



# Roseville Rotary

Volume 40, Number 30

*Record*

**March 22, 2010**

Meetings held every Monday at noon at Radisson Roseville, 1540 Cleveland Ave., Roseville  
Call or email any questions: 651/636-9054 or [jingle@rotary5960.org](mailto:jingle@rotary5960.org) or [www.rosevillerotary.org](http://www.rosevillerotary.org)

## **March 29—Ronald Phillips**

### **THE GREEN REVOLUTION**

## **MEETING NOTES March 22 by Ron Riach**

As our beautiful March weather continued, president “stand-in” Loren Swanson called the meeting to order. We were greeted by David Kray, who also led us in the flag pledge. Murray Harpole provided our invocation and Anna Hudak introduced our visitors and guests.

Special announcements included the following:

- A listing of Friends of Roseville Rotary is being assembled. It will include non-members who are interested in the happenings of our club. E-mails and other announcements regarding Rotary activities will be provided to them on a regular basis. Please provide Loren with names, addresses, and e-mail addresses of anybody you think would appreciate this on-going information.
- Jim Ostlund announced that approximately \$7000 has been received or pledged to the new library under construction in Roseville from our members. Our club has pledged \$50,000 spread over several years, so we have a ways to go to meet our commitment. Generosity will get you permanent recognition on the “Donors’ Wall”. Call Jim for more details. 651/523-7870
- Jeanne Matlock announced that Twin Cities Rotaract is selling flowers and other perennial garden plants from Green Valley Greenhouse. Orders are due by April 13, with delivery May 6. Call Jeanne with any questions. 651/488-0458
- We need about 100 more bath towels to meet our goal of 500 to help Bridging. Bring new towels or money or both next week so we can finalize this part of the program.

Our program was a presentation by Jerry Kyser, a Roseville resident who is the spokesperson and head organizer for Honor Flight Twin Cities, a program which provides trips to Washington for WWII vets to visit the World War II Memorial. Jerry served two tours in Vietnam. His father is a World War II Veteran. This is a non-profit organization designed to honor the vets and remember the sacrifices of the “Greatest Generation”. May 22, 2010 is the next flight and Jerry promises that the flights will continue until he runs out of Veterans. Sun Country Airlines provides the transportation. Total cost for each trip is about \$75,000. 102 Minnesota World War II Veterans will be trans-

## **COMING UP!**

**March 29  
Ronald Phillips  
The Green Revolution**

**April 5  
Sue Gehrz  
Roseville Library Project**

**April 12  
Jayne Griffith  
Head Epidemiologist  
State of Minnesota**

**April 19  
Group Study Exchange  
Team from India**

**April 26  
MEETING AT  
Outback Restaurant  
Aaron Johnson, Manager**

**May 3  
Tammy Pust  
Elder Scams**

**May 10  
Tim Penny**

**May 17  
Pat Seger  
Financial Counseling in  
Tough Times**

**May 24**

**May 31  
NO MEETING**

# **Membership!**

## Continued from page one . . .

ported, leaving at about 6:00 AM and returning at 11:00 PM. The trip is free for the Veterans.

“Guardians” are needed to accompany the Vets, many of whom are in wheel chairs or have other medical issues. Each Guardian contributes \$500 as a donation to participate in the flight. 60 wheel chairs are provided by the Minneapolis VA Medical Center. It costs \$500 to sponsor a Vet. Contributions to help fund these trips are tax deductible and should be sent to Minnesota Vietnam Veterans Charity, c/o Jerry Kyser, 2674 Mackubin Street, Roseville, MN 55113.. Their website is [www.HonorFlightTwinCities.org](http://www.HonorFlightTwinCities.org).



The meeting was one filled with emotion as Jerry related stories about many of the Veterans who have been on the trip. Anybody interested in serving as a Guardian, or looking for further information should feel free to contact Jerry. See you next week when the program will be Ronald Phillips and the Green Revolution.

### GROUP STUDY EXCHANGE TEAM FROM INDIA!

The GSE Team from India will visit our club  
on Monday, April 19.

[CLICK HERE](#) to learn more about them and  
see their itinerary!

They will be arriving later than expected,



# March is Literacy Month!

The Ramsey County Library in Roseville continues to progress with a grand opening scheduled for July 10, 2010. Major systems are more than 60% complete. Drywall is nearly 85% complete. Dunn Brothers has been chosen as the coffee vendor after a competitive bidding process. The occupancy permit is expected in late May. In 2009, the Roseville branch hosted over 150 children's literacy programs serving nearly 5,000 kids (in the temporary space). The Library hopes to serve over 7,500 kids in the new Rotary space.

Sue Gehrz, Director of the Friends of the Ramsey County Libraries, will discuss the Rotary project on April 5.

The Rotary Reading Room

The Grand Staircase

The Atrium



## On the Front Lines of the Digital Divide ... by Susan Nemitz

At 3 p.m. on a weekday in the Maplewood Library, teens begin to sweep through the building to access the public computers. When asked why they choose to use the library, they cite required group projects, the need to access specific software programs like PowerPoint, the competition among three siblings fighting over access to the sole computer at home, the dial-up modem access that fails to provide adequate bandwidth, and their desire to work in a safe and quiet after-school space.

