

It seems that, not so long ago, I was addressing you for the first time and, now all of a sudden, a whole year has elapsed! Many of you have made this a most enjoyable year for me, and in keeping with the suggestion of my District Governor David Daugherty, I would like to recognize those people.

First of all, Jeff Urban not only came in early each week to assist in the setup process but also was always there to answer my questions and had many words of encouragement along the way. Kenn Brause was always faithful to return all Rotary items to their place of storage after each meeting. Many thanks to Virginia Hammontree and Judy Enders for their enormous contribution to the smooth functioning of our club as Secretary and Treasurer, respectively. Next, thank you to all the Rotary Board members for their faithfulness in attending the monthly meetings and willingness to help in the various avenues necessary for the efficient functioning of our organization.

Recognition needs to be extended to the quarterly program chair people: Tami Tima, Marylyn Strang, Amy Eastman, and Scott Barkhurst. Because of their efforts, we did not have one meeting without a program the entire year! Along program lines, thanks to each member for the great programs you provided for the club. Ed Wise quietly provides the placemats for our tables, and for that, we thank you. Under the capable leadership of Tami and Stephanie, Pancake Day was a huge success, garnering \$5,168.20. Terry Gernert and Jerry Volkmer commandeered the Auctionfest committee, allowing us to give \$18,697.16 to our partner the YMCA and retain \$10,000 for Rotary. Thank you, project chairpeople, and your committee members for your efforts.

Others I feel that deserve recognition are Alan Basinger, Christina Fox, and committee for their contribution of time related to the youth exchange program. Thank you to Don Stone and Connie Higgins for your work on the 4-Way Test and Stephanie Fisher and Christina Fox for coordinating our 3H projects. Many thanks to Sean Ritzhaupt for his willingness to work with the World Community Workshop.

Continuing, thank you to Randy Fischer and Alan Basinger for your willingness to step up when Nick is absent. Thanks to Dan Price for the excellent service provided in maintaining our website and Anne Spreng for arranging an interesting speaker for our annual Rural/Urban day. Thank you to Connie Higgins for organizing our teams for the Salvation Army Bell-Ringing, and a special thank-you goes to Scott Hastings for being my unofficial club historian.

All members of this club are to be commended for their input on what ultimately resulted in the authoring and implementing of a Strategic Plan for our organization, which originated from a suggestion made by our District Governor.

What I would view as the highlight of this year would be the celebration commemorating Guy Baggett's 43 years of perfect attendance, having Mayor Ross declare September 16, 2008 as Guy Baggett Day in Bucyrus, and more recently having the privilege to award him honorary member status in our club. Another highlight was being able to conclude the library project which started in Jeff's term. The fact that we were able to enhance our contribution with a District Simplified Grant increased our ability to help—in the words of D.K. Lee, International President—"make dreams real" for many people in our community, not just those who possessed the dream but also those who will reap the benefits of a renewed facility for years to come. The Rotary mile marker signs at the reservoir add a little color to the landscape and proudly carry the Rotary emblem.

In addition to the funding raised for our Auctionfest partner, as a club, we have awarded \$11,000 in donations to various other entities in our community.

Throughout the year, I have attempted to give you a glimpse of Rotary around the world, keep you informed with weekly emails, and have posted a monthly newsletter via our website. I would hope you have viewed this effort as a positive link to your club. Last, but certainly not least, as I scanned the list of past presidents, it became apparent that, to date, I am the only president who has operated on a "platform!" Thanks to Jerry Volkmer for my "box!"

Thank you one and all for making this not only a productive year for our club but also a truly enjoyable year for me. Every one of you are outstanding examples of "Service Above Self" in our community. It is very possible that I have overlooked someone in this tribute to fellow members; if so, please accept my heartfelt apologies.

One goal that I was not able to achieve was establishing an Interact Club, but I pledge to you that I will see that goal through to reality and make "that Dream Real." I feel that it is important to give our young adults the opportunity to explore the realm of "Service Above Self." Thank you to those of you who purchased chances on the Indians tickets, proceeds from which will be used toward establishing those clubs.

When I stood before you one year ago, I pledged to you to execute the duties of president to the very best of my ability, and I sincerely hope that you believe I have achieved that goal. Again, thank you all for your support and encouraging words along the way! It is my prayer that the Rotary Club of Bucyrus will continue its vital presence in our community for many years to come.

YIRS, Sharon



JULY	8	Stephanie Fisher
	17	Scott Barkhurst
	21	Connie Higgins
	25	Bill Blicke
	28	Suzanne Binau

Rotary Anniversaries

John Spreng, Jr. (7/11/95)
Sharon Hahn (7/31/01)

JULY

Community Service Month

7	Club Assembly; Officer Installation
14	Paul Blackford
20	Board Meeting
21	Ed Wise
28	Scott Kibler



The Rotarians' 4-WAY TEST of the things we think, say, or do:

1. Is it the **TRUTH**?
2. Is it **FAIR** to all concerned?
3. Will it build **GOODWILL** and **BETTER FRIENDSHIPS**?
4. Will it be **BENEFICIAL** to all concerned?



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