



The Rotary Club of St. Joseph-Benton Harbor

eWheel

Your Rotary News
Straight
To Your Inbox

MARCH 30, 2015

A smaller gathering this afternoon as many of our fellow Rotarians are enjoying Spring Break somewhere far away.

Many cheers from MSU fans as their basketball team advances to the Final Four. March came in like a lion and appears to be headed out like a lamb. We're ready for April, we're ready for more spring-like weather and those of us without "brackets" are ready for this March Madness to end.

What Can AEP/Indiana Michigan Power Do for You?



That's the question that Mark Robinson of AEP/Indiana Michigan Power wanted to make sure we all knew the answer to after his presentation today. And the answer is – a lot!

kilowatt hour compared to 13 cents in Texas. In fact, Michigan has the lowest residential and commercial kilowatt hour rate in the country with a competitive industrial rate as well.

How is this dollar amount calculated?

Fuel Cost + Operation & Maintenance + Return on Capital divided by Kilowatt Hour Sales

The total number of kilowatt hour sales is actually decreasing however as HVAC units and other major appliances increase in efficiency and public awareness trends towards energy-saving practices.

He shared some pretty impressive numbers with us about the work of AEP/I&M:

- 6,000 megawatts of generation
- 4,000 miles of lines (transmission)
- 20,000 miles of lines (distribution)
- 585,000 customers
- 2,400 employees in 30 countries with about half of those employed at the Cook Nuclear Plant

That 6,000 megawatt number is actually decreasing though as coal plants are being shut down in favor of cleaner energy technology. The current mix of energy generated comes from coal (49.7%), wind (8.6%), nuclear (41.3%) and hydro (.4%) but the coal percentage will soon be decreasing and solar energy increasing as construction projects are completed toward the end of 2016. There are currently four solar farms in the works with one in Watervliet, two in St. Joseph County, IN, one in Marion, IN and one additional location (TBD).

Robinson, who currently lives in South Bend but is originally from Texas, shared that one major advantage of living and/or doing business in Michigan is lower price per kilowatt hour. Michigan is around 10 cents per

Being a regulated industry, AEP/I&M is unable to expand the territory that they serve so their methods for increasing profitability are actually tactics that serve all of us in southwest Michigan. In order to grow and expand, they are motivated to attract business in the communities where they provide service and to encourage existing businesses to grow and expand. If you part of a growing organization, Robinson recommends visiting indianamichiganpower.com and submitting an application to find out about incentives they provide for expansion projects.

Business owners and individuals should also visit electricideas.com for energy audit services. Find out about energy saving behaviors that add up to energy savings for you. This website also features resources for educating kids about creating an energy-efficient future. Another new resource is the "I&M on the Go" app where you can receive outage alerts and soon will be able to access customer billing and account status. More information can be found on the indianamichiganpower.com website.

Joke of the Week!



ANNOUNCEMENTS & EVENTS

CONGRATULATIONS TO RICHARD LEWIS

He is about to become a grandfather for the 10th time!

ROTARY TRACK MEET PROGRAM ADVERTISING OPPORTUNITY



On Friday, May 1, we will conduct our premier event...the 58th Rotary Track Meet...at the St. Joseph High School. We award four (4) academic scholarships totaling

\$8,000 which is a worthy investment in our future leaders. Typically, we try to offset this \$8,000 expenditure and the program printing costs with our advertising sales. Each of us, as Rotarians, plays a very CRITICAL role in our ability to do this each year.

Even though we will solicit non-Rotarian businesses again this year, the bulk of the advertising is purchased by businesses that are represented by members of our club.

- Rotarian businesses purchased 25 out of 27 ads sold (93%)
- Rotarian business ad sales totaled \$7,420 of \$7620 raised (98%)

We will work hard to increase our "outside" sales again this year but we must recognize what our history tells us...without our internal active support, we will not be successful.

- **4/6/15** - Ann Cardon, Superintendent of Saint Joseph Schools, will be speaking about Proposal 1.
- **4/9/15** - The Lakeshore Excellence Foundation proudly presents Navy SEAL Rob O'Neill at the LMC Mendel Center. Tickets may be purchased at LEFonline.org, or LMCmainstage.org or by calling Sandy at 269-429-1254.
- **4/13/15** - Rural Agricultural Day with speakers Writton Graham and Don Lam on the topic: "Plight of the Bees." Space may be limited – if you plan to bring a guest, please let Art Cotter know at the 4/6 meeting.
- **4/20/15** - ESSAY CONTEST
- **5/1/15** – Rotary Track Meet, see below for more information.
- **5/11/15** – Law Day

PRESIDENT-ELECT TRAINING SEMINAR

Mike McKinney just returned from the PETS conference. This event featured training for incoming presidents and Mike shared that he is feeling energized and excited for his term as President of the Rotary Club of St. Joseph-Benton Harbor and was able to bring home lots of ideas from the conference.



