



The Rotary Club of St. Joseph-Benton Harbor

# eWheel

Your Rotary News  
Straight  
To Your Inbox

**JULY 27, 2015**

R-O-T-A-R-Y, that spells Rotary! We sang our club pride song this week as we welcomed our new Rotary District 6360 Governor to the St. Joseph-Benton Harbor Club. The day had a little extra polish on it as the Heritage Museum & Cultural Center proudly showcased a fancy new podium as well as a new microphone!

## **SIX GOALS FOR DISTRICT 6360**



An unassuming, passionate, "let's get to work" man describes Rick Briscoe, our newest District Governor. Though it was one of the shortest speeches ever given at our Rotary meeting this Monday, it was down-to-earth and downright poignant in that he laid out his six goals for the coming year while District 6360 is under his watch. Simply put, his goals are:

**1. Membership.** The District goal for 2015-16 is for every club to increase membership by one (1) member, net over 2014-15. Also for every club to review the makeup of their club and to evaluate how well your club represents your community by age, gender, ethnicity and occupation.

**2. Foundation.** District 6360 goal for 2015-16 will be a compilation of the individual club goals. However, we all need to remember that the Rotary Foundation is the engine that empowers us to "Do Good" in the world. The goal for 2015-16 is for each club to set a TRF (The Rotary Foundation) goal and to meet it.

**3. Polio Plus.** Every member needs to know that while we are close to eradicating Polio, it could come back overnight if we don't finish the job. Therefore, the District Goal for 2015-16 is that every club will promote some activity related to Polio Eradication and raise funds so we can give this great gift to the world - a Polio Free World!

**4. Joint Service Projects:** The District goal for 2015-16 is to encourage multi-club projects. It is often overwhelming for a small club to manage a large project, especially an international project. I hope to see more clubs join in service to their community or the international community.

**5. Community Service Project:** The District goal for

2015-16 is for every club in the district to provide one family in need with a joyous Christmas, Exactly what and how each club meets this goal will be up to the club. While there are great needs around the world, think of the impact of your club can have on one family. We have all been given many gifts, how about giving a gift to the family that doesn't have such gifts. And if a club of 15 members can support one family, I challenge larger clubs to think of the potential they may have in this area. We have the potential to bless many families in December.

**6. District Service.** The District goal of 2015-16 is to have at least one member of each club involved with some committee or activity at the District level.

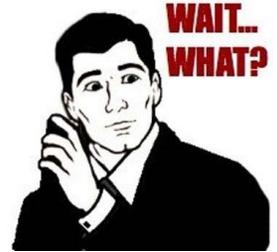
These goals are reasonable and Rick feels that every club, no matter the size, can meet these goals. As Rick leads us into a new, dynamic year of service to all, let us each do our small part to impact our club, community and district. Just think of the endless possibilities that exist before us if each member in each club were to participate in the overall plan.

# Joke of the Week!



"My memory really sucks Mildred, so I changed my password to "incorrect." That way when I log in with the wrong password, the computer will tell me... "Your password is incorrect"

*If you're not getting emails from Mike about weekly Rotary topics or the e-Wheel...then you're probably not reading this announcement...*

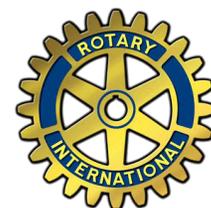


*but all the same, let Mike know.*



## Visiting Rotarians

Terry Allen from Lakeshore  
Rick Briscoe from Kalamazoo  
Chris McKee from Chattanooga, TN  
Olivia Starks from Benton Harbor Sunrise



## Rotarians with Guests

Matt Hanley brought Ricky Plangger  
Maria Kibler brought Jennifer Kirsch  
Tanya Urias brought Patrick Swem  
*This was the third visit for both Ricky and Jennifer and Patrick will be joining us as a new member next week!*



**Nigeria has been polio free  
for one full year!**

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## Oh No – Say it Ain’t So!



Clay McCausland joined our club back in 2011 when he moved to the area to work for Congressman Fred Upton. Since that time, he’s been a major contributor both to the Rotary Club of St. Joseph-Benton Harbor as well as the community in general. We are very sad to be losing Clay as a member as he transitions back to the Federal Investigative field of work which will be taking him and his family to Cleveland, OH in October. Thank you Clay for your service and you better come back and visit us from time to time!

