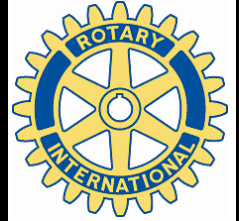




The Rotary Big Wheel

Anderson, Ind.

Nov. 14, 2006



Today's Program: State of Literacy in Indiana, Dr. Penny Gaither

Dr. Penny Gaither is with the Indiana Department of Education and has taught courses at Indiana University. She is currently an independent consultant, focusing on school reform and curriculum alignment.

Dr. Gaither appropriately began her program by reading a book to us, "Just like Heaven," by Patrick McDonnell.

She believes test scores are in the eyes of the beholder, and pointed out that third graders test the highest in ISTEP, followed by a steady decline.

However, she believes there is a gradual growth all over Indiana. In 2002, "No Child Left Behind" was implemented. The focus has been on K-3 education, with help from 70% of the federally allocated money. She believes this initiative was important, but states that the bigger problems are with grades 4-12.

Indiana isn't waiting on the federal government. The adolescent literacy plan is addressing grades 4-12. Dr. Gaither is a member of this task force.

Here's how the average citizen can help:

- Schools need community support now more than ever. Adopt a class.

- Read to kids as often as you can. With bigger classes teachers need more volunteers to read one-on-one with the students.

- Support classroom libraries. We have lost state allocations for this so you can help by donating new or used books.

- Problem solve with schools and teachers. Work on fixing the problems, don't just observe.

- Volunteer for career day so students can see how things relate to real life.

"We have concentrated so hard on teaching children how to read that we have forgotten to teach them to want to read."

~Jim Trelease

Dr. Gaither closed by stressing that we need more than test scores. "You don't fatten hogs by weighing them," she said. She believes the teaching profession needs to become more enticing. Women have historically been teachers, and now there are many more opportunities available.

For more information and statistics, visit www.doe.state.in.us. Click on asap.

Invocation, Pledge and 4-Way Test: Maurice Caldwell Rotary Moment No. 499, Turkey, Reading and Rotary: Bill Surbaugh

Ninety years ago, during World War I, British forces launched an amphibious attack at the Turkish Peninsula called Gallipoli (Gall-lip-o-lee). The attacking forces were largely Anzacs from New Zealand and Australia carrying out a plan devised by Winston Churchill, who was First Lord of the Admiralty. A general who became known as Kemil Ataturk led the defending Ottoman forces. The outcome was a disaster for the British and made a hero of Ataturk.

After the war, which didn't end for Turkey until 1922, a democracy was created and Ataturk was elected the first president. Those were difficult days for Turkey, and Ataturk became in some ways more a dictator than a democratic president. Ataturk decided that Turkey's future was with the west rather than with the Middle East. He felt that the use of Arabic

written characters was a hindrance to progress and that the use of the Roman alphabet was essential for progress in the modern world. He ordered the creation of an alphabet in which Arabic could be written. A few special letters were added to the Roman including an "S" with a "tail" to provide the sound that we would write as "S-H" as in "shoe."

His advisors proposed that the new way of writing be slowly introduced. Ataturk thought that would not work. People would cling to the old if they could. He ordered that at the end of six months, all publications be printed in the new alphabet and that all schools would only teach the new. This was incredible, considering that no teachers knew the new alphabet, and printers did not even have type of the alphabet from which to print. His orders were followed and, remarkably, the change was accomplished.

Hence, the modified Roman alphabet became the alphabet of modern Turkey. This was the fastest change of the tools of literacy ever attempted. Literacy is normally achieved one person at a time, not a nation at a time.

Then, Rotary did not exist in Turkey. Now, 80 years later, there are more than 175 Rotary clubs in the country. The Rotary Clubs of Istanbul and of Istanbul-Findikli (Fen-deek-lee), for example, are both engaged in large projects to increase literacy. These clubs have created what they call "firefly" classroom units that move from one poor area of Istanbul to another every few weeks. An additional Rotary project transfers books to electronic media for use of the blind. Rotarians serve to meet the literacy needs of modern day Turkey.

Bob Shoemaker -Nov. 14, 2006
Rotary Club of Anderson, Indiana

Rotary Guests

Vickie Rice, Faye Sloan and Twyla Terrill
Guests of Jan Miller

Students of the Month:
Abby Buck
Kevin Rhodes
Tony Bagienski

Make-ups

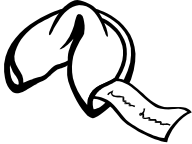
Ron Duncan
Syracuse-Wawasee

Upcoming programs

Half Century Award	Nov. 21
Middle East Carl Caldwell	Nov. 28
Policeman of the Year	Dec. 5

Good Fortune

Money is the root of all evil and man needs roots.



President Pam Coletti

2006-2007 Officers
President-Elect: David Porter
Secretary: Dana Donahue
Treasurer: John Kane

50/50 Raffle



Won by: Tammy Ihnat
Total collected: \$36

If you win, feel free to keep your winnings. There is no expectation that the winner should give back to the club. If you do wish to give back to either our club or Rotary International, you must write a check and give it to John Kane.

This is the only way to use it as a charitable gift tax deduction and the only way to give it to RI.

November is Foundation Month!

John Eddy is the chair of this campaign, and hopes to have at least \$100 per member, with 100% participation. Any contribution will count toward becoming a Paul Harris Fellow (when \$1000 is reached). Our donations go toward Polio Plus, voluntary service grants (for groups who go to foreign countries), and many other honorable causes.



Erich Ewald Nov. 1
Tonya Nichols Nov. 3
Charles Rittman Nov. 9
John Kane Nov. 12
Michael Montgomery Nov. 16
Nancy Taylor Nov. 20
Debbie Stapleton Nov. 24
Deanne Beard Nov. 24
Bobbette Snyder Nov. 27
Sarah Later Nov. 29

Announcements

If you have an announcement you'd like to have made during a Rotary meeting, kindly call President Pam at 631-0844 or e-mail your announcement to pamcoletti@aol.com by Monday evening preceding the Tuesday meeting.

- Please volunteer to ring bells for the Salvation Army. Our club has taken two days and we need to fill up all time slots. You may choose from Dec. 5 or 6, and we will be ringing at two locations—by Sears or MCL. Rob Loose is chairing this community outreach project.
- Congratulations to all Rotary Club members associated with the Athena Award. Pam Shoot and Mary Lee Ewald were nominees; Mary Jo Lee, Bobbette Snyder, Mary Starkey, Deb Stapleton and Nancy Taylor were all finalists; and Marlene Carey, Nancy Graham, Jill O'Malia and Lora Rich are past winners.
- Say "cheese!" George Vinson will be taking member pictures (everyone, not just new members) to update our Web site. Pictures will be taken before and after the meetings on Nov. 14, 21 and 28. No appointment is needed.

Student speeches

Kevin Rhodes

Kevin is a senior at Anderson High School. He has been a member of Interact for three years. Ranked 11th in his class, Kevin is vice president of National Honor Society and has played varsity soccer for four years. He plans to go to Ball State University to major in business. Kevin is currently an intern at Remy International in the purchasing department.

Tony Bagienski

Tony is a senior at Highland High School. He has been a member of Interact for three years, has played football for four years and is a member of National Honor Society. He plans to study engineering at IUPUI's Purdue College of Engineering.