



Flint Rotary World

Charter No. 220 – *Rotary Club of Flint, Michigan* – Organized April 7, 1916
Rotary theme for 2008-2009 – “Make Dreams Real”

Dong Kurn Lee, Seoul, Korea, President, Rotary International, - Carl "Kelly" Fotheringham, Mildmay, Canada Governor, District 6330

Coming up this week: Flint City Councilman Jim Ananich discusses the affairs of the city.

Last Friday’s speaker was: Rotary’s Own Michael J. Kelly

Flint Rotary traditionally sets aside the month of February to provide federal, state, and local elected officials the opportunity to comment on the state of things. Scheduling difficulties made it impossible for an office holder to present this week, so we tapped on our in-house political pundit to bring us up to date. Mike entitled his talk “2009 – The Hard Road Ahead” with the reference being to the-hardly-seen-in-our lifetimes tough economy. How tough are things? Auto sales have tanked with Toyota surpassing GM as the world’s largest volume seller of new cars. The “Big Three” is now “The Big Three + Toyota and Honda.” Luxury car manufactures BMW and Mercedes reported declines of 40% and 30% respectively. Rolls-Royce sold no cars in the US in 2008 and China surpassed the US in overall car sales.

Mike reported that unemployment rates are sky-rocketing. Job losses in January alone were 598,000 and the unemployment rate nationally sits at 7.6%. Credit card debt of \$30,000 is commonplace as people scramble to retain their homes. Mike’s assessment is that we are paying the “bitter price” of excess and people are grabbing their wallets and running.

The implication for government, Mike says, is grim. Every level of government is broke and their money woes will be the theme for 2009. Mike next turned his discerning eye on the City of Flint’s upcoming mayoral recall election. Can he call ‘em or what?!!!!

Mike predicted a likely scenario where incumbent Mayor Don Williamson would resign his office and recently hired City Administrator Mike Brown would be elevated to the Interim Mayor post. Friday evening’s Flint Journal cover story could have been lifted directly from Kelly’s notes as it related the exact same scenario. The following Monday, Mayor Williamson fulfilled the predictions by announcing his resignation for “health reasons.” Wonder what Mike knows about the second coming or doomsday?!!!

VITAL STATISTICS

From the Feb. 6, 2009 meeting:

The introduction of guests and visiting Rotarians was provided by **Kevin Keane**. **Rick Warbold** handled the 50/50 raffle while **Helen Philpott** led singing and **Don Rockwell** gave a really inspiring message. Unfortunately, your writer missed the names of the set up and take down crew as well as the greeter, but we still appreciated your work. As always, thanks to pianist **Paul Vanston**.

Upcoming Programs

Feb 13 – Deborah Cherry on the State of Michigan

Feb 20 – Ted Henry on Genesee County

Officers and Directors

President.....Roxanne Caine
President Elect.....Bobby Pestronk
Vice President James Franklin
Vice President Jerry Johnson
Director Joe Fioroni
Director Don Rockwell
Director Tiffany Flynn
Director Joy Martinbianco
Past PresidentMichael Dach
Secretary/TreasurerRichard Cordell
Club Administrator Amy van der Putte

Other Rotary News:

President Roxanne Cain asks everyone to be present at the **April 17th** meeting as a portion of the meeting will be a **Club Assembly** with items requiring a vote of the membership.

Mark **February 25th** in your calendars for the next **Rotary After Hours** networking event from 5 – 7 pm at the **Soggy Bottom Bar**.

Doug Bacon drew everyone's attention to the good work of the **RI Foundation** citing the accomplishments of Brazil Group Study Exchange team member, **Rafael Turner**.

President Roxanne reported on Mike Bourke's health condition noting that he is improving and could use some brief visits and a card or two.

Speakers Committee member **Rob Jewell** reported that Congressman Dale Kildee has taken a rain check on his presentation as he is needed in Washington to work on the passage of President Obama's economic stimulus package. Watch future bulletins for specifics.

Where to make up:

Monday

Saginaw Valley 12:15 p.m.
Horizons Conference Center

Tuesday

Clio 7:15 a.m.
Roger's Lodge

Durand Noon
Papa Joe's Restaurant

Grand Blanc 7:15 a.m.
Sophie's Kitchen

Fenton 7:15 a.m.
Spring Meadows Country Club

Genesee Valley (Flint) 12:15
Old Country Buffet, Miller Road

Lapeer 12:10 p.m.
Lapeer County Center Bldg.

Columbiaville 6:30 p.m.
Rotary Building

Wednesday

Greater Flint Sunrise 7 a.m.
Sarvis Center

Owosso 12:15 p.m.
Owosso Memorial Hosp. Annex

Saginaw Noon
Saginaw Club

Davisburg 7 p.m.
Don Hart Community Center

Thursday

Flushing 7 a.m.
Sorrento's Restaurant

Burton 12:10 p.m.
Brookwood Golf Club

Frankenmuth 12:10 p.m.
Zehnder's Restaurant

Corunna Noon
United Methodist Church

Make-ups: Watch This Space!

1/13/2009 Hanna Goodstein, Genesee Valley

1/13/2009 Peter Kleinpel, Genesee Valley

1/13/2009 James Kovas, Genesee Valley

1/16/2009 Robert Gerholz, Punta Gorda, FL

1/27/2009 Richard Cramer, Palm Beach Gardens, FL

1/27/2009 Richard Fortner, Genesee Valley

1/27/2009 Olivia Maynard, Genesee Valley

1/27/2009 Richard Warmbold, Flint Sunrise

1/30/2009 Robert Gerholz, Punta Gorda, FL

2/3/2009 Richard Cramer, Palm Beach Gardens, FL

2/3/2009 Peter Kleinpell, Genesee Valley

2/3/2009 Donald Lada, Grand Blanc, MI

2/3/2009 Gerald McCarty, Genesee Valley

2/4/2009 Michael Lindemann, Flint Sunrise

2/8/2009 Donald Barrow, Food Bank

2/8/2009 Timothy Goyette, Food Bank

2/8/2009 Kenneth Halter, Food Bank

New Member Proposal-Second Reading

Keith Saltsman, manager of Craig Ryan Fine Menswear, was proposed by Paul Wenstrom

Lawrence A. Reynolds, president and CEO of Mott Children's Health Center, was proposed by W. Archibald Piper

Concerns or comments should be sent to the Club Administrator in writing

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