

# SPOKES

The weekly newsletter of the Oshkosh Rotary Club

A Proud Tradition of Service Leadership

Club Number 2752  
District Number 6270

[www.oshkoshrotary.org](http://www.oshkoshrotary.org)  
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## October 19, 2009:

**Call to Order:** Larry Schultz, President  
**Prayer & Pledge:** Ron Hansche  
**Today's Program:** District Governor Update  
**Today's Speaker:** District Governor Bill Wresch



## October 12, 2009:

Larry Schultz, President, opened the meeting and welcomed all Rotarians and guests. Brenda Haines led the club in the opening prayer & pledge.

## VISITORS AND GUESTS: *Introduced by Dan Schoenrock, Sergeant-at-Arms*

**Southwest Rotary-** Tom Shepeck  
**Morning Rotary-** None  
**Out of Town Visitors-** None  
**Guests of Our Club-** Julie Sprangers, student guest; Daniela Ayala, exchange student.  
**Guests of Members-** Paul Murphy, guest of Dan Posanski (and prospective member).

Dan Schoenrock informed us that on this date: in 1997, John Denver was killed when the plane he was flying crashed into Monterey Bay; in 1492, Columbus reached the New World (probably Watling Island in the Bahamas); in 1810, a royal Bavarian wedding was the origin of Oktoberfest, at which more than 1 million gallons of alcohol are presently consumed; and in 1945, PFC Desmond T. Doss, a medical corpsman in the Army, became the first Conscientious Objector to be awarded the Congressional Medal of Honor for his valor, saving dozens of lives at the bloody battle for Okinawa; and in 2000, the USS *Cole* was attacked by terrorists while refueling at Aden, Yemen, resulting in the death of 17 sailors (including Fond du Lac native Engineman 2<sup>nd</sup> Class Marc Nieto). A sampling from today's humor (courtesy of Tom Willadsen): "Whenever I feel blue, I start breathing again."

## MARKET REPORT:

Tom Harenburg reported that the stock market dipped a bit after moving sideways near resistance levels associated with the S&P 500's 2009 intraday high near the 1080 level. The financial sector has been a noticeable laggard this session. Though the sector is currently up 0.4%, it still trails the broader market. Further, in terms of relative percent gained, it is in the bottom half of the S&P 500's 10 major sectors. Energy stocks continue to make up the best performing major sector. As a group, energy stocks are up 1.5%, just a bit off of their session high, however. Crude futures are currently up 2.0% at \$73.25 per barrel after trading just shy of \$73.85 per barrel. Treasury markets are closed today for Columbus Day. The US \$ continues to trade with weakness, which has taken the Dollar Index to a 0.4% loss. The dollar's doldrums continue to provide support for stocks, but the broad equity averages haven't been able to make their way back to their session highs, which were reached midmorning. Weakness in the dollar has also helped commodity prices this session. Just before noon CDT, the Dow was up 42.02 (0.43%); the Nasdaq was up 7.78 (0.36%); the S&P 500 was up 6.55 (0.61%); and the 10-yr Bond was down 3.38 (0.0040). Locally, Oshkosh Corporation received a \$408.5 million contract from the US Army, the 4<sup>th</sup> order on the huge contract awarded to them earlier. YTD, the contract has been worth \$2.76 billion to the company. Tom shared another "cowboy rule": They have golf courses in MT, but don't hit the water hazards – you'll disturb the fish.

## ROTARY DISTRICT 6270's FALL SEMINAR: OCTOBER 24, 2009

Rotary District 6270's Fall Seminar, "Rotary: Eradicating POLIO...PLUS a Whole Lot More" is a half-day meeting to discuss the goals of the District Governor from RI. All Rotary members are welcome to attend the seminar, which will take place on Saturday, October 24, 2009, from 7:30 am until noon at Hartford Central Middle School, 1100 Cedar St., Hartford, WI 53027. In addition to networking with other Rotarians and a General Session, there are breakout sessions on topics like, "Envision a Growing Membership – Recruiting and Retention Strategies", "Why your Club Wants an Exchange Student", and "How to Write a Successful District Simplified Grant (DSG) Proposal". Check it out at Rotary District 6270's website (an easy link from our Club's homepage, thank you, John Schatz!).

