

Sherrill Rotary Club Meeting Notes

- 11/16/17, 7 am, Sherrill American Legion.
- Present: Bob DeWaine, Elise Hereth, Coach Bill McAlee, Dennis & Donna Schonewetter, Clark & Merry Speicher, Scott Swayze, and Jennifer Wengert. Guests: DG Phyllis Danks (Marcellus); Elizabeth Kaido, Zoe Greene, & Maria Evans (VVS Students of the Month), and eight family members supporting them.
- Vice President Merry Speicher presided, let the pledge, and gave the invocation.
- Our newest Rotarian, Jennifer Wengert, was formally inducted into the Sherrill Rotary Club by Elise Hereth & Donna Schonewetter, assisted by DG Phyllis Danks.



Figure 1 -- Jennifer, Donna (behind Elise), Elise, and Phyllis

- DG Phyllis made a few remarks about the importance of new members and how much they contribute to the health of a Rotary club. She also provided other more general information about our District and RI. It was great that DG Phyllis made the time to join us tonight as we celebrate our new member and the VVS Students of the month!
- YEO & PE Elise reported that the VVS HS Senior seeking to be an outbound Youth Exchange Student was interviewed by the District YE Committee last weekend. Should he be accepted into the program, this will cause the SRC to accept an inbound exchange student. So... be on the look-out for suitable host families to provide room & board for about three months during the 2018-19 school year.



Figure 2 -- VP Merry & DG Phyllis

Sherrill Rotary Club Officers 2017-18

President:
Martha Group
President Elect:
Elise Hereth
Vice President:
Merry Speicher
Vice President Elect
TBD
Immediate Past President:
Donna Schonewetter
Foundation Chair:
Clark Speicher
Membership Chair:
TBD
Program Chair:
Scott Swayze
Secretary:
Dennis Schonewetter
Sergeant-at-Arms:
Kim Frarey
Treasurer:
Bob DeWaine
Youth Exchange Officer:
Elise Hereth

District 7150 Volunteers

Elise Hereth: Youth Exchange Cmte
Dennis Schonewetter: PDG, Trainer, Parliamentarian, Interact Chair, Conference and TRF Gala Committees
Donna Schonewetter: Conference and TRF Gala Committees
Clark Speicher: Area 3 Assistant Governor, Conference Cmte



- Elise also reminded us that the time to identify summer exchange students is now. Please let her know if you know of a student who is interested in being a summer exchange student.
- The VVS Students of the Month from the high school and middle school gave their presentations. They told us about their current activities and their plans for the future. Their energy and enthusiasm were inspiring to witness.



Figure 3 -- Elizabeth Kaido, Zoe Greene, & Maria Evans

- Please be aware that the evening meeting on December 7, 2017 is to be the pinning night for the VVS Interact Club. Put this on your calendar and plan to attend to meet these up-and-coming Rotarians and leaders of their communities. Also, our 2017 RYLA Student, Skylar Watts, will be present to tell us about her RYLA experience and her proposed project. Finally, the 2017 Summer Exchange Student, Alex Berger, will tell us about her exchange experience.
- A list of service hours was circulated to have members check their hours for correctness. The list shows in excess of 760 hours since 7/1/17, and it is not even close to being complete. Good job Sherrill Rotary!
- There being no further business, Merry adjourned the meeting at about 7:15 pm.
- **There will be no meeting on 11/23/17... Happy Thanksgiving! The next regular club meeting will be held on Thursday, 11/30/17, at 6 pm, at the Nothin' Fancy Café.**



A One Page History of Rotary

In 1905, 37 year old attorney Paul Harris changed the world.

Paul Harris, who was raised by his New England grandparents with values of tolerance toward all, gained his law degree in 1891. In his senior year, a former graduate told his class that they should “Go to a small town for five years make a fool of themselves, then go to the big city!” Paul decided to hit the road for the entire world. He worked as a reporter for the San Francisco Chronicle, 1891; manual laborer on a fruit ranch, then raisin packing plant, teacher at the L.A. Business College in 1892. Denver, Colorado, 1892: Actor in a stock company, reporter for the Rocky Mountain News, cowboy, reporter for The Republican. Jacksonville, Florida: St. James Hotel night clerk, traveling

granite/marble salesman 1892/93, reporter on the Washington Star, cattleman on a ship 1893, haymaker and cannery worker 1893, sub-foreman of the gang of cattlemen 1893, (where he wrote that, on his first voyage, he experienced sub-human conditions); orange picker in Florida 1893, back to Jacksonville selling marble granite. His territory included the southern states, Cuba, the Bahamas and Europe. When he announced that he was going to Chicago to practice law his employer said, "Whatever the advantages of settling in Chicago may be, I am satisfied you will make more money if you remain with me." To the Paul replied: "I am sure you are right but I am not going to Chicago for the purpose of making money; I am going to the purpose of living a life."

