



DECEMBER 2006: THANKS & GIVING COULD MEAN “SHARING AND CARING”

“Thanks and Giving”. I heard that phrase one morning on the **Today TV Show**, just two weeks before this newsletter was due for publication. I thought to myself, what a nice way to ‘bridge’ two holidays, (*Thanksgiving and Christmas*) as I prepared the December 2006 issue of this *T-M Rotarian* newsletter.

In case you didn’t know what Rotary thinks or has to say about things political or even religious, one of those holidays, *Thanksgiving*, has come and gone and yet, one can often find one’s self thinking about the second one of those holidays that some people are now having second thoughts about calling a Christian holiday *Christmas*. It certainly is interesting that the first of these two days which is about giving someone or something thanks for that which one possesses has become political. The second of these two days, which have been left to each one of us, has suddenly become both political and religious. Some people, it would seem, have even gone so far as to liken it to the theology one practices or that in which one chooses to believe or not believe. Perhaps, it is safe to say that *Thanksgiving* and *Christmas* is about the ‘choices’ one makes!

Whether one chooses Ramadan, Hanukkah, Christmas, Kwanzaa or nothing at all, many choices all seem to come together during this time of the year. One can only wonder how many of us recognize that both Christianity and Islam developed from Judaism (belief in one God) or that *Christmas* in America is a Christian holiday that celebrates the birth of Jesus, the Christ? Can it be true that Rotary’s *Four Way Test* mirrors the *“Golden Rule”*? Was the ‘vision’ that Paul Percy Harris had for Rotary the ‘reality’ that we are living today? Does Rotary need to be rebuilt or did Paul P. Harris build better than he knew? Questions for another time?

The T-M Rotary Club Selects Morgan Mathias as the HHS “Student of the Month”

The Thiensville-Mequon (T-M) Rotary Club selected Morgan Mathias, daughter of Dr. David Mathias of Green Bay and Mrs. Margaret T. Mathias of Mequon, as its HHS “Student of the Month” for November 2006. This award was presented to Morgan on November 21, 2006 at a luncheon meeting held at the Ozaukee Country Club on N. River Road in Mequon. Homestead High School senior, Morgan Mathias was chosen for her many school and community-related service projects, which included her performance in several dance contests. She has been awarded the Peter Scheutter Ballet Scholarship and the Carey Rose Winski Foundation Dance Scholarship to but mention a few. She has also helped to create a garden at one of Milwaukee’s Homeless Shelters, served as a member of “Gathering on the Green’s” cleanup crews and as a dance teacher and ballet performer for inner-city children. Morgan did all of this and more while serving as Secretary of the National Honor Society and the School Yearbook. Congratulations, Morgan! The Thiensville-Mequon Rotary Club is proud to have you as one of Homestead High School’s “Students of the Month”



ANNUAL FUNDRAISER GETS 'A' FOR EFFORT DESPITE POOR WEATHER

This year's fundraiser, which was formally called "Out of the Box", shed its 'Black-Tie' image for 2006 and urged all its supporters to attend the 'charity auction' and 'dinner buffet' that was held at the 'Four Points Sheraton-North' in Brown Deer, WI. Although the weather failed to cooperate fully and the first snow of the season closed some roads, a 'fun time' was had by all as they danced to the sounds of the 'Lucky Strings', a band represented by the 'Mr. Lucky Syndicate'. Corporate tables by Concordia University Wisconsin, WE-Energies, Realty Executives-A. Bush, Northwestern Financial Network-R. Scott Schwertfeger and DPA/MacFarlane Consultants helped to make this year's fundraiser a success. Other tables contained members of the M-T 'Sunrise' Rotary Club, PDG and Mrs. Hertz & Guests, Dr. and Mrs. 'Sandy' Custer & Guests and any number of T-M Rotarians and their guests. Co-chairs Susan Jarvela and Kenneth E. Harris, Jr. wish to thank all of the donors, patrons and supporters who made this event possible. A special thanks to Cedarburg's 'Connoisseur House of Chocolates' for donating the dessert of light and dark chocolates, to Ron Allen of 'Best Western Quiet House' for his help at checkout, to Ms. Diane Lane for her graphic arts design, to Chuck Winnemann of 'Lustre Color Printing & Graphics' for printing our invitations and ad/program booklets and, of course, to the many volunteers who made themselves available despite the weather conditions. Thank you again, one and all.

EVAN MILLER INDUCTED AS T-M ROTARY CLUB MEMBER



Evan Miller, Assistant Vice President and Branch Manager of M & I Bank, 1555 N. Mequon Road, Mequon, WI was formally inducted into the Thiensville-Mequon Rotary Club by Van A. Mobley, President of the T-M Rotary Club at its luncheon meeting on November 21, 2006 at the Ozaukee Country Club, 10823 N. River Road, 43N. Mequon, WI. His classification will be 'Retail Banking'. Mr. Miller may be reached at the branch at 241-7611.

REFLECTIONS

So much happened during Rotary's Foundation Month of November, that it's hard to put into words what T-M Rotary members and guests learned in that short span of three weeks. The month of November 2006 began with an upbeat presentation on **November 7, 2006** by Ms. Wendy Baumann of the Wisconsin's Women's Business Initiative. She told us how businesses were started and sustained by trust. In many cases, this trust was based on the ability of the Women's Business Initiative to loan capital to businesses that many banks wouldn't touch. She told us just how that trust manifested itself by showing us the percentage of repayment of the loans that those businesses achieved. On **Friday, November 10, 2006**, we had the first snow 'showers' of the season to mark T-M Rotary's annual fundraiser, "Out of the Box" with Sue Jarvela and Ken Harris as co-chairs. On **November 14, 2006**, Jessica Hahn told us all about 'Parkinson's Disease'. Not only was her presentation informative but it started many of us to wondering (I do a lot of that these days) if we exhibited some of the 'symptoms' that she shared with us. As she indicated, Parkinson's Disease is not hereditary, there is no known cause or cure and the best one can hope to do is to slow it down. On **November 21, 2006**, the T-M Rotarians and our Rotary Youth Exchange (RYE) student, Shonita Joshi, were treated to a presentation on T-M Rotary's Guatemala Medical Relief Program (GMRP) by fellow Rotarian, Robert 'Bob' Blazich of the M-T 'Sunrise' Rotary Club. Bob gave credit to the GMRP founder, Douglas R. Hansen and to Shelley Weston, GMRP Coordinator.

“Happy Holidays To One and All”

Your T-M Rotary Club’s Officers & Board of Directors



The Thiensville-Mequon Rotary Club Officers (2006-2007)

Dr. Van A. Mobley (President)	(262) 243-4502
Ms. Shelley L. Weston (President-Elect)	(262) 242-5883
Mr. Andrew A. Petzold (Secretary / Treasurer)	(262) 241-9910
Mr. Douglas R. Hansen (Immediate Past President)	(262) 242-2700

The Thiensville-Mequon Rotary Club Board of Directors (2006-2007)

Mrs. Patricia Treffert (Director of International Service)	(262) 242-8045
Mr. Todd Davis (Director of Vocational Service)	(262) 236-8848
Mr. Greg Sommersberger (Director of Community Service)	(262) 240-3577
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