## FUNDRAISING REPORT:

Lori Renning reported that the 50/50 raffle is building. Bill Bracken said that OCM card sales stand at \$350, almost half-way to our sales goal, and encouraged everyone to get selling/buying now.

## GOOD NEWS/HAPPY DOLLARS/ANNOUNCEMENTS:

*(Contributions are made to Friends of the Oshkosh Senior Center and the Oshkosh Food Bank.)*

- John Kerrigan gave happy \$\$ to celebrate Frank Tower's boffo performance as the auctioneer at the Oshkosh Symphony's Wine Opus fundraiser last weekend.
- Frank Tower gave happy \$\$ for the success of Wine Opus, and reminded us that the Water City Chamber Orchestra's first concert of the season, "Dance! Joy!" will happen this week Friday, October 16<sup>th</sup>, 7:30 at the UWO Music Hall; tix available at the OSO office and the Grand box office.
- Dave Sennholz gave 8 happy \$\$ to celebrate the 8-point buck his grandson Jacob got in a recent youth hunt.
- Cathy Zimmerman celebrated her son, Karl Zimmerman's, company, Steadfast Networks', appearance for the 2<sup>nd</sup> year on Inc magazine's 5000, the list of America's fastest-growing private companies, at spot #630.
- Sherry Lynch had her one-year followup checkup from her fall from the horse last year, and was happy that her recovery has been pronounced to be complete.
- Steve Schmudlach announced that the Nominating Committee welcomes any member to express interest in serving in a leadership role with the club, in anticipation of elections for leaders to serve beginning July 1, 2010. The slate will be announced at the 2<sup>nd</sup> meeting in November, and the election will be at the club's annual meeting, on the 2<sup>nd</sup> Monday in December.
- Steve also explained, for the club's newer members, the source of the clap at the end of the Rotary song that opens every meeting. In October 2008, the club lost longtime member Bob Fick. Bob was enthusiastic in everything he did, loved singing, and thought that a strong "clap" at that point in the song was the properly energetic start to the meeting. Since he died, we have been adding the "clap" at the same point, in his memory. The tradition will be explained every October, for members who have joined over the past year.
- Wilbur Scoville was then prompted to say that when he was in Palm Springs for high school, the last two lines of the school's pep song was sung to the Rotary song melody.
- Josh Anderson announced that the "Scouting for Food" project will commence this week.
- Lisa O'Halloran announced, on behalf of a Rotarian from another club, that the Winnebago Home Builders' Association will hold its fundraising auction this Wednesday, 5:30 at LaSure's Hall; cash bar and free food. Proceeds go to the WHBA's Build PAC and its Scholarship Program.
- Sue Panek thanked club members Carol Williams and Rich Kern for their help with the "Money Smart Week" kickoff event, and the *Northwestern* for its coverage.

## PRESIDENT'S COMMENTS:

President Larry Schultz announced that the regular meeting of the Board will be this week Wednesday, October 14<sup>th</sup>, 7:30 am at Lara's Tortilla Flats. The Board will also meet next week Monday, October 19<sup>th</sup>, with District Governor Bill Wresch here at the City Center at 11 a.m.

He also announced the District 6270 Fall Seminar on October 24<sup>th</sup>, and that all Rotarians are welcome to attend [*see separate article*].

Kim Molitor, who has been handling the Student Exchange for the past 3-4 years, needs to relinquish those responsibilities. Larry asked that a club member willing to take over those duties step up and contact him ASAP. We need to file documents with RI by November 1<sup>st</sup> indicating who will be in charge of the program. Kim added that she is willing to mentor someone new in the job, acknowledging the mentoring that she received from Tom Shepeck, who has coordinated the student exchange for Southwest for many years. [After Kim's departure from the meeting, Tom said that helping Kim need not take a lot of time, and can be a great experience. He also thanked our club for its support of the program, both for inbound and outbound students, over the years.]

## STUDENT VISITOR:

Bill Zorr introduced Julie Sprangers. Julie is a senior at Oshkosh West, active on the swim team, and also in Quiz Bowl and the Science Club. She is certain that she is going to go into law, and is presently looking at undergrad options at UW, Northwestern (Tom Willadsen's cheer startled her, but hopefully she won't hold it against the school), Carleton and Macalester Colleges in the Twin Cities.

