

August 30, 2007



Upcoming Programs

September 3 **No Meeting – Labor Day**
September 10 Elliott Uzelac – St. Joseph Football Coach
September 17 **John Proos** – Legislative Update
September 24 Captain Mike McKee – Salvation Army

Meeting schedule and re-revised Happy Buck policy

As mentioned in my recent President's message, the Board reviewed two items that were of concern to members at Thursday's Board Meeting: the new schedule and the Happy Bucks policy. After thoughtful discussion, it was decided to return to the past schedule for the meetings:

12:00	Lunch
12:10	Invocation
12:30	Business Meeting (may be a bit earlier with fuller agendas)
1:00	Speaker
1:30	Meeting Adjourns

With considerable discussion, it was decided to revise the Happy Bucks policy to reflect additional feedback. It is below. We have worked diligently to strike a balance based on all the feedback received.

As I mentioned previously, I am committed to continuing traditions and programs started by my predecessors as is your Board. We have the best club in the area and with your help and assistance that tradition will continue. Thanks to all of you who have taken the time to make comments and suggestions. I continue to seek your input and appreciate your support. It is only working together that we can best fulfill the Rotary mission of "Putting Service Above Self" and benefiting our local and global community.

Yours in Rotary, *Dick Wendt*

Happy Buck Policy

The intention of Happy Bucks is to share personal "good news" among Rotarians at each Monday's meeting, along with providing some dollars for our good works. This is clearly part of our fellowship mission.

Based on the Member Survey of a few years back and other feedback, including that received at the past Presidents' Retreat, Happy Bucks have too often become a forum for promoting a Rotarian's organization and/or soliciting donations.

Further, the Board has developed a preliminary calendar of solicitations in order to balance Club requests of members around our Foundation, Rotary International (Paul Harris), and other special projects like the water bio sand filter project. We are receiving feedback of "donor fatigue" because of the frequent solicitations, including during Happy Bucks.

Based on the above, the following policy with revisions based on additional feedback was approved by the Board:

Happy Bucks at Monday Meetings: These are limited to sharing of personal "good news". These Happy Bucks can include topics such as births announcements, sports teams' successes, fun vacations, etc. These announcements cannot involve promoting an event for an organization nor the direct solicitation of charitable dollars or volunteers.

Happy Bucks in the eWheel: In the spirit that part of being a Rotarian is networking for our organizations, the eWheel is the appropriate and allowed forum for promoting an organization-related event* and/or soliciting donations and/or volunteers. The eWheel is emailed to all members with email and available in hardcopy for those who don't have email. Thus, it is as widely available as an announcement at a meeting.

Announcement of organization-related events* and/or solicitations for volunteers for various organization-related events will be reviewed by the President and Sergeant at Arms and shared during the business portion of each Monday meeting as appropriate.

At each Monday meeting, an information table will be made available for the promotion of upcoming organization-related events*.

* Organization-Related Event: Examples include events for nonprofit organizations and noncommercial events for for-profit organizations

Local Foundation News from Char Wenham - St. Joseph/Benton Harbor Rotary Foundation Board Chair

Our Rotary Foundation was established in 1981 and began, in 1997, giving annual grants in amounts of \$5000 up to \$30,000. Since 1997, \$326,500 has been given to 25 different agencies within the community. Traditionally, most grants have been given to agencies to establish programs that will live on beyond the grant but for which there is not money in the agency general fund to do so. Club members can be very proud of the contributions they have made in providing opportunity for youth and those not as fortunate as we.

The Foundation's stated mission is: to improve the quality of life in the greater St. Joseph/Benton Harbor community by supporting 1) human development projects that focus on promoting the health, education and self-development of people in the community, and 2) community development projects that focus on activities that improve and enhance physical aspects of the community. Particular emphasis is given to efforts that seek to better opportunities for youth, special needs

populations, and initiatives consistent with Rotary International or District campaigns that impact the local area.

Very soon, a committee of the Board of Directors of the Foundation will be using these criteria to review applications for Level II Grants. This year, the Board has designated up to \$40,000 to be granted to deserving non-profit organizations. (See website for more information)

In the meantime, the Board is reviewing past practices as well as fundraising and donation patterns so that we can make the most appropriate decisions for the Foundation and its participating members and donors. Our founding members were diligent in establishing the Foundation and we must be diligent in our stewardship of funds and in the grants that we make. As of June 30, 2007, the fund balance was \$695,781. On November 26, 2007, the Foundation Board will be addressing the club to bring you up-to-date on Foundation activities. As a Board we welcome your comments, questions, and input. If you have thoughts that you would like to share, please pass them along.

Support needed for Adopt-a-Beach – from Jackie Huie

I would like to personally invite you to join me as a volunteer for the September 15 Silver Beach "Adopt-a-Beach" event our club is leading and co-sponsoring with the Lakeshore Rotary. Although the trash collected and counted provides valuable data to ensure steps are taken to preserve our most valued resource, I expect our outing to be a FUN morning of fresh air, exercise, fellowship and service.

For a little more background, the Alliance for the Great Lakes hosts this event annually. This year, in particular, is expected to gain considerably more press than in the past since there has been so much attention paid to the health of our lake and its impact on our community. Although the clean up will cover all shores of the Great Lakes, high attention will be paid to Silver Beach since it is the most visible.

To learn more, you can log on to www.greatlakes.org. Should you chose to participate, I will be your point person and will follow-up via email or through whatever form you prefer. Please call or email me (jhuie@johnsonrauhoff.com) with interest. Thank you in advance.

Twin City Players announces 2007-2008 season - Drama, Comedy and Music On Tap Happy Buck from Steve Sizer

For its 2007-08 season, Twin City Players will present five productions – a Shakespeare tragedy, three delightful comedies and a knockout musical – which will transport audiences all the way from Verona, Italy to Berlin, Germany – with stops in French Guiana, Buffalo, New York and post-WWI England along the way.

Set for the upcoming season are the Shakespeare tragedy, *Romeo and Juliet*, in October; the Sam and Bella Spewack comedy, *My Three Angels*, in December; the family comedy, *Over the Tavern*, in February; the romantic comedy, *Enchanted April*, in April; and, in June, the sensational Broadway musical set in pre-war Nazi Germany, *Cabaret*.

Visit the website at <http://sjbhrotaryclub.org>

Nearby Make-Up Locations

Monday

Battle Creek	12:15 p.m.	Burnham Brook
Grand Haven	12:00 p.m.	Community Center
Kalamazoo	12:00 p.m.	Kalamazoo Center
Niles	12:10 p.m.	Millennium Steak House

Tuesday

South Haven	7:00 a.m.	South Haven Yacht Club
Kalamazoo Sunrise	7:15 a.m.	Café Radisson Plaza Hotel
Berrien Springs	12:10 p.m.	Timber Ridge Manor

Wednesday

Benton Harbor	7:00 a.m.	Mercy Medical Center
Paw Paw Lake	12:15 p.m.	Watervliet Community Hospital

Thursday

Dowagiac	12:00 p.m.	Elks Lodge
Paw Paw	12:00 p.m.	First Presbyterian Church
Holland	12:10 p.m.	Holiday Inn
Lakeshore	12:10 p.m.	5 O'Clock Sports Bar

Friday

Oshtemo	12:15 p.m.	The Birches
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