

# Neenah Rotary

August 2000

*Dear Rotarians,*

**Create Awareness, Take Action.** Our theme for this year is really apropos to building Rotary membership. Rotary provides some special things to its members: an opportunity to serve and an opportunity for friendship. And, both can be done at the club, district, and international levels. The hosting of the Argentine Group Study Exchange is a recent example of an opportunity taken by our club to increase world understanding (service) and to make new friends from another country (friendship).

Our Rotary International President, Frank Devlyn, has said, "I believe that Rotary membership development and retention are the most important issues for Rotary's future." Frank's message, which was shared at one of our club meetings in July, defined a qualified candidate for Rotary membership as "any adult who can be considered an outstanding representative in his/her working activity or in his/her community."

In a recent conversation at a Rotary board meeting, one of our members said he liked the size of our club, about 100 members. It's big enough to be able to do projects of

significance, and small enough that we all know each other. One of our long-term members said, "that's right, and that's what we used to say when we were 50 members, too!" I don't think there is an answer to the quantity of members for an ideal club. I think the quality of members is a bigger factor, and that it is also a big factor in attracting new members and retaining present members. Our club's goal for this year is to add a net of five new members. I also have a personal goal of bringing in one new member, and I invite you to set a similar goal.

The first pages of our Neenah Rotary Club Directory are a membership proposal form and an explanation of how to propose a new member. Please give some thought to who among your friends and associates may be a candidate for Rotary membership, **create awareness.** Then, **take action.** Invite the prospect to one of our weekly Rotary meetings, and complete a membership proposal form. You'll be making our club stronger, and you will be providing someone with leadership qualities the opportunity for service through Rotary.



## Green Park Rich in History

Our August 19th project at Green Park will be more than just pounding nails and pouring cement. Our club will be a part of continuing a unique history that began in 1843, when Neenah's pioneer settlers decided to protect and preserve a grassy meadow in the village. According to William E. Dunwiddie's [The Parks of Neenah \(1993\)](#), Green Park (now known as Columbian Park) is fourteen years older than famous Central Park in New York City.

As this excerpt from Dunwiddie's book indicates, Green Park has come a long way since 1889:

*First known as Public Square Park, the meadow was probably used as a common pasture or hayfield. The park provided open space for kite-flying and simple games, but the area wasn't even fenced until 1884. Records show the Neenah Park Board was paid for hay harvested from the Public Square in the 1890's. From 1900 to 1929 it was the Neenah High School football field. Today it contains a softball diamond, and the center of the park is flooded in winter for skating. The ice rink is lighted and supervised. The heated shelter provides a warm room for skate-changing. There are teeter-totters, swings, slides, and a sandbox. In 1921 two tennis courts were built for \$250 at the urging of C.B. Clark.*

*So, from humble beginnings, a common pasture and hayfield has been turned into a neighborhood park. 1993 marked the 150th birthday of 'The Green,' one of the oldest parks in Wisconsin.*

## "Endurance Expedition" at Rotary's August 3rd Meeting

Don't miss the club meeting on August 3rd when Dick Campbell will share the harrowing adventure of "THE ENDURANCE: SHACKLETON'S INCREDIBLE VOYAGE." In 1914, the Endurance, under the command of Ernest Shackleton, set sail for the South Atlantic. The objective of the expedition: to cross the Antarctic Continent overland.

In October, 1915, still a half a continent away from their intended base, the ship was trapped, then crushed in the ice. For five months Shackleton and his 27 crewmen, drifting on ice floes, were castaways in one of the most savage regions of the world.

A magnificent story of leadership, and one of history's greatest epics of survival – you can hear about it from Dick Campbell at our August 3rd meeting!

## Benefit Rotary Foundation With Your Frequent Flyer Miles

Rotary International has announced its participation in the United Airlines Mileage Plus Charity Miles Program. This allows Rotarians as well as non-Rotarians to donate miles in 10,000-mile increments to benefit the Grants for Rotary Volunteers program. Individuals who wish to make mileage donations should call [United Airlines Mileage Plus at 1-800-421-4655](#) and indicate to the customer service representative that they are interested in making a Charity Miles donation to benefit the Rotary International account. The Charity Miles Program will also accept mileage donations from the accounts of deceased Rotarians and their partners provided that the Mileage Plus accounts in question are still open.

Our club or district may also use this program to earmark specific mileage donations to provide free airfare for use in benefitting our own international humanitarian projects.



## Neenah Jazz-Fest: September 2 - 3

Snap your fingers and tap your toes – no, we're not talking about the Rotary Band. Future Neenah will kick off the sixth annual Neenah Jazz-Fest on Saturday, September 2 with Jazz Pianist Matt Turner at the Neenah Public Library. The Sunday festivities will begin at 11:00 a.m. with a "Jazz Worship Service," a new twist for Jazz-Fest. Great entertainment for the whole family, including a children's fun and games area, will be held on both days. For a complete schedule, contact Future Neenah at 722-1920.

Signature sponsor Menasha Corporation and new-sponsor Affinity Health System make it possible for this wonderful event to be free to the public.

## Club Meetings

### August 3

Invocation ..... Steve Morton  
Greeter ..... Dan Schetter  
Program Coordinator ..... Dave Wollangk  
Speaker/Program ..... Dick Campbell:  
"Shackleton-Antarctic Exploration"

### August 10

Invocation ..... Russ Mueller  
Greeter ..... Rob Petri  
Program Coordinator ..... Stacie Gries  
Speaker/Program ..... Superintendent Jim Wiswall:  
"Update on Neenah Joint School District"

### August 17

Invocation ..... Doc Musekamp  
Greeter ..... Dean Moede  
Program Coordinator ..... Margie Weiss  
Speaker/Program ..... Dr. Larry Johnson, FVTC President:  
"Training and Educating Workers for the Future"

### August 24

Invocation ..... Dan Napuck  
Greeter ..... Jim Weiss  
Program Coordinator ..... Pam Zelinski  
Speaker/Program ..... Representative from  
Regional Domestic Abuse Services

### August 31

Invocation ..... Wayne Nemecek  
Greeter ..... Margie Weiss  
Program Coordinator ..... Val Pfeiffer  
Speaker/Program ..... Carla Craig:  
"Missionary Work in South America"



Roberta Jensen ..... August 1  
Rick Carlson ..... August 2  
Randy Hager ..... August 9  
Mike Mancl ..... August 11  
Linda Plotz ..... August 12  
Rob Petri ..... August 13  
Steve Klima ..... August 22  
Randy Grimes ..... August 27  
Frank Wiesner ..... August 30