



November 2010

Quote:

“Gratitude is the key that turns problems into blessings, and the unexpected into gifts.”



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A Message From Our President

Brisk winds and cooler temperatures help to remind us that summer is gone and fall is here. November is a time that our nation gives thanks and gratitude for all the families and communities that make up this great country. I am thankful for many common reasons; a good job, supportive family, and many good friends. I am most thankful for all of the lives that I have enriched by being a Rotarian. As Rotarians, we show our gratitude, fellowship and stewardship all year long by sharing with others who may be less fortunate and giving back to the communities where we live. Certainly, Decatur has had a higher proportion of unemployment than many other surrounding communities and difficult economic conditions have had a significant impact on many social service organizations in our town. Once again, the community showed where there heart is and contributed to the success of the Community Food Drive and many Rotarians were a part of this effort. We continue to give back through donations from our Rotary Club by giving or urging charitable support to Catholic Charities, Northeast Community Fund and the Judy Mason Thanksgiving Basket Project. And as we give thanks for all of the goodness awarded to us daily, let us not forget the Thanksgiving Day Luncheon hosted by the Greater Decatur Chamber of Commerce that will take place on November 23, 2010, which brings many people together to celebrate all of the many reasons we have to be thankful in our community.

In closing, often when I am reading I come across quotes that often make me think of my fellow Rotarians and our very special service club. I would like to share some of those quotes with you: *“ When we focus on abundance, our life feels abundant; when we focus on lack, our life feels lacking. It is purely a matter of focus....As you start looking for the good, your focus automatically is taken off the bad and you feel blessed! If can make noticing the abundance a habit, your life will be transformed!”*– **Susan Jeffers**, *Noticing the Abundance*

“Today I will practice gratitude. I will get in the habit of saying thank you, even for the “problems” in my life, because these challenges are valuable lessons I can learn from. Gratitude is the key that turns problems in to blessings and the unexpected in to gifts.” – **Melody Beattie**, *best selling author of The Language of Letting Go.*

So thank you fellow Rotarians for all you do to make our community a better place to live, work and play. I am grateful for all you do to show “Service Above Self.”

Yours In Rotary,
Diana Knaebe



Pamela Perlmutter, Sisters Outreach, Springfield, shares what their organization does to supply medical supplies to countries in need.

Rotary Basic: Benefits & Responsibilities of Club Membership

The club is the cornerstone of Rotary, where the most meaningful work is carried out. All effective Rotary Clubs are responsible for four key elements: sustaining or increasing their membership base, participating in service projects that benefit their own community and those in other countries, supporting The Rotary Foundation of RI financially and through program participation, and developing leaders capable of serving in Rotary beyond the club level.

What Rotarians get out of Rotary depends largely on what they put into it. Many membership requirements are designed to help members become and remain active participants in their clubs, and enjoy their Rotary experience.

Club/Member Announcements

There will be no meeting of the Decatur Rotary Club 180 on Monday, November 22, 2010.

Hope to see you at the 58th Annual Community Thanksgiving Luncheon on Tuesday, November 23, 2010 at 12pm.

- ◆ The 4th Annual [Tree of Lights](#) campaign to benefit Macon Resources' Bright Start Program is underway. The community is invited to buy symbolic lights for a price of \$10 or three for \$25.00. The lights can be purchased and given in memory or honor of family, friends and pets. To give a gift, please call 217.875.1910, ext. 880.
- ◆ The November Board of Directors meeting for Rotary Club #180 will be held on Thursday, November 18, 2010 at the Decatur Club beginning at 12:00p.m.
- ◆ The Community Thanksgiving Luncheon will be held on Tuesday, November 23rd at the Decatur Civic Center from 12:00pm- 1:00pm. The regular scheduled Rotary #180 meeting for Monday, November 22, 2010 will be canceled. The cost for the luncheon is \$20.00.
- ◆ Volunteers are needed to assist at the 58th Annual Community Thanksgiving Day luncheon . If you are interested in volunteering, please call the Chamber Office at 217.422.2200.
- ◆ Ameren Illinois will be awarding the City of Decatur with the "Most Progressive City" award in honor of the energy reduction measures taken by local businesses. The award will be presented on November 16, 2010.

October Teacher of the Month



Mary Miller serves as the musical specialist for Mary W. French Academy and Garfield Montessori in Decatur, teaching general music and choir. A well experienced singer musician and teacher, she has served on the Jr. Committee of the Cleveland Orchestra and was a biographical author for the book Fanfare: Portraits of the Cleveland Orchestra. She has been honored by WSOY as Teacher of the Month in September and was a 2010 inductee of Who's Who of the Ameren Women.

Mrs. Miller is married and has three daughters.



The newsletter committee would like to hear from you. Please send us your business or personal achievements and upcoming events to include in the November newsletter. We sincerely hope that you share the good news about yourself and your company by emailing us by Tuesday, October 26th.

Please send all news to Nicole Bateman (nbateman@llcu.org) or Stacey Young (syoung4@ameren.com).

Scholar Athletes

Name: Sydney Caldwell
 School: MacArthur High School
 Class: 17 years old/ Senior
 Class Rank: 1st GPA: 4.67
 * Softball Captain
 * 4 year letter winner
 * President-National Honor Society
 * National Achievement Semi-Finalist
 * Illinois Association of Teachers Chemistry Award
 Future Plans: Play softball at collegiate level and major in Biology at a major university.



Name: James Curtis
 School: MacArthur High School
 Class: 17 years old/ Senior
 Class Rank: 2nd GPA: 4.57
 * Soccer Player of the Year-2009
 * Varsity Soccer- 2009/2010
 * National Honor Society
 * German Club President
 * Scholastic Bowl
 Future Plans: attend John Hopkins University to major in Biology & then to Medical School.

November Rotary Programs

- 11/01: Kyle May, Spin City Motors
- 11/08: Terry Mason- Thanksgiving Basket Project
- 11/15: Dr. Sinha- Update on India Project
- 11/22: No Rotary Meeting
- 11/29: Jeff Hendricks- Decatur Area Convention & Visitors

November Do Good Dollars:
 Northeast Community Fund

November School of the Month:
 Enterprise Elementary School

Spotlight on Rotarians

- ◆ Congratulations to Delmar J. Sandage! Delmar has been elected President of the Dewitt County Habitat for Humanity Organization.
- ◆ Rotarian Wayne Allen will be starting a new endeavor as a sales representative for Wood Printing. Wayne has served as a realtor at Brinkoetter & Associates. His new business email address is wayne@woodprintingservice.com and his home email address is bwayneallen@att.net.

New Members



Lindsey Walters
Director of Advancement,
St. Teresa High School

"I joined the Rotary Club to be more involved in the community. After attending a couple of the meetings as a guest, I felt like it was a great group of people committed to the Decatur area. I grew up in Decatur and after moving away for several years, it is nice to be back in town getting involved again!"

November Birthdays

11/2: Jeff Hunt
11/4: Delmar Sandage
11/7: Paula Finn
11/7: Steve Hill
11/8: Al Luchetti
11/18: Tony Wilkins
11/21: Howard Beede
11/25: Sue Watts

November Anniversaries

11/1/1972: David Coopriider
11/1/1974: Dick Cain
11/1/1981: Robert Smith
11/1/1993: Everett Nichols
11/10/2003: Paul Stanzione
11/1/2004: Jane Shade
11/07/2005: John Cook
11/27/2006: Kevin Kast
11/27/2006: Jim Montgomery
11/26/2007: Jack O'Riley



Happy Thanksgiving