



WISCONSIN RAPIDS SUNRISE SCRIPT

Volume 24, Issue 4 Website: wisconsinrapidsrotary.org

August 17, 2017

District 6250 Wisconsin Rapids Rotary – Sunrise – Club No. 31198, Chartered 12/29/95
Box 1181, Wisconsin Rapids WI 54495

Today's Program

Mary Wirtz, Sally Kissner, Executive Director (and Sunrise Rotary member) "Inside the Arts Council"

Aug 24	Nick Abts; Amy Scheid and Melissa Miller "Outdoor Learning Classroom at Mead School"
Aug 31	Jem Brown; Joel Mathews, "SmartHub and the Use of Social Media"
Sept 7	Avenues of Service
Sept 14	Todd Buntrock
Sept 21	DaNita Carlson; Paul Liebherr, Love INC Update
Sept 28	Ryan Christianson
Oct 5	Kyle Cronan
Oct 12	Avenues of Service
Oct 19	Phil Hartley
Oct 26	Barry Jens
Nov 2	Karen Kienert
Nov 9	Sally Kissner

Rotary News

- We welcomed Chuck Gibbons, noon club and assistant district governor who presented a \$4,500 check from the Rotary International Foundation grant to support the mentoring scholarship program.
- We also welcomed mentoring scholarship student Jeslynn Wallace-Leece, she will be starting her junior year at UW Oshkosh for nursing.
- August 20th, DaNita will be picking up our Rotary exchange student from Bolivia
- Port Edward fun fest if Friday and Saturday, August 11th and 12th
- The next neighborhood table is August 31
- Dancing for a cause is Friday, October 20, we need more dance teams!
- Motion was approved to donate a Honduras water filter in the name of Ralph Lau's brother who recently passed away.
- Nancy volunteered to run the Packer Pool
- Kristopher will be sending out an email for Kwik-Trip gas cards



Member Profile:
Karen Kienert
member since 2001,
on the club /
membership
committee.



Attendance: 22
Happy Pig: About \$45
was donated to the pig.

OFFICERS 2015/2016

District Governor – Dean McHugh

President – Mary Jo Green

Mary_jo_green@hotmail.com

President Elect – TBD

Past President– Lisa Mayne

rlmayne@charter.net

Treasurer – Elaine Semrow

resem@solarus.net

Secretary

Bill Lindroth for RI reporting

mwindroth@solarus.biz

Dennis McCarville for meetings

dmccarville@hermeningfinancialgroup.com

Sergeant at Arms – Kyle Cronan

cronaky@pesd.k12.wi.us

Editor- Rick Merdan

rmerdan@cfswc.org

Paul Harris Fellows

Fred Stich (2)	Bob Plucker
Ellen Dahl	Pat Schuetz
Ed Heuer	Dean Ryerson
Kurt Heuer	Tom Schneider
Jere Johnson	Larry Schmick
Joe Lane	Larry Koopman
Lynda Almonte	Josh Mason
Sue Siewert	Dave Mueller
Joey Marshall (2)	Ida Lee Siewert (2)
Steve Sternitzky	Wayne Johnson
Elaine Semrow	Ken Hanson
Kim Auman	Rosie Anderson
Sally Young	George Hathaway
Ralph Lau	Dan McCarville
Mary Jo Green	Dean Veneman
Dennis McCarville	John Moffat (2)
Lorraine Schmutzer	Tim Krueger
Kristopher Gasch	Barry Jens
Tom Paul (2)	

Club Chairpersons

Vocational Service

Gus Mancuso, co-chair

Carol Davis, co-chair

Community Service

Dave Guse, chair

International Service

Nancy Mischnick, co-chair

Tom Schneider, co-chair

Club Service / Membership

Rick Merdan, chair

R.I. Foundation Liaison

Karen Kienert

Polio Plus Chairperson

Tom Schneider

Youth Exchange Officer

Felicia Gardner

Youth Exchange Counselor

Tom Schneider

Youth Protection Officer

TBD



Heather Lisitza, WRPS Counselor / Homelessness Coordinator

Heather serves as the McKinney-Vento homelessness liaison for the Wisconsin Rapids Public School system. The district has seen a dramatic increase in students in need whether looking at free and reduced lunch participation which has doubled from 22% to 44% over the last decade and the number of students that meet the McKinney-Vento definition of homelessness, rising to 250 students this past year. Most of these students are in elementary school as there is a noticeable lack of identified students in grades 7-10 as they are very conscientious about any attention or stigma that may come with being identified as homeless.

Being the liaison she tries to ensure that each student has a chance to succeed. With many shifting living locations the district attempts to keep the student in the same school during the school year. Often times this involves finding some means of transportation. An example is a student that is currently living in Marshfield but is commuting back to WRPS to maintain continuity.

Many of the interventions come with a lot of red tape but one way around that is the local "Caring Closet". This is a repository of clothing, personal hygiene, and school supplies. Counselors have a key to the closet and they can take anything needed to meet a student need. They also have some money to supply those items needed which they do not have. Some of that also is used for gas cards that are used when needed. One of the ways that Rotary can help is to respond to changing needs of the closet.

The district is also looking at implementing a "Loads of Love" program similar to one run in Marshfield that would help with laundry needs for students.



McKinney-Vento Homeless Assistance Act of 1987 is a United States federal law that provides federal money for homeless shelter programs. It was the first significant federal legislative response to homelessness and was passed by the United States Congress and signed into law by President Ronald Reagan in 1987. It defines homeless children as "individuals who lack a fixed, regular, and adequate nighttime residence." The Act then goes on to give examples of children who would fall under this definition:

- (a) Children sharing housing due to economic hardship or loss of housing;
- (b) Children living in "motels, hotels, trailer parks, or camp grounds due to lack of alternative accommodations"
- (c) Children living in "emergency or transitional shelters"
- (d) Children whose primary nighttime residence is not ordinarily used as a regular sleeping accommodation (e.g. park benches, etc.)
- (e) Children living in "cars, parks, public spaces, abandoned buildings, substandard housing, bus or train stations..."

Rotary 4-Way Test. Of the things we think, say or do:

1. *Is it the truth?*
2. *Is it fair to all concerned?*
3. *Will it build good will and better friendships?*
4. *Will it be beneficial to all concerned?*



ROTARY DISTRICT 6250