



# Mequon-Thiensville Sunrise Rotary

## the eye-opener

the eye-opener

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### President's Letter

By Tom Johnson

Greetings fellow Rotarians and friends,

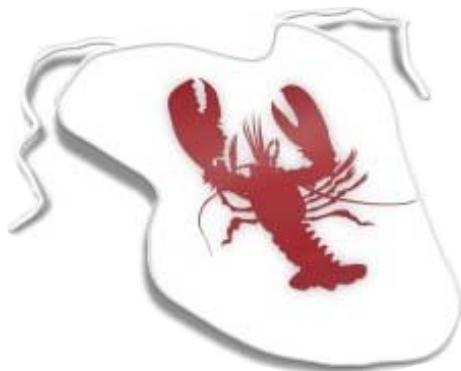
On Thursday June 25 we celebrated our annual Changing of the Guard at Ozaukee Country Club. After some spirited entertainment from Comedy Sportz, Dan O'Connor, officiating as outgoing president, thanked previous board members for their service and gave special recognition to several individuals. Carole Blaney was this year's recipient of the Four Avenues of Service award. District Service awards were given to Alice Sedgwick and Bob Blazich. Four individuals were named Paul Harris Fellows in recognition of their exceptional service. Carole Blaney, Roger Gronwick and Gordon Hetzel from our club received that designation as well as Dr. Bruce Newman, a non-club member, who nonetheless received the award as a result of his outstanding service with the Guatemala Medical Relief Project. The new board of directors was presented to the club. They are as follows:



The New Board

- President..... Tom Johnson
- President-Elect ..... Gordon Hetzel
- Vice President..... Sharon Pechiva
- Treasurer ..... Mike Reuteman
- Secretary ..... Alicia Nickols
- Sergeant-at-Arms ..... Terry Schacht
- Past President ..... Dan O'Connor

**Mark Your Calendars!**  
**Saturday, August 29th**  
**Lobster Fest *Plus***  
**at Shully's in Thiensville**



#### Avenues of Service

Club Service  
 Chair: Dick Dieffenbach  
 Co-Chair: Patti Stevens

Community Service  
 Chair: Lee Szymborski  
 Co-Chair: Chris Frommell

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## President's Letter

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International Service  
Chair: Andy Moss  
Co-Chair: Michael Kim

Vocational Service  
Chair: Carole Blaney  
Co-Chair: Sharon Pechiva

The new board has thus far had two planning sessions. This year's theme for our club is "Increasing the Strength of Our Local Club" which the board felt to be consistent with the theme of John Kenny, current RI president, "The Future of Rotary Is in Your Hands". Our objective this year will be to look at all the things our club does and our procedures for doing them and, where appropriate, tune things up. There will be a special emphasis on communication that will include an enhanced web site, enhanced weekly communications, and facilitation of easier contacts among members through the website, shared workspaces and LinkedIn.

We look forward to our signature fun and fundraising event, Lobster Fest, to be held this year on August 29<sup>th</sup> at Shully's in Thiensville. We are also looking forward to after-hours events with our members during the course of the year and the District Conference to be held in May at Lambeau Field. The conference, which will include a semi-formal ball, is already generating a lot of buzz. And finally, lest we forget, the RI conference next year will be in Montreal, just a hop, skip and a jump from Milwaukee. It's not too soon to begin planning!

Best wishes to all for an outstanding year!

*This year's theme for our club is "Increasing the Strength of Our Local Club" which the board felt to be consistent with the theme of John Kenny, current RI president, "The Future of Rotary Is in Your Hands".*

*Tom Johnson*

## Membership Update

By Alicia Nickols

Time surely flies when you are having fun! With the blink of an eye, the logistics of our Friday morning group change without even being aware. We continue to grow in numbers with new additions and sometimes decrease, as individuals move away, or family dynamics deem it necessary to remove themselves from the club. Let us savor the time shared and continue to encourage our Fellow Rotarians to share a laugh or two over breakfast each Friday morning as we continue side by side, in Rotary Service.

