

TIDINGS



WELCOME TO THE RIVER FALLS ROTARY CLUB

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The ROTARY Four-way Test

- Is it the truth?
- Is it fair to all concerned?
- Will it build goodwill and better friendships?
- Will it be beneficial to all concerned?

River Falls Rotary Vision Statement:

*“Enhancing Opportunities for
Youth; Creating a Better World
for All.”*

MEETING REPORT

President Heather Logelin called the meeting to order. Steve Leitch shared a devotion, after which Heather led the pledge, 4-way test and club mission statement.

GUESTS:

Ana Novoa, Exchange Student
Jessica Schmitt, Victory and Valor for Vets

ANNOUNCEMENTS:

ROTARY READERS: Kari announced that volunteers are still needed for our reading “buddy” program at Westside Elementary. Spouses and/or friends are also welcome!

EDUCATION FOUNDATION EVENT: Elaine invited everyone to the River Falls Education Foundation’s “Wine and Appetizers” fundraiser at Belle Vinez from 6-8pm on Thurs, 10/5.

INTERNATIONAL OPPORTUNITY:

John Kremer is planning a trip next January or February to explore several international project opportunities. He’d especially like to engage a younger (40- or 50-something) member in this trip!

AAUW BOOK SALE: Cheryl reminded everyone that the AAUW is collecting books for their annual book sale. Bins are in Dick’s Market and Family Fresh. Proceeds of the sale support fellowships & scholarships.

STRIVE: The first STRIVE meeting is tomorrow at the High School.

JUMP START: Jump Start for Literacy’s monthly event is at 6 tonight at the library.

FALCON CENTER: Dean invited all to the Falcon Center Open House from 1-7pm next Thurs, 9/21.

CLINIC OPEN HOUSE: Heather invited all to the Allina Health River Falls Clinic grand opening from 10-1 next Sat, 9/23.

BOARD MEETING: The board meets this Thursday at 7am at Ezekiel. All are welcome!

ONE ROTARY SUMMIT: Rotary District 5960 is hosting a “One Rotary Summit” at three different locations this year.

<https://portal.clubrunner.ca/50121/Page/one-rotary-summit-2017>

HAPPY BUCKS: JW collected Happy Bucks for Bacon Bash, guests, missed meetings, general happiness and:

- JW appreciated those who mentor, noting that a 20-year mentor of his did a workshop for his staff last week;
- Marti spent a weekend on the Namekagon enjoying the fall colors;
- Tony P. appreciated those who stepped in to help during crises moments at Prairie Burn;
- Rick thanked all who volunteered at Prairie Burn, noting that we went through nearly all of our supplies;
- Jill enjoyed a weekend up north with her four sisters;
- Terry’s granddaughter chided her that “you can’t wear white after Wabor Day,” and “you wook kind of wike an angel, but you’re not!”
- Linda thanked the “food Gods,” who were looking down on us when the food inspector arrived just after the heat lamps stopped working;
- Rick W. and his wife enjoyed their 50th high school reunion – they graduated together, so have the same reunions!
- Randy enjoyed a trip down the Upper Kinni;
- Steve will miss the open house events this week, but suggested we consider having future club meetings at the Falcon Center and/or the new clinic;
- Thomas shared that Andrea had her baby, a 9 pound girl named Ava;
- Elaine hosted her niece and three little girls for the weekend;
- Gordon was happy for “the return of Prairie Burn;”
- Heather appreciated all who worked at Prairie Burn, especially those who worked multiple shifts and/or brought family with to help out.



Steve Engelhart, Rick Heuertz, John Kremer, and Heather Logelin recently helped the Youth Leadership River Falls group plant four fruit trees – kicking off work on our goal of 56 trees by April 22, 2018!

Rotary is an organization of business and professional men and women united worldwide who provide **humanitarian** service, encourage **high ethical standards** in all vocations, and help **build goodwill and peace** in the world."

Rotary



www.rotary5960.org – check out the great things in our district!

