

Mount Clemens Rotary Club



"the spokesperson"

January 14, 2010

www.mountclemensrotary.org

Minutes by Eric Pierson ~ Photos by John Walendowski & Nancy Dedenbach



BRING FOOD BANK DONATIONS ON THE
THIRD THURSDAY OF THE MONTH

JANUARY CALENDAR

1/21 (PHIL GROH) PHIL/ROLF ~
ROTARY AND THE CRIPPLED CHILDREN
PROGRAM

1/28 (PHIL GROH) HOLSINGER /
OCELNIK ~ COSMETIC CHANGES AT
TURNING POINT

1/31 SERVE MEAL TO HOMELESS
PEOPLE AT ZION

FEBRUARY CALENDAR

2/4 FUNDRAISER REPORTS
SARAH LEE-ELLENA/JEFF FUREST

2/11 ROUND TABLE DISCUSSION
MEMBERSHIP GUIDEBOOK JEFF
FUREST/JOHN WALENDOWSKI

2/18 (KRIS MIELE) BARBARA DAVID
IRLEN SYNDROME / SCOTOPIC
SENSITIVITY

2/25 (KRIS MIELE) DR. KARI HORTOS
STATUS OF MSU MEDICAL SCHOOL
MACOMB CAMPUS

5/16

SPRING ZING - AN AWESOME AND
ENGAGING EXPERIENCE FOR THE
SENSES TASTE-FEST AND AUCTION
ZUCCARO'S COUNTRY HOUSE

On January 20, Rotarians made good on their loss to the Kiwanis club. A bet was made over the holidays as to which club could raise the most money in two days, ringing the bell for the Salvation Army, outside the doors of Walmart. The Kiwanis club won by collecting \$600 more than the Rotarians. The Salvation Army exceeded their expectations this holiday season by collecting more than \$400,000 in Macomb County. Jeff Furest, Sarah Lee-Ellena, Nancy Dedenbach, Julie Huttenlocher, Shane Brown, Frank Bernabei, and Kris Miele were the only Rotarians on hand to serve lunch to the Kiwanis at their Wednesday meeting, as per the bet.



Our January 14 meeting was held at the beautiful Clinton Macomb Public Library. Not only is it a beautiful location, but it includes free parking. We were led in prayer by **Lori Wright**. Lunch was a real treat as it was catered by Zuccaro's and included a lot of Mark's specialties, mostaccioli, chicken piccata (I think) and a fresh salad with his incredible ranch dressing. Being all you can eat, it was a real treat for me. I contained myself to one serving, but it was a real balancing act in delivering my heaping plate to my table without dropping the rolls that were precariously perched atop.

Jeff Furest announced a membership meeting at his house next Wednesday at 6 p.m.

Jeff also mentioned that Larry Powe, of the Detroit club and formerly of our club, was rounding up a relief effort for the people of Haiti. People interested should email to angelacj78@netscape.net

Guests were introduced by Maryann Hosey

Debby Ternullo - guest of **Steve Ternullo**; Larry Moloney - guest of **Cecilia Moloney**; Mike Krause - Warren Rotarian and guest of the club; Bill Young - Warren Rotarian, past district governor

Flowers

Jeff Furest bought a flower for **Kris Miele** for making us such a wonderful meal at the board meeting at her house on Monday. **Dick Pierson** bought a flower for **Valerie Miller**.

Songs

Maryann Hosey led us in songs this week. As it was a beautiful sunny day, she chose the song "Smiles" which only added to the happy mood the sun seems to elicit. She wrapped things up with "Roll Rotary."

Rotary serves lunch to Kiwanis



Announcements

- Mike Krause from the Warren club thanked our club for the donation of \$1,250 we put toward the shipment of medical supplies going to Belize. He also presented an excellent community service opportunity by inviting us to assist in the packaging of these items on Saturday, January 30. This will take place at 11745 Rosa Parks Blvd. in Detroit (48206) from 8:30 to 11:30 a.m. Anyone interested should RSVP to Mike at (248)476-5778 or at mikek@krausebenefits.com
- **Eric Pierson** (not used to referring to myself in the third person) announced that we will be having the community meal at Zion on **Sunday, January 31**. We will be providing meals for homeless people. We will need about 12 people to help out and people interested should plan on being available from 11:30 a.m. until about 3 p.m. More details on this event will follow.



Recognition by Ken Kish

Ken started out by fining **Bob Cannon**, although I missed why. He then got **Neil Dempsey** as it was brought out that his son had been creating commercials out on the west coast. This appropriately cost him \$4.99. **Bill Furest** was fined \$4.99 for his lobbying efforts for the NRA. He did this by sending out emails about how proposed legislation threatens our second amendment rights. He maintains that \$4.99 is worth it. I completely agree. **Cecilia Moloney** got fined as it was pointed out that her husband Larry had shaved his mustache and Cecilia had admitted that she didn't notice it.

