



Service above self...

OWENSBORO'S ROTARY IMPETUS

...since 1915

Vol. 53, No. 28

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February 9, 2009

Programs

This Week's Program:

Club Assembly/Local Speech contest

Upcoming Programs:

Feb. 18 JAT Mountjoy - Dental Clinic

Feb. 25 Fred Reeves - Downtown Development

February Program Chair: **Mike Filbin/John Kazlauskas**

STORM REPORT...

At Wednesday's meeting, Commissioner and fellow Rotarian **John Kazlauskas** provided an update on recovery efforts following the recent ice storm. Of OMU's 25,000 customers, 18,000 lost power. Within a week that number was down to 3,500. The Red Cross was successful in finding housing for 600 people within the first two nights. The Salvation Army served over 2,500 meals a day. There were no weather-related deaths thanks to the great planning of city and county emergency systems and utilities. John says we live in a great community that lends a hand to help whenever there is need.

Your President Speaks...

WOW, my presidency is shaping up to be an eventful year! Two once-in-a-century storms ... in four months!! I have never known the benefits of good old wool (socks, sweaters, blankets) and long underwear more than in this last week! As Terry and I stayed cozy in our living room huddled up by the wood fire and drinking hot cocoa, it was reminiscent of a by-gone era where folks just stayed at home and talked by candlelight. Kind of relaxing if we weren't so worried about family and thawing food and ice everywhere!

As John K told us today, we do live in a fantastic community where neighbors really do help each other in need. People pull together in this region, like a big extended family in a crisis and we have the BEST Red Cross, utility linemen, police and firemen in the world. A great effort was needed and there were multiple teams of all stripes everywhere doing good deeds for the most vulnerable.

Rotary is just a gigantic helpful family, out to address the needs of the suffering among all of humanity. And we do it year round, 24/7! To Rotarians, everyone on the planet is a neighbor.

Living for a week in primitive conditions reminds us that there are people all over the world who have never had hot showers or electricity... or even decent homes to keep the elements out! It has made what we do in Rotary that much more real to me.

I hope all is well with you and yours. See you next week. **THINK BIGGER!!!**

President Tom

Happy Birthday to...

Bo Barron – February 9
Tim France – February 11

Patrick McNulty – February 11
Ben Hartz – February 12



Meeting Notes from February 4, 2009

PRAYER, PLEDGE & 4-WAY TEST: Gary Noffsinger

ATTENDANCE & GUESTS: Hervey Howell reported 65 members and 3 guests present.

ANNOUNCEMENTS:

- Ø Fellow Rotarian **Mike Filbin** is now home, recovering from surgery and will be traveling back to Nashville for follow-ups.
- Ø Our club will be sponsoring Jennifer Dooper in her application for an Ambassadorial Scholarship. Jennifer is a student at Western Kentucky University.
- Ø Silent auction items for the Bourbon Heritage Celebration are still needed. Contact Barbara Poynter at 240-4007.
- Ø We've received an update from Uganda. Our pump is still out, but work to repair the unit should begin shortly.

PROGRAM: **President Tom Smith** introduced speaker Vicki Ellis, Director of Donor Resources at the Western Kentucky Regional Blood Center. Vicki first shared the good news that the center is once again up and running after the storm. The Western Kentucky Regional Blood Center serves six hospitals, primarily OMHS. It has a number of sub-centers in outlying communities. Having a local blood center is a great advantage to any community. The Center can control local needs very effectively and quickly. Blood can be drawn and processed for use within a short six hour period. The Blood Center also does youth education in schools. The Center understands that we have an aging population and the number of potential donors will be less as time goes on. That creates the necessity to create a heart of giving and volunteerism in today's youth. Any time is a good time to give blood, but donating is especially fun during the annual Halloween Vein Drain.

Congratulations to the members of Rookies Team #2 who received their certificates at Wednesday's meeting!

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2008/09
Rotary International
Theme



Rotary Reminders

- Don't forget to make up your missed meetings at Daviess County Rotary at Moonlite at 7 am on Tuesday.
- If you have an email address and are not receiving the *Impetus* online, or you have changed your email address, please send that information to kim@mediaworksadvertising.com.

Please mail any questions, suggestions, or comments regarding the *Impetus* to:

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Owensboro, Kentucky 42303

Visit Owensboro Rotary on the Web!

www.owensbororotary.org

Meeting Information

Meeting Time:

Every Wednesday at 12:00 noon

Meeting Location:

Owensboro Country Club
400 E. Byers Avenue
Owensboro, Kentucky 42303

2008/09 Club Officers

President: Tom Smith
Vice President: Patty Ray
Past President: Patrick McNulty
Secretary: Dean Ehrenheim
Treasurer: Bob Nation