## Student Exchange Update



We were joined by Mateusz “Matt” Gibiec this lovely Monday for an update on all that he’s been up to since we saw him last. Last summer he went back to Poland but then stayed in St. Joe for a while before

heading to Lawrence Tech University where he is a Computer Engineering Major and a member of the soccer team. He shared that his life was mostly practice-school-practice/game and that it was a very busy semester. He spent Christmas in Poland but was able to visit Mike & Jackie Huie for a week before returning to school. Even though it was the off-season for soccer, Matt still had lots of practices and adding a part-time job to that, he was just as busy as before. Since his semester ended in May, he’s been staying in St. Joseph where he’s had the opportunity to intern at Johnson-Rauhoff doing IT support and some coding. He heads back to college next week to start pre-season training all over again but he wanted to make sure he thanked all Rotarians for making this opportunity possible for him.

## Student Exchange Program Gets Local Media Attention

*From the Herald Palladium:*  
Posted: Sunday, July 26, 2015  
By JOHN MATUSZAK

ST. JOSEPH - Behind every successful professional is someone who helped them take their first steps up that ladder.

The St. Joseph-Benton Harbor Rotary Club realized that universal truth seven years ago and launched a student mentor program that is now going global.

"Sometimes I think the difference between success and failure is passion. Sometimes I think it's having a focus. Sometimes I think it's hard work. And sometimes I think it's having someone helping

you out," said Jackie Huie, past president of the St. Joseph-Benton Harbor Rotary Club and president of Johnson-Rauhoff marketing firm, who helped launch the Rotary Student Program.

The program started in 2008 as Huie and others saw that many young people did not have access to the experience and advice of the top people in various career fields.

Huie had that chance from an early age, shadowing her father, Don Johnson, who started Johnson-Rauhoff 50 years ago.

"I love my job," Huie said. "I feel like the luckiest person in the world, and I would love it if everybody had that opportunity."

Since the Rotary Student Program started, hundreds of area high school students have had the opportunity to meet leaders in Southwest Michigan and around the country - from a former NFL player to a prima ballerina with the New York City Ballet.

With the support of the local community (including Johnson-Rauhoff) and Rotary International, Huie and her husband, Mike, have made presentations at global conferences in Lisbon, Portugal, and this year in Sao Paulo, Brazil.

So far, 60 countries have pledged to adopt the program, with more signing on all the time.

## Mentoring mavens

Student mentoring is a popular concept these days, but back when Huie first had the idea, it was not as common.

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The Rotary Student Program consists of a one-hour "reverse interview" with the professional, in which the student asks questions about their field of expertise. They then report back to their home club, gaining experience in public speaking.

"It's not about the business professional just showing up, it's not about a tour or even about shadowing. It's about having an honest conversation" about their career choice, Huie said.

One of the breakthrough partnerships was with Jeff Fettig, president and CEO of Whirlpool Corp.

St. Joseph High School student David Reimers wrote on his application for the Rotary Student Program that his dream job was to be CEO of Whirlpool. "We all laughed," Huie said of their committee. "We called Mr. Fettig and said 'There's a kid who wants to be you. Would you be willing to sit down with him?' He chuckled and then said 'Sure, I'll sit down with him.'"

In a video testimonial, Reimers said Fettig gave him invaluable advice. He suggested that the young man first major in finance and accounting "since numbers are the language of business," and then get his MBA. He also told Reimers "Don't worry about your next job. Work as hard as you can on your current job, and the next job will take care of itself."

The participation of Fettig, head of one of the largest companies in the world, encouraged others to take part, Huie said.

In his own testimonial, Fettig acknowledged the worldwide potential of the project. "It doesn't matter the language, it doesn't matter the culture, sharing your experience and letting people find out how they can succeed through your experiences can help anyone, really, in any country in the world."

The mentor relationship with Reimers continued, with Fettig visiting him at Michigan State University. All that advice must have stuck because Reimers is now working for Whirlpool.

"I don't know what I'd be doing today," without the Rotary Student Program, Reimers said.

### **Re-energizing Rotary**

Reimers, now 22, is poised to become the youngest member of the St. Joseph-Benton Harbor Rotary Club. His father, Randy Reimers, community president with Fifth Third Bank, was so impressed with the results that he joined Rotary, as well.

"Overnight David went from a kid to a man ... that is how huge of an impact Jeff Fettig had on our son," he said.

Recruiting new Rotarians boosts the organization's global missions of providing clean water to remote locations and eliminating polio, Huie said.

