



ATTICA - WILLIAMSPORT ROTARY CLUB Newsletter



Service Above Self

Volume 5, Issue 3

August 17, 2004

Joe Collings Made a Poignant Presentation On His GSE

It was indeed a special privilege to have Joe Collings from nearby Rockville present his experiences as the Group Study Exchange team leader to the Middle East. To think of going to the Middle East at this time, even for goodwill brings some apprehension. For the five weeks that they were there incidents occurred that justified some apprehensiveness. They started their visit in Egypt where they were disappointed to be treated like professional tourists rather than fellow Rotarians. Joe adamantly stated that the essence of GSE is the home stay. The sights were beautiful (there are loads of pictures if you'd like to see a very pretty area, you might check out the following web site: <http://mypage.iu.edu/~szakhour/gse2004/> They visited four of the seven countries in the district; a district very much unlike ours—seven countries on 3 continents, speaking four different languages.

Joe related that they were brow beaten by the natives. They were upset with them as Americans. They expressed an extremely negative attitude toward the American way of life. He said they sympathized with the attack September 11 but felt they had lived with it for a long time. Joe said they center on the US support for Israel militarily as a source for their negative attitude toward the U.S. The team was not able to visit Israel because of the unrest there and concern for their safety.

Doug Cripe Urges All Members and Families To Help with Popcorn Sales

The Potawatomi Parade is just about a month away. Doug has come up with some ways to address the rush in business immediately before the parade. We are going to actually have three stations — the main one across from the library, one south on Perry near or at the ball park, and one in front of Doug's store. Doug is recruiting helpers so come prepared to sign-up to work on September 19 at the parade. With everyone's help, the project can be a big boost to help with the service projects we do. It is also a way for the community to recognize Rotary as a service org.

Briefs

- * Bob Shepherd reports that contributions to the Rotary Foundation continue to come in. Let's all plan to give to the Rotary Foundation this year.
- * .Martin Limbird visited our club August 11. He will be District Governor next year. He urges us to purchase and display the Rotary license plate.
- * Congressman Hostettler will provide the program August 18.
- * Mark Mason will present the procedure for sponsoring a new member August 25.
- * The Early History of A-W Rotary Club will be presented by Steve Poston on September 1.
- * We have applied to host the GSE team from Australia during October.
- * Please let Judy Bush or Suzann Shackleton know if you can host a GSE team member.

Habitat for Humanity, Providing a Valuable Service to the Community

Ben Bowles and Jack Dalton of Habitat for Humanity were the club's special guests August 11. Ben has been very active since the beginning of their founding in 1996. They are chartered to build homes in Fountain, Warren and Benton counties and do so on a rotation basis, working on their sixth home now. Ben shared the local history of the club. The international group is 26 years old whose most well known member is Jimmy Carter. They have built over 150,000 homes world wide. The groups use volunteer labor to provide no interest mortgage homes for needy individuals. They also tithe 10% of their contributions to the international group.

Partner families are chosen on the basis of their need for housing, ability to re-pay the no interest mortgage, and their willingness to partner. They must invest 250 hours of sweat equity into the building of their own home (this is being changed to 200 hours into the home and the remainder in community service. The typical house is 1050 square feet with three bedrooms. The cost is approximately \$38,000.

Recent Giving

The club voted to sponsor a hole for the hospital Golf Outing for \$100. They also voted to give \$100 to Habitat for Humanity. Fifty dollars has been given to the Rotary Foundation in memory of Bob Geyer's father and \$50 in memory of Charlie Walker's mother.

Special points of

The meetings are 6:30 a.m. Wednesdays at Harrison Hills.

Our Centennial Project is to work for the sustainability of A.S.K.

Potawatomi Parade is September 19. Bring family and friends.

"The first thing we must do if we are to have international understanding is to realize what is prejudice and what is fact." 1937

Current Officers

President **Judy Bush**
 President-Elect **Bob Geyer**
 Secretary **Sandy White**
 Treas. **Karen Milligan**
 Sgt. **Judy Hollander**

At Arms Directors

Doug Cripe
Mark Mason,
Steve Poston
Suzann Shackleton
Bob Shepherd

The Four Way Test defines our behavior: Of the things we think, say or do

- * *Is it the truth?*
- * *Is it fair to all concerned?*
- * *Will it build good will and better friendships?*
- * *Will it be beneficial to all concerned?*