The winner of the 50/50 was not Bill Furest.





BIRTHDAYS
1/11 NANCY DEDENBACH
1/11 WILLIAM FUREST JR.
1/12 TERRI (GLENN) BURTON
1/13 BARBARA (NEIL) DEMPSEY
1/13 AMY (E.J.) ROZEK
1/14 KOLBY MILLER
WEDDING ANNIVERSARY
1/13 VALERIE & DENNIS MILLER (5)
CLUB ANNIVERSARY
DONALD TORLINE (13)

Presentation

Our speaker today was someone we are all familiar with, Art Mullen. Art spoke about his trip to China in early December with the Macomb County Trade Delegation. The goals of this trip included establishing connections with China, encouraging investment within Macomb County, building opportunities for Macomb County businesses to invest in China and to initiate long-term China development efforts. The delegation was made up of a group of 20 people that included, governmental, educational and business representatives.

Art confirmed what a lot of us have suspected for quite some time that the Chinese are coming. Estimates show that by 2015, China will have the largest GDP. This growth is amazing when you think about the fact that this growth has been accomplished primarily in the last thirty years.

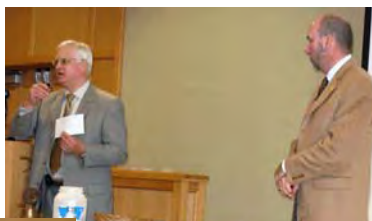
Prior to this trip the delegates were required to attend four pre-trip training sessions. These sessions were meant to apprise people of Chinese business culture, history of the people, living and doing business in China and about what can be discussed in regard to politics. It was interesting to find out that most business in China is conducted around the dinner table and that the seating arrangement is carefully orchestrated so that the most important people are closest together. These are set up like meetings instead of dinners. Many political topics are completely off limits, examples include, Tibet or the U.S. Department of Commerce.

Art related how the trip was a lot of work and that they had been in and out of meetings every day and all day. They did, however find a little time to do some touristy things. They got to see Tiananmen Square. Art had pointed out that it is funny how a place that is so infamous on an international scale was mostly a nonevent in China due to its successful censorship policies. In fact, not many people know the event even took place. They also visited the Forbidden City where Art was surprised to see that most visitors were Chinese. Along with the Great Wall and the Temple of Heaven they also visited what is called a Hutong. These are villages that have existed for between 400 and 500 years in a similar fashion as they exist today.

Among the lessons learned from this trip were that: you really needed to visit to see the transformations underway, that several trips are necessary to establish connections as there is a huge cultural disconnect, that Macomb County Schools should provide their students classes in mandarin Chinese and that there are tremendous opportunities for both countries.

Speaking of opportunities in China, nearly 20 percent of Chinese students were studying in the U.S. in 2008, English language learning is mandatory in China, and they are experiencing a huge growth in their middle and upper economic classes. Mount Clemens provides an opportunity in that it is close to both Baker and Macomb colleges, has a diversity of housing stock, a walkable downtown and is well connected to public transport.

Things to remember about China include that it is a one-party system, it has huge cash reserves, and has an ability to implement major development projects rapidly. They also remain extremely competitive with low wages and very little concern about intellectual property laws. There is also a perceived cultural superiority that is prevalent throughout the country.



Jeffrey Furest
President
Sarah Lee-Ellena
First Vice President/President-Elect
Eric Pierson
*Second Vice President/
President Nominee*

Julie Huttenlocher
Treasurer
Penny Schulwitz
Secretary
Nancy Dedenbach
Immediate Past President

BOARD OF DIRECTORS
Kristine Miele & Rolf Schroeter (*one
year*) Jessica Stone & John
Walendowski (*two years*)

COMMITTEE CHAIRS
Birthdays & Flowers
Lynn Davidson
Boat Outing ~ Valerie Miller
Bulletin ~ Eric Pierson
Community Projects
Eric Pierson
Fund-Raising ~ Sarah Lee-Ellena
House ~ Jessica Stone
House Committee Assistants
John Hart, Don Torline, Ray Hofner,
Cecilia Moloney, Bob Randolph



COMMITTEE CHAIRS
Music ~ Bob Selwa
Membership ~ John Walendowski
Public Relations
Nancy Dedenbach
Recognition ~ Julie Huttenlocher
RI Foundation Development
Jeff Furest & Bob Baker
RI Liaison ~ Rolf Schroeter
Speakers Program
Kristine Miele & Sarah Lee-Ellena
Wheelchair Project ~ Larry Neal

Mount Clemens Rotary
Club 2992 of
Rotary District 6380
of Rotary International
Meets 12:15 p.m. Thursday at
Zion United Church of Christ
Serving the community since 1920
(586)468-2000
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www.mountclemensrotary.org
District 6380 newsletter is posted
at www.rotary6380.org
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