JESSICA SCHMITT: VICTORY AND VALOR FOR VETS

Jessica Schmitt and her husband, Derrick, grew up in River Falls and were high school sweethearts, married right out of high school. He joined the National Guard with an understanding that they wanted to stay here in River Falls. He ended up in active duty, eventually the first from Minnesota trained as a member of the Elite Air Force Special Forces Phoenix Raven. He was deployed on numerous lengthy and dangerous missions; many times, his family did not know what he was doing or where he was.

Derrick's many service-related exposures and injuries left him severely disabled after retirement after more than 22 years in the Air Force; he passed away in March of 2015. Unfortunately, because he was not medically discharged, he was unable to take advantage of many of the financial and support benefits to which he was entitled.

Jessica founded Victory and Valor for Vets to honor her husband's memory and fulfill his dream that more assistance could be provided to veterans, service members and military families. Jessica believes that Derrick's experience was not unusual, and that the military routinely fails to provide veterans with the support they need after leaving the service with service-related disabilities. As an example, Jessica noted that it can take two or more years for veterans to get approved for benefits through the V.A. Many veterans end up being approved for Social Security Disability benefits prior to being approved for veteran's benefits.

Jessica ended up taking an unpaid one year leave of absence to care for Derrick. They were living on Derrick's very small pension and would have lost everything had she not been successful securing other grants. Applying for the grants was a complex process, and Jessica remembered Derrick lamenting that many veterans "don't have a Jess" and would never be able to navigate the process to secure the support.

More than 22 veterans commit suicide each day, and Jessica believes that this is largely due to veterans like Derrick who end up feeling completely hopeless and unsupported. It was Derrick's dream that they would work together to do something to make things better for disabled veterans, and Victory and Valor for Vets is Jessica's way to fulfill Derrick's dream. She incorporated the organization in October of 2016 and was granted a 501c3 determination in February of this year. She is raising funds in a variety of ways, including individual fundraising, grantwriting and merchandise sales. On October 27, 2017 they are having a spaghetti dinner fundraiser at the American Legion; they are also planning a fundraising event at Cheers Pablo in November.

Jessica believes that one of her greatest strengths is the connections she has with other resources in the region. Her experience as a caregiver makes her uniquely able to work with families and help them find the resources they need.

Learn more about Victory and Valor for Vets at www.vvfv.org.



Jessica Schmitt, Victory and Valor for Vets,
and Heather Logelin, River Falls Rotary Club



PROGRAM SCHEDULE

SEPTEMBER

- Sept 5** Linda Robertson & Margaret Christenson, Guatemala Stove Project
- Sept 12** Club Assembly
- Sept 19** Jessica Schmitt, Victory and Valor for Vets
- Sept 26** Steve Engelhart, Classification Talk

OCTOBER

- Oct 3** Ana Novoa, 2017-2018 Inbound Student from Spain
- Oct 10** Ed Robins, PhD, Volunteer work in Belize
- Oct 17** Hossein Najafi, PhD, Data Science AKA "Big Data"
- Oct 24** World Polio Day!
- Oct 31** Marcus Califf, 2016-2017 Outbound Student to Italy

Have a Program idea? Talk to Heather or Chris to schedule it!

DEVOTIONS, SET-UP AND TAKE-DOWN

Set Up / Take Down	
Sept 5	McQuade & Wilson
Sept 12	Baumann & Fredrickson / Baumann & TBD
Sept 19	Heuertz & Van Galen
Sept 26	Jilek & Borchardt
Oct 3	Morrisette & Pedersen / Montgomery & Hedahl
Oct 10	Thoennes & Wilson / Pedriana & Wilson
Oct 17	Kremer & Maplethorpe / Kremer & Moe
Oct 24	Yde & Moe / TBD
Oct 31	Cudd & TBD / Leitch & TBD

DEVOTIONS AUG-OCT	
Aug	1 Rick Heuertz
	8 Rita Humbert
	15 Tony Jilek
	22 Jeff Johnson
	29 Dale Jorgenson
Sept	5 John Kremer
	12 Brian Laule
	19 Steve Leitch
	26 Heather Logelin
Oct	3 Cheryl Maplethorpe
	10 Ted Marsh
	17 JW Matheson
	24 Terry McKay
	31 Brian McQuade

NOTE: If you are unable to attend, please make arrangements to have these responsibilities covered. Ideally you would find someone to trade with. *If you make a trade, please let the Tidings editor know.*