Every day, librarians are called upon to support job-seekers who have no computer access, lack rudimentary computing skills, have little knowledge of how to conduct an online job search, and have had no experience submitting an online application. Most workforce programs are available from 8 am to 4:30 p.m., Monday through Friday. Heavy demand has forced many public libraries to ration computer time to one hour per day per patron. And still they come.

Meantime, the surge in the number of seniors who depend on public-library computers represents a fascinating trend. They, along with our low income patrons, are least likely to have a home computer. As a group, seniors are the primary participants in our basic computing classes (Introduction to the Mouse, Internet Basics, and Introduction to E-mail). Last year the Ramsey County Library introduced computing to more than 1,000 learners but was not able to fully meet the demand for classes. As more governmental forms are available exclusively online, seniors often find processes like the Medicare Part D online enrollment to be simply baffling. Our patrons seek access to online content like high quality medical information web sites. They want to learn how to e-mail their grandkids in Bos-

ton or look at the photos on their daughter's Facebook page. They want to fully participate in a 21st-century world of information.

Access to Internet-connected computers and mobile devices has dramatically improved the information opportunities available to enhance our lives and the vitality of our communities. Unfortunately, this access is far from universal, and significant barriers to digital inclusion still exist. The digital renaissance, while opening new doors to a growing number of beneficiaries, has also closed the door on other citizens, who lack the access and skills to take advantage of information and community resources that are increasingly available only in an electronic format.

Public librarians experience the digital divide on a daily basis. Last year, Ramsey County Libraries' circulation grew 9 percent. Enrollment in technical and information literacy classes grew 24 percent. Use of public computers grew 38 percent. Use of our public wireless networks grew 61 percent. The Ramsey County Library system averaged 4,200 hours of public computing use across seven suburban libraries each week, last year. Libraries remain important intermediaries in maximizing the availability of information and are becoming essential community centers of digital and media training.

What is driving this demand? Universal ac-

# ROSEVILLE ROTARY MEETING DUTIES 2009-10

	REPORTER	GREETER/FLAG	INTRODUCTIONS	INVOCATION
March 29	Loren Swanson	Garrett Jensen	David Kray	Bob Rosene
April 5	Jim Foley	Doug Andersen	David Kray	Murray Harpole
April 12	Ron Riach	Dale Carlson	David Kray	Rob Davidson

## On the Front Lines of the Digital Divide . . .

cess to digital information and media resources will not be realized until three key issues are addressed; infrastructure, adoption, and technical/information literacy. Individuals may have access to a computer but not a printer. Internet access may be available but not affordable. There may be access to an Internet-connected computer but no ability to effectively use a mouse or create an e-mail account. These are the challenges we encounter in public libraries every day.

To bridge the digital divide, we as a society have a lot to accomplish. We need to begin with a few ambitious, yet pragmatic, first steps.

- We need to implement a statewide vision and make a long-term commitment to universal information access. Recommendations from Minnesota's Ultra High Speed Broadband Task Force begin to outline measurable goals and support national and international benchmarks. This region must begin to implement these recommendations with or without Federal stimulus money. It is a critical investment in our future.
- Institutional stakeholders, community and business leaders, elected officials, and community advocates need to create new partnerships and alliances to support wider efforts, like those the John S. and James L. Knight Foundation is fostering in Ramsey County and the City of St. Paul, to connect public, private and nonprofit organizations to accelerate the expansion of broadband infrastructure, increase broadband adoption and improve technical and information literacy across our region. Complementary initiatives, like the broadband network linking several cities, school districts and libraries in suburban Ramsey County, have already resulted in significant government agency cost savings and improvements to public services.
- The most cost-effective first step to accelerate broadband deployment is to create universal access to broadband through the nations' public library systems. Libraries provide a geographically distributed infrastructure already in place. We need to concentrate our focus on improving access to high quality computer and Internet resources in public libraries, not only through investments in technology, but by also expanding the availability of these resources at times people need them.

The consequences of not acting will be huge disparities in academic achievement, worker productivity, and civic and economic participation. Taking action, especially now, will provide essential tools to improve educational outcomes, strengthen our workforce, reduce the cost of service delivery, and enhance the competitiveness and livability of our region.

Susan Nemitz, Director  
Ramsey County Library

[snemitz@rclreads.org](mailto:snemitz@rclreads.org)

## MARK YOUR CALENDAR

**April 8-10, 2010**

District Conference  
Verizon Wireless Center  
Mankato MN

**April 10, 2010**

District Assembly training  
for ALL 10-11 club officers

**Tuesday, April 20, 2010**

Board of Directors Meeting  
Corner House Coffee @ 7:30 am

**June 24, 2010**

TASTE OF ROSEFEST

**August 2, 2010**

TOGA PARTY!  
Wear a sheet

**September 18, 2010**

Build a Chair for Bridging

## Rotarian Makeups

Hal Routhe	Faribault	3/17
Jeanne Matlock	TC Rotaract	3/10
Jeanne Matlock	TC Nights	3/6
Melanie Mogg	Arden Hills/S	3/9
Melanie Mogg	No Branch	3/15
Melanie Mogg	Red Wing	3/16
Roland Wilsey	Faribault	3/17

## Rotary's Membership Starts with YOU

Simple as 1-2-3-4

1. Invite prospective member to a Rotary Club meeting—one free lunch paid by club.
2. BENEFITS — discuss personal, business, & community opportunities
3. Complete short yellow proposal/application form and give to Jingle-first step!