In 1896, he did go to Chicago to practice law. One evening, in the early 1900's, Paul went with a professional friend to his suburban home. After dinner, as they strolled through the neighborhood, Paul's friend introduced him to tradesmen in their stores. This reminded Paul of his grandparent's home in New England. "Why not have a fellowship composed of businessmen from different occupations, without restrictions of politics or religion?" he thought.

On February 23, 1905, Paul Harris had dinner with his closest friend, Chicago coal dealer Silvester Schiele. Afterwards they walked up to Room 711 of the Unity Building where they met their host, Gustavus Loehr, a mining engineer; and another friend, Hiram Shorey, a merchant tailor. Harris proposed that they form a club. No name was chosen for the group. But they agreed to meet next at the offices of Silvester Schiele. The second meeting was March 9th. Three other men, Harry Ruggles, William Jenson, and A. L. White joined them. Ruggles was a printer, and created the "name badge" version of the Rotary "wheel" and also started singing in Rotary. In fact his singing kept the group from disbanding more than once. It was also decided that "rotating" the meetings made "Rotary" the most logical name. Two weeks later the group gathered at the office of Silvester Schiele, in his coal yard at Twelfth and State Streets. Six of the previous seven were present along with Charles Newton and Arthur B. Irwin.

Who was the first Rotary president? Silvester Schiele. When it came time for the meeting to be held at A. L. White's place of business (at Englewood), the location was "inconvenient" and thus was the first Rotary meeting in hotel. As with many new ventures, some new members didn't remain. Shorey and Loehr, half of the original four were not active after the first few meetings. When did weekly meetings begin? According to the general secretary in 1948, it was Oakland #3 in 1909.

Paul was very interested in starting Rotary in other cities. The second Rotary club was founded by Homer Wood in San Francisco in 1908. Wood then quickly organized Oakland #3, Seattle #4 and Los Angeles #5. The activity caused by San Francisco created the first major conflict within the Rotary Club of Chicago. Too much of the meeting time was being taken up with reports of "new clubs." Harris also had a vision of "Around the World Rotary" which was also opposed by many of his fellow Rotarians. It was not until he won the loyalty of the man who was to be Rotary's secretary from 1910 – 1942 that Rotary became organized and international. That man was Chesley Perry, whom Paul called the "Builder of Rotary."

By August 1910 there were sixteen clubs and the National Association of Rotary Clubs was organized and held its first convention that year, in Chicago. At the 1911 Portland Convention, “**Service, Not Self**” was introduced by Frank Collins of Minneapolis. It later became “**Service Above Self.**” The slogan “**He profits most who serves best,**” was also read there. It had been written by Arthur Sheldon and delivered by him at the first convention the previous year in Chicago. Both were approved by RI in 1950.

When clubs were formed in Canada and Great Britain in 1912, the name was changed to the International Association of Rotary Clubs, and was later shortened to Rotary International in 1922. Paul Harris was the first president of the National Association of Rotary Clubs, serving two terms. He was named President Emeritus of the International Association in 1912 and served until his death in 1947. Harris suffered a near fatal heart attack in his final year as president of the National Association and required a full year to recover. Yet, over the next 35 years, he and his wife Jean Thomson Harris made numerous exhausting trips to nearly every continent, visiting hundreds of cities, planting friendship trees and attending Rotary conferences.

As Rotary spanned the globe, branch offices were opened in Europe, South America, South Asia, and Southwest Pacific. In the UK, British Rotary had its own office. When Rotary International President Emeritus, world traveler, author and prominent Chicago attorney Paul Harris passed away on January 27, 1947, his dream had grown from one group of four to 6,000 clubs in 75 countries with 300,000 members brought together through the service and fellowship of Rotary

Two world wars changed the face of Rotary – parts of the Far East and Eastern Europe were closed to Rotary. Eventually, clubs were re-established in Japan, Germany, Poland and Hungary. In 1990 the first club was opened in the former Soviet Union and negotiations are currently underway to re-establish Rotary in China. In 1987, Rotary membership was opened to women, and in 1989 the RI Council on Legislation standardized all Rotary documents and rules.

There are over 35,000 Rotary clubs, in 200+ countries, whose members carry on club, vocational, community and international service. The Rotary Foundation of Rotary International annually spends more than \$105 million on international education and humanitarian programs, providing grants which save lives and improve conditions throughout the world. Rotary also sponsors international ambassadors of good will through educational awards to university students and teachers, and through international exchange of business and professional people. Today the Rotary Foundation scholarship program is the world’s largest privately funded international scholarship program. Approximately 1,100 scholarships are awarded annually. Rotarians have raised more than 438 million dollars for the PolioPlus program alone as well as provided thousands of volunteers to administer the vaccine around the world.



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