



The Battlefielder

ROTARY CLUB OF GETTYSBURG, PA
WEEKLY BULLETIN— DECEMBER 15, 2008



DECEMBER 22— NOON— GETTYSBURG HOTEL

PROGRAM— Skills for Life—Jack Bream

DECEMBER 29- NO MEETING

DECEMBER 15TH —GETTYSBURG ROTARY FAMILY AND FRIENDS CELEBRATE CHRISTMAS

Indeed! It is the “most wonderful time of the year,” as a record number (80) Rotarian families and friends gathered for a delightful evening of great conversation, food, and entertainment at the Annual Christmas Party held at the Lutheran Theological Seminary Refectory Monday night. There were no strangers in the room as all engaged in welcoming family members and guests.

President Scott Wehler had the task of the getting the attention of an enthusiastic crowd that did not want their conversations interrupted, but after successfully quieting the group, he began his comments by quoting from Charles Dickens’ renowned book, *A Tale of Two Cities* – “It was the best of times” he said, “for Rotarians in Gettysburg.” Scott expressed his deep appreciation to all who have made this one of the most successful years in the Chapter’s history. He mentioned a few of those accomplishments that singularly define Rotary – service, citing the following achievements: more grants were awarded to community based non-profits this year than before; the dissemination of dictionaries to local schools; positive impact on international projects in Honduras and Africa as we support clean water in third world counties and polio immunization efforts; and continued unselfish service to our local,

national and international communities particularly given serious global economic issues. He expressed pride in the chapter’s membership diversity. In conclusion, Scott stated, “Our efforts make dreams come true.”

The Invocation was delivered by Rotarian, Ron Crawford whose words evoked the true meaning of Christmas, “Let us be aware of others and carry this gift of Christmas without selfish regard.” Ron’s words expressed for all the true meaning of Christmas. The implication of Ron’s words is clear. For those who have been given so much, much is expected. We now are given a chance to give back.

Rotary exchange students were presented along with their host parents and grandparents. Ken Farabaugh introduced Maria Pinhuirio of Brazil and her host parents Sam and Cathy Small; Filippo Vittori of Venice, Italy, and his host parents Randy and Kathy Phiel were also introduced. Rachel Small, daughter of Sam and Cathy Small is studying in Belgium. Bridgette Goss, from Rumania and John Hofe of Germany are also exchange students.

How interesting it was to speak individually with two of our exchange students to learn how they spend Christmas with their families in their respective countries. Filippo celebrates Christmas with his immediate family. They eat dinner together, generally a meal of pork with all the trimmings. They look at videos among other activities

50/50 WINNER

Rosemary Hutchison did the 50/50 raffle honors. Norris Flowers was the big winner of \$42— WOW!



Reported this week by
BETTYE BAKER
THANK YOU

until one minute after midnight, Christmas morning, when they open their gifts and share the moment before retiring for the night. Maria's family spends Christmas Day at her Grandmother's home where they have a large dinner together, open gifts and enjoy the day.

Soloist, Kyleigh Grim was the star of the evening, singing several Christmas songs which were spectacularly delivered with poise and beautiful intonation. Her parents, Rotarian and former President Mark Grim and Sharon Grim have much to be proud of in this lovely daughter and performance. Kyleigh is the star of West Side Story at the

Majestic and is a true talent. It was special to share the table with this family and others.

The evening ended with a sing-along of Christmas music led by Carey Moore along with volunteer chorus and audience participation. Florence Tarbox accompanied the group on piano. The Christmas Carol music sheet was donated by B. J. Small. Congratulations are in order for the organizing committee. It was another special evening with Rotarians, family and friends that will be among our most cherished memories of 2008. Merry Christmas and Happy New Year!

Bettye Baker



Notice: The Annual Meeting of the Rotary Club of Gettysburg will be held on December 22, 2008 for the purpose of electing officers for the 2009-2010 Rotary Year. Please plan to attend

OFFICERS 2009-2010

President – John G. Kramb
1st VP – Eric Gladhill
2nd VP (Programs) – Pete Ricker
Treasurer – Larry Defuge
Secretary – John Philips
Immediate Past President – Scott Wehler

Other Board Members:

Bob Gough
Jim Sheen
Greg Kalmus
Rob Leshner
Lisa Conklin
Jennifer Railing

