



The MADISON, WISCONSIN Rotary News

Saturday, December 19, 1998

No. 24

NEXT AT PARK

Holiday Party December 23rd at Inn on the Park

Wednesday, December 23, is the club's annual Holiday Mixer for members and guests. This popular event is a welcome change of pace during a hectic season and an opportunity for members to informally chat with — and get to know even better — their fellow club members.

The format will be similar to past years' holiday parties, with the food served buffet style including delicious holiday desserts. Entertainment will feature special holiday music which will be organized by our Music Chair Jeff Bartell.

Attendance will be handled similarly to our regular meetings. However, due to additional expenses for this special event, guests and visiting Rotarians will be charged our cost of \$10 per person. There is no additional charge for regular (pre-paid) or senior active (non pre-paid) members. Members bringing guests are requested to call the Rotary Office (255-9164) by Tuesday noon to make reservations.

Season's
Greetings
Annual Holiday Party
December 23, 1998
Inn on the Park

December 30 Meeting is Cancelled.
No makeup required.

“Once Upon a Christmas Cheery”

The Downtown Rotary Club was treated to the scientific wizardry of UW Professor Bassam Z. Shakhashiri as he vividly demonstrated to an overflow audience that “Science Is Fun.” Dr. Shakhashiri, a native of Lebanon and a member of the UW faculty for 28 years, is known nationally for both his entertaining approach to chemistry and his impressive scholarly work at UW and the National Science Foundation. He has won academic and teaching awards throughout his career from universities and science organizations and has long been committed to the development of professional careers in science as well as to increasing the general public's scientific literacy.

“Once Upon a Christmas Cheery/In the Lab of Prof. Shakhashiri” was a program that both amazed and amused his attentive audience. Before beginning the chemistry experiments Dr. Shakhashiri reminded his audience of the special nature of the communities they live in – Wisconsin,

Madison, the University – and the continuing need for everyone to give public service. He stressed the importance of dignity, responsibility, and integrity in all aspects of life just as they are essential to the scientific method. He noted the great changes in society, whether over the past 100 or 500 years, have been due to the growth of science and technology rather than to fundamental changes in human nature.

Dr. Shakhashiri then proceeded to entertain his audience with a series of striking chemistry experiments. Ten dollar bills burned without a trace of ash; carbon dioxide gas inflated a balloon human lungs could not inflate; cylinders of liquid mysteriously boiled and bubbled; a pan of water and dry ice produced “movie fog;” a large beaker filled with liquids continuously changed colors; and balloons exploded in a flash of light and sound to demonstrate the power of exploding helium and hydrogen.

Throughout his demonstration Dr. Shakhashiri demonstrated his skill and dedication as a teacher. He stressed

(continued on next page)

the need for continuous observation, repetition of experiments, attention to detail, patience, persistence, and integrity and related those attributes to life in general. Dr. Shakhashiri also noted that "You can't have fun unless you're serious" and "You can forget, but you can't unlearn what you've learned."

Perhaps the most impressive and unforgettable aspect of Dr. Shakhashiri's presentation was his obvious love of science and of people and the effective manner in which he brings his two loves together to entertain and educate children of all ages in all walks of life.

Dr. Shakhashiri's program may be seen on Wisconsin Public Television on December 21 at 4:30 p.m. and December 23 at 2:00 p.m. More experiments may be found on his website: scifun.chem.wisc.edu.

Our thanks to Prof. Shakhashiri for his entertaining program and to Tom Stefonek for this review article.

Visiting Rotarians - December 16, 1998

Dan Elsas from South; Dr. Mandel from Victoria-Harbor-side British Columbia, Canada; Bruce Mohs from West; Carole McGuire from Breakfast

Guests - December 16, 1998

Haley Riemer of Linda Baldwin-O'Hern; Paul Popp of Tom Popp; Peter Fox of Bob Dinndorf; Alfred Skerpan; Gene Rankin of Gerry Thain; Jan Lottig of Drew Howick; Joy Drummond of Dave Drummond; Mayo Ewanowski, Grace Thommelsen of Dave Ewanowski; Tom Stefonek of Ellie Schatz; Kristin Dewey of Londa Dewey; Calvin Williams of Bev Simone; Nicole and Brittany Habermehl of Deirdre Habermehl; Jerry Lee of Bob Lee; Randy Fields of Harry Tobias; Kristen DeWitt of Jack DeWitt; Jean Theobald, Susan Paull of Rupert Theobald; Andy Davidson of Cam Coberly; Ruth Trameri of Deno Trameri; Steve Knapp of Dick Dortzbach; Joe Nolte of Kathleen Wolt; Aileen Wall of John Wall; Ann and Susan Hoesly of Nan Zimdars and Mike Hoesly; Michael Mixtacki of Steve Mixtacki; Mark Behl Jr. of Mark Behl, Sr.; Sharon Smith of Larry Smith

International Guests - December 16, 1998

Camilla Olsen, Jette Olsen from Denmark - guest of Barbara Dueholm; Oksana Lapshina from Russia - guest of Ellie Schatz

Attendance Record

Date	Total Members	Less SAX	=Total Active	Actives Attending (includes make-ups)	%
Dec. 17, 1997	533	99	434	351 (26 make-ups)	80.88
Dec. 16, 1998	523	113	410	325 (51 make-ups)	79.27

WISDOM FROM THE ANCIENTS

(compiled by Menahem Mansoor)

CITIES - A great city is not to be confused with a populous one.

- Aristotle (384-322 B.C.) Greek philosopher

Coming Events

- Dec. 21, Mon. Noon - 2:30 p.m. — Community Grants Committee Meeting at The Stark Co., 702 N. High Point Road
- Dec. 23, Wed. 11:30 a.m. — Club Board of Directors Meeting at the Inn on the Park
11:30 a.m. — Ethics Symposium Ad-hoc Committee Meeting at the Inn on the Park
Noon — Holiday Party at the Inn on the Park
- Dec. 30, Wed. Noon — Meeting canceled (no make-up required)
- Jan. 4, Mon. 4:30 p.m. — Club Board of Directors Meeting at the Madison Club
- Jan. 6, Wed. 11:00 a.m. — Orientation of new members at Anchor Bank
11:30 a.m. — Senior Service Committee Meeting at the Inn on the Park
Noon — Club Meeting at the Inn on the Park
1:30 p.m. — International Service Committee Meeting at the Inn on the Park
- Jan. 13, Wed. Noon — Club Meeting at the Inn on the Park
1:30 p.m. — Youth Awards Committee Meeting at the Inn on the Park

Madison Rotary Foundation 1998-99 Fund Drive Update

70% of members have contributed or pledged \$106,286.08

Goal is \$120,000 with 100% member participation
- Send your contribution to the club office today -



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(terms end June 30 of year listed)

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ROTARY INTERNATIONAL PRESIDENT:James L. Lacy

R.I. THEME: "Follow Your Rotary Dream"

DISTRICT # 6250 GOVERNOR:Bob Devenish

CLUB SPONSORED ROTARY YOUTH EXCHANGE STUDENTS 1998-99

INBOUND: Digo Ferreira from Brazil (current host family is Mary and Carl Gulbrandsen, 233-7674); and Pekko Tonteri from Finland (current host family is Peg Smelser 241-1711)

OUTBOUND: Peter Thilly-in Thailand; and Shannon Frank-in France.

ROTARY INTERNATIONAL FOUNDATION AMBASSADORIAL

SCHOLARS 1998-99: Michiko Tsuneda from Japan (256-7168), (email: mtsuneda@students.wisc.edu); Yukiko Asada from Japan (233-5199); and Junko Tezuka from Japan (231-6736)