Ilvedson, Al Lun

Community Services

Dan Moore, Austin Jorgenson, Bonnie Schultz, Bill Kalmes, Bob McClocklin

Youth Service & YCPO

Chair, Dick Weltzin,
Mary Tompkins, Don Borcherding,

Programs

Circles of Service

Human and Spiritual Values

Colleen Maddox, Dan Carlson

Finance Irv Nehring, Chair., Clare Warren, Bill Kalmes, Linda Hull

Donations/Charities Dave Nelsen, Chair, Scott Oesterle

District & International web sites:

www.kiwanis.org

WWW.MNDAK.ORG

Kiwanis is a global organization of volunteers dedicated to improving the world one child and one community at a time.

(Cont'd from Page 1)

The family was transported to some far eastern Pacific Islands to begin the immigration process. They have now been in the US about 40 years. His father worked 3 jobs in Rochester to support the family. He worked at Pace Dairy, Red Owl and Crenlo. He made it sound like the father worked all three places, at once, but we can use our imagination. (Who remembers the Red Owl?) The father always taught the kids to be 'humble' and 'never take things for granted.' That is to what Tang attributes his drive to succeed. He was a very effective speaker and with the 6 members from the Key Club, it was especially valuable. Four of the 6 members were persons of non- U.S. origin at some point in their lives. They offered some insight to the diversity problems that are here even in Scandinavian heaven.

Let's all try to be better persons toward everyone else in this world.



Jim Bier

Is a current chairman of Olmsted County Commission? Jim was first elected in 2002. His style of presentation was good for our club. He took about 10 minutes outlining what he

oversees in his position and then opened up for Q&A. That took the rest of the hour. Jim says some of their primary duties are: Overseeing the jail system, the Sheriff's Dept., takes care of the 'Waste to Energy' program, "Welfare Administrator for the county. There are more duties, but these were the biggies.

He stressed that there are no property tax dollars in the Waste to Energy system. Fees come from the collection of garbage and the selling of steam for A/C and heating to many downtown businesses.

Comments on Seneca property; the County will close at the end of June on the purchase of the old Seneca plant and a lot of the attached property. I'm not clear on the amount of the property, but it was interesting to hear Jim say that one of his dreams for some of that property would be to have a massive parking area with a continuously running shuttle service to downtown. We'll see....

It was a good program for all of us to hear.



(NOT HUMOROUS, HUMAN BEINGS)

GOD to ST. FRANCIS:

Frank , You know all about gardens and nature. What in the world is going on down there on the planet? What happened to the dandelions, violets, m milkweeds and stuff I started eons ago? I had a perfect no-maintenance garden plan. Those plants grow in any type of soil, withstand drought and multiply with abandon. The nectar from the long-lasting blossoms attracts butterflies, honey bees and flocks of songbirds. I expected to see a vast garden of colors by now. But, all I see are these green rectangles.

St. FRANCIS:

It's the tribes that settled there, Lord. The Suburbanites.

They started calling your flowers 'weeds' and went to great lengths to kill them and replace them with grass.

GOD:

Grass? But, it's so boring. It's not colorful. It doesn't attract butterflies, birds and bees; only grubs and sod worms. It's sensitive to temperatures. Do these Suburbanites really want all that grass growing there?

ST. FRANCIS:

Apparently so, Lord. They go to great pains to grow it and keep it green. They begin each spring by fertilizing grass and poisoning any other plant that crops up in the lawn.

GOD:

The spring rains and warm weather probably make grass grow really fast. That must make the Suburbanites happy.

ST. FRANCIS:

Apparently not, Lord. As soon as it grows a little, they cut it-sometimes twice a week.

GOD:

They cut it? Do they then bale it like hay?

ST. FRANCIS:

Not exactly, Lord. Most of them rake it up and put it in bags.

GOD:

They bag it? Why? Is it a cash crop? Do they sell it?

ST. FRANCIS:

No, Sir, just the opposite. They pay to throw it away.

GOD:

Now, let me get this straight. They fertilize grass so it will grow. And, when it does grow, they cut it off and pay to throw it away?

ST. FRANCIS:

Yes, Sir.

GOD:

These Suburbanites must be relieved in the summer when we cut back on the rain and turn up the heat. That surely slows the growth and saves them a lot of work.

ST. FRANCIS:

You aren't going to believe this, Lord. When the grass stops growing so fast, they drag out hoses and pay more money to water it, so they can continue to mow it and pay to get rid of it.

GOD:

What nonsense. At least they kept some of the trees. That was a sheer stroke of genius, if I do say so myself. The trees grow leaves in the spring to provide beauty and shade in the summer. In the autumn, they fall to the ground and form a natural blanket to keep moisture in the soil and protect the trees and bushes. It's a natural cycle of life.

ST. FRANCIS:

You better sit down, Lord. The Suburbanites have drawn a new circle. As soon as the leaves fall, they rake them into great piles and pay to have them hauled away.

GOD:

No!? What do they do to protect the shrub and tree roots in the winter to keep the soil moist and loose?

ST. FRANCIS:

After throwing away the leaves, they go out and buy something which they call mulch. They haul it home and spread it around in place of the leaves.

GOD:

And where do they get this mulch?

ST. FRANCIS:

They cut down trees and grind them up to make the mulch.

GOD:

Enough! I don't want to think about this anymore. St. Catherine, you're in charge of the arts. What movie have you scheduled for us tonight?

ST. CATHERINE:

'Dumb and Dumber', Lord. It's a story about....

GOD:

Never mind, I think I just heard the whole story from St. Francis.