Traveling overseas tapped into a worldwide need for mentors. The Huies first traveled to Bangkok, Thailand, to test the waters for their concept. The next year they went to Lisbon, and received an enthusiastic response. "People were telling us

"We can't make the connections in our communities for our kids," Huie said. Things only continued to grow during the Brazil trip, with nations such as Zambia, Uganda, Ghana and Italy among the latest converts. The program has been featured on Rotary International's website.

With 1.2 million members worldwide, Rotary is the perfect vehicle to sustain such an effort, Huie said. And the St. Joseph-Benton Harbor club, one of the largest in the world with 150 members, has the connections to make it happen, she said. Rotary Clubs interested in the mentor program are sent information with 11 steps for getting one off the ground. Huie said they have recently provided downloadable material to make it more accessible.

The project hasn't reached its peak, Huie said. "It's nowhere near where it's going to be." Huie even sees this as a way to help underprivileged kids. "For kids in poverty-stricken areas, if you have a goal, if you have a path, it's easier to pull yourself through, and if you have hope," said Huie, whose father is a self-made man and whose mother picked cotton as a child.

The continuing success of the Rotary Student Program emphasizes for Huie and the others involved the power of a dream.

Maria Kibler, a Rotarian and advisor to their Interact group for students, reminded her "Jackie, remember that day when we said this will go global? It did!"

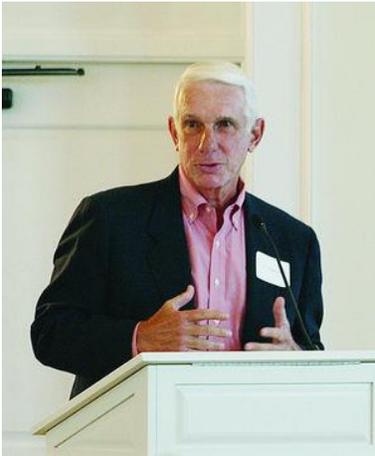
For information, visit [www.rotarystudentprogram.org](http://www.rotarystudentprogram.org).

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## **J.C. Anderson Receives Top Honor for Volunteerism**

At the United Way of Southwest Michigan's annual Volunteer Recognition Event, our own J.C. Anderson was presented with the prestigious Margaret B. Upton Award. Anderson was recognized

for his years of service to organizations including the Lakeshore Excellence Foundation, YMCA, Young Life of Southwest Michigan, Benton Harbor Schools and the United Way of Southwest Michigan. He has also served on many boards, including the Economic Club of Southwest Michigan, Senior PGA Championship, Well of Grace Ministries, First Church of God and Rotary International.



As the winner of this award, Anderson gets to donate \$3,000 to the non-profit organization of his choice and he has decided to direct the money to the organization that nominated him, the Lakeshore Excellence Foundation.

When presented with the award, Anderson asked that presentation go back to the screen that listed the names of all of the previous 32 winners of the award and proceeded to thank them for laying the grounds for volunteer work in Berrien and Cass Counties. Among that list of past winners, many past and present Rotarians from our and neighboring clubs have been recognized with this award. Past Rotarian winners include Pat Moody (1992), Charles Jespersen (1998), David E. Bly, Jr. (2001), Jon Wallace (2004), Mary Jo Tomasini (2006), Robert Harrison (2007), Dennis Bown (2010), Don Gast (2010), Steve Sizer (2011), William Marohn (2012) and David Kirschenbaum (2013).

“The key to volunteerism is you have to have a passion for it,” Anderson shared. “If you love your community and love raising a family here, you ought to volunteer in programs that can meet your passion.” United Way President Anna Murphy added “J.C. is a great selection for this award because he is a great leader and his work has helped make this a great place to live, work and play.”

Congratulations J.C. and thank you to all Rotarians who represent our club so well in the community!

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## **WANT TO CONTRIBUTE TO THE E-WHEEL?**

Your weekly email is brought to you by Debra Trapikas and Emily Hosinski. If you have an announcement, a bit of news you wish to share, or a story you wish to see featured, please write one or both at [tawana53@aol.com](mailto:tawana53@aol.com) or [emily\\_m\\_hosinski@whirlpool.com](mailto:emily_m_hosinski@whirlpool.com). Thank you to Aaron Bradford for the wonderful photography!

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online at [www.sjbhrotary.org](http://www.sjbhrotary.org)**



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