## October 12, 2009 – MEETING REVIEW:

President Larry Schultz announced that, since our scheduled speaker was a no-show, County Executive Mark Harris had graciously agreed to give us a few words on the County's budget.

Speaker: Winnebago County Executive Mark Harris  
Title: County Budget Highlights

Spending in the County's upcoming budget has been reduced by \$6 million, largely due to the participation in Family Care, a state program. The levy is increasing by 2.7%, well under the 3% allowed under the levy freeze. Factors include the County's lobbying to keep more money with nursing homes, and that there is no levy for the airport, thanks to the rental of parking space there by Oshkosh Corporation, whose defense contracts require that the equipment be parked on a hard surface until delivery. More than \$1 million in vehicle storage fees is anticipated in the coming year.

Interest on reserves is down, however, although Winnebago County is more financially sound at this time than many other Wisconsin counties.

The County is also anticipating an effect on its financial report as the result of delinquent taxes. The County pay the taxes to municipalities, and then collects them from the appropriate sources via property liens, usually making some money in the process. It may look like a financial detriment, but really it is just deferred.

Mark and the County are also lobbying to change a 1993 state law that says that counties cannot raise tax levies beyond their 1992 levels. This didn't present a problem when new construction was strong, but now counties are being squeezed by the lack of new construction on the one hand and the levy freeze on the other.

Mark also briefly addressed some criticism he had received from the public for allowing a "TEA Party" event to be held on the County-owned courthouse grounds. He said that he viewed it as a free speech issue - also indicating that he shared the concern of the organizers about long term federal debt. However, the "Taxed Enough Already" acronym ("TEA") is belied by facts from reasonably objective sources, such as the Wisconsin Taxpayers Alliance: the federal tax is at its lowest rate since 1950; in Wisconsin, state and municipal taxes have been on the decline since 1970; and the property tax over time has run between 4% and 6%, and is currently on the low end of that scale, at 4.6%.

## UPCOMING EVENTS:

Until October 17, 2009 "Money Smart Week".  
October 16, 2009 "Drama! Joy!" Opening Concert of Water City Chamber Orchestra, 7:30 pm, UWO Music Hall.  
October 24, 2009 Rotary District 6270's Fall Seminar "Rotary: Eradicating POLIO ... PLUS a whole lot more" [see article for details]  
November 6, 2009 Spa Afternoon 2009, 1:30-4:30 @ Fox Valley Plastic Surgery & Renaissance Medispa to benefit Clarity Care's "Help at Home" program  
November 9, 2009 Oshkosh Chamber of Commerce Annual Meeting & Recognition Night, Oshkosh Convention Center.

	<b>FUTURE MEETINGS:</b>	<b>PRAYER &amp; PLEDGE/GREETER:</b>
<b>Oct 26</b>	Council for Innovation	Tom Harenburg
<b>Nov 2</b>	Oshkosh Bridge Lighting Project	Mark Harris
<b>Nov 9</b>	Sawdust City Slickers Barbershop Quartet	Gordon Hintz

## 4-Way Test:

Lisa O'Halloran led the club in the Four-Way Test to conclude the meeting.

*Message from the editor: Like my predecessor, I am shorthand-challenged. I apologize for any errors when reporting announcements, good news, happy dollars, etc. It would be helpful, and reduce my reporting errors, if you would email or provide me a hand-written copy of the information that you would like to see in **Spokes**. Thanks for your cooperation. – Alyson Zierdt*

**Four Avenues of Service**

The term "Four Avenues of Service" refers to the four elements of the Object of Rotary: Club Service, Vocational Service, Community Service and International Service.

Although the Avenues of Service are not found in any formal part of the constitutional documents of Rotary, many Rotarians use this concept to describe the primary areas of Rotary activity.

Club Service involves all of the necessary activities Rotarians perform to make their club function successfully. Things like taking attendance, keeping records and raising money come under this Avenue of Service.