Rotary
District 5960



OFFICERS

- President: Heather Logelin
- President Elect & Secretary: Rick Wilson
- President Elect Nominee: Chris Blasius
- Past President: Brian McQuade
- Treasurer: Jason Fredrickson
- Executive Secretary: Jill Bakalich

COMMITTEE CHAIRS

- Finance: Rick Wilson
- Administration: Chris Blasius
- Membership: Terry McKay
- Public Relations: Linda Yde
- Club Service: Rick Heuertz
- Foundation: John Kremer

OTHER CONTACTS

- Youth Exchange: Elaine Baumann
- Youth Protection: Linda Yde
- Sergeant at Arms: JW Matheson
- Newsletter: Heather Logelin

PAST PRESIDENTS

- 1999: Tom Bloom
- 2000: Gorden Hedahl
- 2001: David Brassfield
- 2002: Randy Cudd
- 2003: Bill Montgomery
- 2004: Tom Palmer
- 2005: Connie Foster
- 2006: Steve Schroeder
- 2007: Carrie Fisher
- 2008: Kevin Pechacek
- 2009: Diane Odeen
- 2010: Tom Garfin
- 2011: Carole Mottaz
- 2012: Dale Jorgenson
- 2013: Elaine Baumann
- 2014: Scott Morrisette
- 2015: Rosanne Bump
- 2016: Briand McQuade

ROTARIAN OF THE YEAR

- 2003: Tom Bloom
- 2005: Tom Garfin
- 2006: Dale Jorgenson, Jerry Tack & Kevin Pechacek
- 2007: John Kremer
- 2008 & 2009: Carole Mottaz
- 2010: Debbie Griffin
- 2011: Gorden Hedahl
- 2012: Pat O'Malley
- 2013: Bill Montgomery
- 2014: Vince Seidling
- 2015: Terry McKay
- 2016: Thomas Pedersen
- 2017: Elaine Baumann