The advertising purchase order form will be readily available starting with our March 30 meeting. They will be available at each table, at the badge box, and in the E-Wheel each week. Our submission deadline is Wednesday, April 25. Thank you for your assistance in making the Rotary Track Meet a huge success with your advertising support. - J.C. Anderson, Rotary Track Meet Advertising Chairperson

ROTARY READER LITERACY KITS

Rotary Readers proudly displayed literacy kits supplied by the Rotary Club of St. Joseph/Benton Harbor Rotary Club Foundation. Kits are filled with books and literacy materials specially selected to meet the needs and interests of the children they serve. Nearly 200 Benton Harbor students receive one-on-one attention and literacy support provided by these highly-trained volunteers thanks to the Rotary Club of St. Joseph/Benton Harbor Foundation in partnership with Region IV Area on Aging's Foster Grandparent program.



PAUL HARRIS FELLOWS HONORED

Tom Chapman presented Mike Theineman (pictured left) with his first Paul Harris Award. Barney Whittier (pictured right) was also honored with his 8th Paul Harris Award and presented with a pin featuring three embedded rubies.



MEET MAYA!



Most of you have seen Maya Kerbellec at our Rotary meetings throughout the past year, but many of you have never had

a conversation with her.

Maya is the Youth Exchange Student from France assigned to our club. She has become our exchange daughter, and those of us who have met Maya and have been a part of her life for the last eight months have found her to be interesting, a great conversationalist, and a teenage girl with dreams for her future and appreciation of her present situation.

Maya is a 17 year old girl from Vannes, France which is in the northwest region of Brittany, one of 27 regions of France. Her birthday is June 27, 1997. Maya initially became interested in becoming an exchange student because her older sister Sid had been one and had a wonderful adventure doing so. Then, after the family came to upper New York four years ago, she knew she wanted to embark on her own adventure.

When she first arrived, she stayed with Kim and Charlie LaSata and their four

children for the first five and one half months. She then transferred to the home of Lynn and Free Kellogg and will stay with them until the end of her time in June. She says that both families were very different and she grew quite close to both of them. Come to the Rotary meeting the 1st week of June and hear in Maya's words about her time in the U.S.

Since she has been here she has travelled to the Upper Peninsula, Chicago (several times) Sanibel Island, Florida and Engelwood, Florida. This next week she will be going to Kentucky and then next month will be going to Washington D.C. with Lynn. The District Rotary club has had all the District Exchange Students together in Lansing, Jackson, East Lansing, Mason and Chicago. Although she has seen much, she is a typical teenager and still hopes that maybe she will get to see California, especially San Francisco. Her favorite places she has been so far are Sanibel Island and Sleeping Bear Dunes in the UP.

She has been attending Lake Michigan Catholic High School. Last month, she was very honored to be crowned Miss Winterfest, and this month she was listed on the honor roll with a 3.5 – 3.99 GPA. The school system is very different here. In France, high school is very “free”. It is more like college with a different schedule every day. She feels she is really living the American experience because she was also asked

to the prom in a really cool way. you should ask her how!

She says that going to a Catholic School was not part of her plan, but she definitely learned a lot and enjoyed having smaller classes. Most of all, she is emphatic when she says that it doesn't matter whether the school is public or Catholic..... the friends made it what is important.

Guess what her favorite food is? Hamburgers, of course. It makes her feel so American. Her favorite part about being here in the States is that she is constantly discovering and learning new things about society, people and herself. This year has been a year of discovery.

Meeting new people has become a hobby for her. She would like to get to know the Rotary family better than she presently does. Please take the time to invite her to sit at your table on Monday meetings.

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 or emily_m_hosinski@whirlpool.com. We will publish it if you promise to lay five Happy Bucks on your table at the next meeting.



58th St. Joseph - Benton Harbor

Rotary Track Meet

ADVERTISEMENT PURCHASE ORDER

YES!! We would like to purchase an advertisement in the St. Joseph – Benton Harbor Rotary Track Meet printed program.

Company Name: _____

Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

Your Name: _____

Black and White Advertisement Size Selection and Costs:

_____ Business card size cost of \$100

_____ 1/8 Page cost of \$200

_____ 1/4 Page cost of \$390

_____ 1/2 Page cost of \$775

_____ Full-Page cost of \$1,500

Payment (checks should be made payable to St. Joseph-Benton Harbor Rotary Club) and advertisement information* is due by April 25, 2015 and should be mailed to the following address:

J.C. Anderson
2943 Dunes Valley Path and/or E-Mail: anderjcna@gmail.com
Stevensville, Michigan 49127

*Please check your advertisement as noted below:

_____ Repeat advertisement as printed last year

_____ Camera ready artwork or a digital file format (Mac or PC, Illustrator, or Quark) included.