Vocational Service describes the opportunity each Rotarian has to represent the dignity and utility of one's vocation to the other members of the club, as well as the responsibility of the club to undertake projects related to such areas as career planning, vocational training, and the promotion of high ethical standards in the workplace.

Community Service pertains to those activities that Rotarians undertake to improve the quality of life in their community. It frequently involves assistance to youth, the aged, the disabled, and others who look to Rotary as a source of hope for a better life. When we are volunteer readers at Lincoln School, when the club pays to send grade school students to the symphony, when we raise money for the Literacy Council we walk this Avenue of Service.

The Fourth Avenue of Service, International Service, describes the many programs and activities that Rotarians undertake to advance international understanding, goodwill, and peace. International service projects are designed to meet humanitarian needs of people in many lands. Our most obvious international service is our connection with the orphanage in La Molina, Peru. Half the money from our table goes toward the eradication of polio through RI's Polio Plus effort. So even here in Oshkosh we are working internationally through the connection of Rotary.

When a Rotarian understands and travels down the Four Avenues of Service, the Object of Rotary takes on an even greater meaning.

*From the District newsletter October 2006*

	<p><b>Rotary</b> <b>s o n g</b></p> <p>R-O-T-A-R-Y That spells Rotary! R-O-T-A-R-Y Is known on land and sea! From North to South</p>	<p>From East to West (S)he profits most Who serves the best R-O-T-A-R-Y That spells Rotary</p>
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**2009-2010 Leadership**

**Rotary International**

John Kenny, **President**  
Learn more at [www.rotary.org](http://www.rotary.org)

**District 6270 Officers**

William Wresch, **District Governor**  
Paul Decker, **District Governor-Elect**  
Nancy Rhodes, **District Governor-Nominee**

**Oshkosh Rotary Board:  
Club Officers:**

Larry Schultz, **President**  
Teresa Van Aacken, **President-Elect**  
Lisa O'Halloran, **President-Nominee**  
Sherry Lynch, **Secretary**  
James Stahl, **Treasurer**  
Dan Schoenrock, **Sergeant at Arms**  
Steve Schudlach, **Past President**

**Club Directors:**

Directors serve three-year terms. The Board meets the 2<sup>nd</sup> Wednesday of the month at 7:30 a.m.

- Steve Arndt (2010)
- Casey Zaniewski (2010)
- Alyson Zierdt (2010)
- Paul Narveson (2011)
- John Schatz (2011)
- Bill Bracken (2011)
- Jeff Gilderson-Duwe (2012)
- Petra Roter (2012)
- Karen Schibline (2012)

**Key Contacts**

Alyson Zierdt, **Spokes editor**  
Lori Renning, **Fundraising director**  
W. Robert Bruce, **Pianist**

**Four Areas of Service (Directors)**

- Club Service**  
To be determined.
- Community Service**  
To be determined.
- Vocational Service**  
To be determined.
- International Service**  
To be determined.

**Oshkosh Rotary Club  
Past District Governors**

- Cathy Zimmerman (2003-2004)
- John Kerrigan (1999-2000)
- A. John Wiley (1994-1995)
- Charles F. Nolan (1972-1973)
- Frederick L. Caudle (1965-1966)
- George Nevitt (1952-1953)
- Jasper Lockart (1933-1934)

meeting **make-up** schedule

To view all District 6270 club schedules, visit [www.Rotary6270.com](http://www.Rotary6270.com) or visit [www.RotaryClubOne.org](http://www.RotaryClubOne.org) to make up a meeting at any time.

Monday	7:15 a.m.	Appleton Breakfast	Riverview Country Club
Monday	Noon	Fond du Lac	Holiday Inn
Monday	5:30 p.m.	Berlin	Berlin Family Restaurant
Tuesday	12:10 p.m.	Appleton	Paper Valley Hotel
Wednesday	Noon	Oshkosh Southwest	Robbins
Wednesday	Noon	Menasha	Waverly Beach
Thursday	7:00 a.m.	Fond du Lac Morning	Ramada Hotel
Thursday	Noon	Neenah	Valley Inn
Friday	7:00 a.m.	Oshkosh Morning	City Center Hotel
Friday	Noon	Appleton West	Holiday Inn

**Rotary 4-Way Test**

- 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?

