

## **Rockford East Rotary Club**

**Clock Tower Resort & Conference Center**

**7801 E. State Street, Rockford, IL 61108**

**December 1, 2009**

**[www.rockfordeastroty.org](http://www.rockfordeastroty.org)**

### **WE MISSED YOU!!**

Joanne Blaser, Nancy delCastillo, Jerry Flaming, Gary Hamburg, Tina Kirschman, Nicolas Meade, Bill Mohr, Marcia Mueller, Chris VanSickle, Blas Serrano, Jack Ward

### **GUESTS**

Beth Thacker – Rockford Downtown, Asst. Governor  
Denver Bitner – Speaker

### **ANNIVERSARY / BIRTHDAYS**

### **COMING EVENTS**

12/8 – Dave Smith – Loves Park Rotary – Rotary Youth Exchange

12/8 – RING BELLS AT LOGLI'S

12/15 – Business Meeting

12/22 – Christmas Party

### **SPEAKER'S NOTES**

Rev. Dr. Denver Bitner, President/CEO of Lutheran Social Services of Illinois (LSSI) was our speaker. He was a Parish Pastor at Zion Lutheran church for 36 years before accepting this position at LSSI. This is a statewide organization with "womb to tomb" services. It began in 1860 when a church in Andover, IL opened an orphanage to house children who lost their families to a cholera epidemic. It now has 90 sites statewide, but childcare is still

the heart of what they do. They offer family counseling, homes for kids aging out of the foster care system and adoption and foster care services. They have three homes for individuals with obesity issues who are unable to live independently because of this special problem.

They help to keep people in prison connected with their family by bussing their families to them for visits. Since most of our prisons are in southern Illinois, this fills a great need, especially for women prisoners. Volunteers also go to the prisons and record inmates reading a book that they then take to their children, who can now hear their parent read them a bedtime story. There is also a chaplaincy program run by LSSI. Prisoners also are connected with Habitat for Humanity and build trusses and walls for these new homes. It builds skills and connects them to the community.

And of course, LSSI is concerned with seniors. They provide caregivers to allow them to stay in their own homes for a longer period of time. They run affordable low-income housing, assisted and independent living facilities and nursing homes.

The biggest concern right now for Rev. Bitner and the LSSI Board is funding. The State of Illinois is behind in their payments for contracted services and so LSSI has had to use lines of credit and loans against part of their undesignated endowment to make ends meet so that services will be able to continue. There is a looming financial crisis and it is only getting worse.



12:00 pm Rochelle Country Club  
 12:10 pm Jimmy's Patio Grill, Harvard

Wed: 07:00 am Steam Factory, Belvidere  
 11:45 am Maxon's Manor, Oregon  
 12:00 pm Stonewall Cafe, Pecatonica  
 12:00 pm Carl's Fargo, Sycamore  
 12:00 pm YMCA, Belvidere

Thursday 07:00 am Four Season Banquets, Freeport  
 12:00 pm Memorial Hall, Rockford

Friday 11:45 am DeSota House Hotel, Galena

Online Make-up at: [www.rotaryclubone.org](http://www.rotaryclubone.org)

## *Rotary International Motto* "Service Above Self"

### THE FOUR WAY TEST

- First, is it the truth?
- Second, is it fair to all concerned?
- Third, will it build goodwill & better friendships?
- Fourth, will it be beneficial to all concerned?

### *The Object of Rotary*

The Object of Rotary is to encourage and foster the ideal of service as a basis of worthy enterprise and, in particular, to encourage and foster:

- 1<sup>st</sup> - the development of acquaintance as an opportunity for service;
- 2<sup>nd</sup> - high ethical standards in business and professions, the recognition of the worthiness of all useful occupations, and the dignifying of each Rotarian's occupation as an opportunity to serve society.
- 3<sup>rd</sup> - the application of the ideal of service in each Rotarian's personal, business, and community life
- 4<sup>th</sup> - the advancement of international understanding, goodwill, and peace through a world fellowship of business and professional persons united in the ideal of service.

### ROTARY MAKE-UP LOCATIONS:

Monday: 12:00 pm Four Seasons Banquets, Freeport  
 05:45 pm Ellwood House, DeKalb

Tuesday: 12:00 pm Loves Park Civic Center

### The Four Avenues of Service

Based on the Object of Rotary, the four Avenues of Service are Rotary's philosophical cornerstone and the foundation on which Club activity is based:

**Club Service** focuses on strengthening fellowship and ensuring the effective functioning of the Club. The committee organizes social activities for the Club, maintains and order supplies, promotes Club involvement and friendships.

**Community Service** covers the projects and activities the Club undertakes to improve life in its community. The committee supports the effort of the Club to achieve community understanding by developing projects, assisting in community efforts and supporting the continued overall improvement of the community.

**International Service** encompasses actions taken to expand Rotary's humanitarian reach around the globe and to promote world understanding and peace. The committee raises money for the Rotary Foundation which supplements Club and District projects to improve the quality of life, provide health care, clean water, food, education and other essential needs primarily in underdeveloped nations.

**Vocational Service** encourages Rotarians to serve others through their vocations and to practice high ethical standards. The committee provides opportunities for members to learn more about other vocations through weekly guest speakers, member vocational talks and community service tours.

### OFFICERS & DIRECTORS 2009-2010

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President - Scott Johnson  
Vice President - Peg Wilkerson  
Secretary - Lynn Godina  
Treasurer - Chris Weber  
Past President - Marsha Abramsom  
Club Service - Dick Wang  
Community Service - Tina Kirschman and  
Tracy Eastman  
International Service - Jonathan  
Whitlock  
Vocational Service - Mark Hutchinson  
Advisor - Craig Klaas  
Historian and Ex Officio Advisor -  
Don Johnson