Recent Applications submitted For Consideration

- Bob Holzrichter (Transfer, Northshore Morning Club)

Recent Rotarian on Leave

- Eric Strande
- Deb Turk

Recent Rotarian Resignations

- Dorothy Wahner
- Amy Sterkenburg
- Sherry Farver



Paul Harris Recipients: Dr. Bruce Newman, Carole Blaney, Roger Gronwick and Gordon Hetzel

## Club Donations Thru The Years

Over the years our Club has supported the work of many worthy organizations and projects in our community and around the world. Brian Monroe and Dick Dieffenbach are working on a display for Lobster Fest that will highlight the monetary contributions we have made, so plan to take a few minutes to stop by at the event.

You don't have to wait until August 29th, though. As part of the effort begun last year by Dan O'Connor to increase the information available for our members online, Dick Dieffenbach has prepared a report of the donations made each year since 1996. For example, the Club has donated more than \$26,000 for mid-year 2008 thru mid-year 2009 alone and over \$250,000 since 1996! For the detail on the organizations supported review the report online in the Financial Statements section of the Members' Only page on the website.



Lynn Streeter, Alicia Nickols, Jean Hill, Sharon Pechiva, and Deb Turk at the Changing of the Guard

## Lobster Fest *Plus* 2009 Odds 'n Ends

### Tickets

Tickets are selling fast as the hours tick down to Lobster Fest and tickets for the 7:00 PM seating are completely sold-out. Online sales have been brisk and the cut-off for sales of the 5:30 PM seating has been extended to Thursday evening, August 20. Any members who have sold tickets and not turned them in yet should bring them to the meeting on Friday, August 21 so that the meals count can be confirmed with Shully's later that day. Great job everyone!

### Auction

Gordon Hetzel and his team have gathered at least 116 items worth over \$21,000 so far for the auctions at Lobster Fest. Visit the online gallery on the website to see the broad range of items that will be available. The donors for each of the items is shown, too, so be sure to thank them for their generosity when you have the opportunity. Their support helps make our annual fundraiser a success.

### Partner Charities

This year we have partnered with Big Brothers of Ozaukee County, COPE Services, Family Services of Ozaukee County, and the Volunteer Center of Ozaukee County to put on the event. Members of these organizations have sold tickets, helped gather donations, and will provide staff at the event to help make it a success. Many thanks to each of the members.

## Website Update

*By Carole Blaney*

If you haven't visited the Club website recently, I encourage you to do so soon. In addition to the complete redesign of the public areas and the addition of a public calendar, the Members' Only section now contains a wealth of information about the Club. Check there to review minutes of the Board of Directors' meetings, financial statements, current proposed revisions to the Bylaws, and the online Members Directory.

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Visit our website at  
[www.mtsunriserotary.org](http://www.mtsunriserotary.org) for

- News on Activities
- Calendar
- Newsletters
- Donations



A Few Old Friends at the  
Changing of the Guard



## Website Update

*(Continued from page 3)*

The online Members Directory lists the information for each member previously only available in a printed format. Although the Directory was a wonderful tool, it was very difficult to keep current and to protect the personal information of members in sensitive occupations. The new online directory can be maintained by members themselves. Once everyone has updated their information a print function will be added, so you can produce a printed version if you need one.

The new calendar gives us the ability to enter and track multiple schedules online, in both a list and calendar month style. Look to the online calendar for information on upcoming and past speakers, work days, and major events like Lobster Fest.

Most of our members know Lobster Fest tickets can be purchased online each year. Did you know that we can also take donations to the Club online? All payments and donations can be made securely through our account with PayPal.

The website is the public face of our Club, visited by several hundred unique visitors each month. Let me know if you have suggestions for improvement or an article that should be included. I'd love to hear from you!



Members' Only page on the website