Last	First	Work	Home	Email	Classification
Agrimson	Josh	425-6732	425-2172	agri0003@umn.edu	Dentist
Baumann*	Elaine	425-1835	425-5727	elaine.baumann1@gmail.com	High School Administration Retired
Benson	Jamie	425-1800	715-307-4869	jamie.benson@rfsd.k12.wi.us	School Administration
Blasius	Chris	425-2533	426-2053	chris@rfchamber.com	Chamber Executive
Bluhm*	Samantha	651-470-3252	425-0003	samanthabluhm@icloud.com	Writer/Life Coach
Boles*^	Joe	425-7281	425-6540	josephdboles@gmail.com	Judge
Borchardt	Traci	715-245-6877		tborchardt@proactinc.org	Job Developer
Cicchese	Larry	425-6179	425 6179	larrycicchese@baumanpcpa.com	Accountant
Cudd*	Randy	715-377-4747	425-9102	Randy@randycudd.com	Real Estate-Sales
Engelhart	Steve	426-1039	651-363-1444	sengelhart@rivertowns.net	Advertising
Fredrickson*	Jason	426-2090	715-550-7673	jason.l.fredrickson@gmail.com	Accountant
Hedahl*+	Gorden	715-821-0614	426-6082	ghedahl@comcast.net	Higher Ed Fine Arts Retired
Heuertz	Rick	Retired	715-629-7157	rheuertz@comcast.net	Retired
Humbert	Rita	425-1815	651-346-1946	rita.humbert@rfsd.k12.wi.us	Elementary Ed Administration
Jilek	Tony	Retired	425-8923	ajilek@comcast.net	Higher Ed Ag Sciences
Johnson*	Jeff	426-3177	425-1444	jjohnson@fnbrf.com	Banking
Jorgenson*	Dale	Retired	425-2786	rvtlnd@yahoo.com	Laser Marking Retired
Kremer*	John	612-590-9540	381-9799	john@kremerservices.com	Automotive Dealer Retired
Krentz	Jill	612-817-6342	715-273-4029	jillpk@hiddenpine.com	Photographer
Laule	Brian	800-607-3030		brian@byeoff.com	Attorney
Leitch*	Steve	425-0159	425-8044	steve@leitichinsurance.com	Insurance Sales
Logelin*	Heather	715-307-6001	381-2788	heather.logelin@allina.com	Community Health & Philanthropy
Maplethorpe	Cheryl		715-307-8036	cheryl.kav.maplethorpe@gmail.com	Higher Education - Retired
Marsh	Ted	425-6309	651-442-8982	inhispresents@hotmail.com	Clergy
Matheson*	J.W.	715-386-1155	952-807-6877	jwmatheson@catalvstsportsmedicine.com	Sports Medicine
McKay*	Terry	651-210-5669	425-1109	terry@terrymckay.com	Real Estate Sales
McQuade*	Brian	715-307-7879	715-386-4454	bjmquade@gmail.com	Financial Advisor
Miller	Greg			gmliller@vibranthealthclinics.com	Medicine
Moe	Paul	425-8294	715-441-2382	paulandlorimoe@gmail.com	Business Administration
Montgomery*+	Bill	Retired	425-5426	wml3@pressenter.com	Clergy
Mottaz	Carole	Retired	425-7903	mottaz@pressenter.com	Higher Education
Morrisette*	Scott	715-246-8162	715-307-2335	smorrisette@msn.com	Banking-Commercial
Nelson	Scott	426-3534	952-797-3753	snelson@rfcity.org	Fire Chief
Neuhaus*	Max	425-7281	715-410-7296	max@rodlibeskar.com	Attorney
Nylander*+	Virgil		425-6277	nylandervirgil@comcast.net	Higher Ed Administration Retired
O'Malley	Pat	425-9882	425-9882	info@kilkarnevhills.net	Aviation Retired
Odeen*	Diane	612-309-6731	426-5325	dodeen@gmail.com	Attorney at Law
Owens	Bob	715-245-0028	426-9291	bobowens.rf.wi@gmail.com	Computer Consulting
Owens	Kari			kari.owens@rfsd.k12.wi.us	K-12 Education
Page	Alison	715-684-1100	612-810-3918	alison.page@wwhealth.org	Healthcare Administration
Pechacek*^	Kevin	425-8100	426-2036	kevin@thewestwind.com	Restaurateur
Pedersen	Thomas	425-4555	920-203-0776	thomaspedersen26@hotmail.com	Higher Ed-Student Services
Pedriana*	Tony	Retired	715-220-2942	anaped44@sbcglobal.net	School Administration Retired
Piegras*	Marti	425-6177	425-2077	marti@steroixgas.com	Utilities Management
Ross* ^	Dan	425-9011	425-9061	dross@rosscm.com	Construction-Manager
Russell	Matt	426-3115	425-9293	mrussell2112@msn.com	Banker
Schroeder*	Steve	612-817-6626	425-1704	icasws@comcast.net	Insurance/Finance
Simpson	Scot	426-3402	629-7350	ssimpson@rfcity.org	Public Administration
Thoennes	Karla	425-4666	701-799-0473	karla.thoennes@uwrf.edu	Higher Ed Residence Life
Thompson	Mike	715-529-1910	425-8897	thompsonmd61@gmail.com	Sales
Van Galen	Dean	425-3201		dean.vangalen@uwrf.edu	Higher Ed Administration
Wilson	Rick		715-629-7723	rwilson231@aol.com	Materials Engineer
Wulf*	Wayne	866-559-1800	426-1800	Wayne.S.Wulf@ampf.com	Financial Services
Yde	Linda	Retired	425-0080	lmjde@dishup.us	Health Care Administration
Young	Gordie	425-0909		gordie2000us@yahoo.com	Law Enforcement
Young*	Jodie	425-8788	386-2402	info@bakken-young.com	Funeral Director
Zimmerman	Shannon	426-9505	651-492-3336	szimmerman@sajan.com	Language Translation

*Members indicated with an asterisk are Paul Harris Fellows at this time. PH Fellows have contributed more than \$1000 US to the Rotary Foundation.

+ Indicates members who are also Rotary Benefactors, leaving at least \$1000 to the Rotary Foundation in their wills.

^ Indicates members who do not attend weekly meetings but participate in other club projects and activities.