



Club No. 2723  
www.wisconsinrapidsrotary.org

# RAPIDS RIPPLES

Rotary District No. 6250

**Dean Dickinson**, 2009-2010  
District Governor

**John Kenny**, 2009-2010  
Rotary International President

## Today's Program

**Rotarian:** *Ellen Roesler*  
**Program:** *"Theatre for the Young and the Young at Heart"*  
**Speakers:** *Gretchen Powers & Joan Joseph*

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### BULLETIN DISTRIBUTION:

**June 2010 Doug Wenzlaff**

### All Members:

CONTACT THE VICE PRESIDENT OF  
YOUR DIVISION IF YOU HAVE ANY  
QUESTIONS.

**PLEASE SUBMIT YOUR SYNOPSIS OF YOUR PROGRAM  
TO THE SECRETARY PRIOR TO THE PROGRAM. Thank You.**

**June 28, 2010 PRESIDENT'S DAY — NELSON DAHL**

**July 5, 2010 NO MEETING**

**July 12, 2010 INCOMING PRESIDENT'S DAY — LINDA BUCHS-HAMMONDS**

**July 19, 2010** Rotarian: Brian Ruesch  
Program: Jeremiah's Crossing Update  
Speaker: Roger Harris

**REMINDER:** Sign and Initial the LUNCH REGISTRATION. Thank you.

**PAST PROGRAM: June 14, 2010**

**Rotarian:** Edward McGrath  
**Program:** History of the Hmong Experience  
**Speakers:** Kazoua Pao Thao

Many of the Hmong people living in the United States today were granted US citizenship after their historic contribution to the United States national security during the Vietnam War. From 1960-1975, the Central Intelligence Agency and the US Armed Forces recruited, organized, trained, and assisted Hmong guerilla, united and conventional forces to combat the North Vietnamese Army and Communist Pathet Lao forces.

The Hmong people are originally from China. They settled in the mountains of Northern Laos which was claimed by France until 1954. When France left, the communist leaders of North Vietnam, the Soviet Union and the People's Republic of China all saw Laos as part of their natural domain. The King of Laos fled, and the Hmong people no longer had official occupancy of their own country.

Communist troops marched into the peaceful farming communities of Laos. During that time, the US recruited Hmong soldiers as informants of Communist activity. As the war in Vietnam escalated, Hmong soldiers played an integral role in cutting the Communist supply flow along the Ho Chi Minh Trail, fighting the guerilla war that the US soldiers were not equipped for, and rescuing fallen US soldiers.

When the US left Vietnam in 1975, the Hmong who worked for the CIA were no longer welcome in their own country. About 40,000 families of soldiers were admitted to the US, and more were placed in Thai refugee camps. Many Hmong who were not offered asylum crossed the Mekong River to travel into Thailand. Many were drowned or shot by Communist troops or the Thai shore patrol in their effort to reach the Thai refugee camp.

The 1990 US census counted 100,000 Hmong in the US, of whom more than 40,000 resided in California. Minnesota and Wisconsin ranked next with over 16,000 in each state. Many Hmong families have experience unique challenges as they have worked to adapt to a new culture, profession, or trade along with a new language. They have struggled to maintain their heritage, traditions and ways of life in a new country, placing their respect and care for their elders above all else. (continued on page 2)

**MEETINGS: EVERY MONDAY AT 11:45 AM, HOTEL MEAD**



2009—2010 RI Theme

**HONORARY ROTARIAN:**

None

**VISITING ROTARIANS:**

Kim Auman                    W.R. Sunrise  
Marjorie Bunce              Eau Claire

**INTERACT STUDENTS:**

None

**ROTARY EXCHANGE STUDENT:**

None

**GUESTS:**

Vickie Lock  
Carl Biba  
Phyllis Wesener

**GUEST OF**

Chris Scheller  
Club  
Dave Wesener

**MAKE-UPS:**

Mike Zurfluh    6/7    Online  
Anita Whetstone 6/7    Online  
Richard Kenney 6/7    Zlhuatenajo, Mexico  
John T. Siewert 5/24   Granville, France  
John T. Siewert 6/7    Dinan, France

**FREE LUNCH:** (Strike thru means Club Wins)

~~Sherry Frederick~~

**YOUTH ROTARS for JUNE:**

None

**HAPPY CUP:**

\$.00 on 6/14/10

**RESIGNATIONS/LEAVE OF ABSENCE/  
RULE OF 85:**

LOA: Jill Dillion (7/12—9/13)

Rule of 85: Jim Custer

Resignation: Ann Saris effective 7/1/10

**PAST PROGRAM:    June 14, 2010 continued**

In March 2004 the Senate of the State of Wisconsin enacted a resolution\* recognizing the Wisconsin Lao Veterans of America. Wisconsin is home to many veterans who traveled to the US with their families to seek political asylum after their defense of the US. Veterans and their families were granted citizenship.

\* Titled the 2003 Senate Resolution 29 resolves that upon the death of a member of the Wisconsin Lao Veterans of America, a casket team, rifle team, color guard team, bugler and a gun salute to commend the efforts of a Hmong veteran are observed. In addition, the next of kin will be presented with a United States flag.



**ROTARY MEMORIES:**

***\*10 Years Ago This Week.....***

Today's Program – Dave Kromenacker introduced Larry Bogard from Wisconsin Public Service who described his company's proposed transmission line project from the Wausau area to Duluth. This line would be developed to increase reliability of electric supply in Wisconsin. Mr. Bogard is an Electrical Engineer with a BS from Michigan State University. In addition, he received his MBA from the University of Wisconsin-Oshkosh. He has been actively working on regional reliability issues for the past several years, having been on several MAIN committees and is WPSC's representative on the Wisconsin Reliability Assessment Organization. In addition, he works at the national level on policy issues as a member of the Edison Electric Institute's Transmission Policy Task Force.

***\*25 Years Ago This Week.....***

Today's Program – Mike O'Leary introduced Dick Hilliker, Manager of Land Resources Development for Consolidated Papers, Inc. Dick discussed various developments on the Castle Rock and Petenwell flowages. This was a joint effort between Wisconsin Power & Light, Wisconsin Public Service and Consolidated. The fifty-year license granted at the time expires in 1998. The flowages are located in three counties and nine townships. They comprise 40,000 acres of water and 25,000 acres of land. Consolidated is required under terms of the license to provide full public utilization. Considerable work has been done on Lake Petenwell, including the removal of stumps from the lower two thirds of the lake. This was achieved a year and one half ago when the water level was lowered by seven feet. Considerable developments have taken place over the years and Consolidated is to be congratulated for the efforts they have made on these two flowages.

***\*65 Years Ago This Week.....***

Last week, Prof. F.J. Schmeeckle of Stevens Point Teachers College gave a talk on "Conserving our Present Natural Resources and Building up the Resources We Have Left." His talk was inspiring in that he advanced a method of educating our young people so that they would appreciate Wisconsin and its natural beauty that we tend to take for granted.

Just For Laughs: Europe – Our Debtor Half.

Post War Invention: A Jeep with a built-in cocktail shaker.

**ANNOUNCEMENTS:**

- 1) **Please welcome our Newest member Chris Charewicz.** Chris was sponsored by Tom Marshall. **Welcome Chris!**
- 2) Remember to sign up for July 1st **reception to welcome Kristin Duckart into her role as District Governor** at Bulls Eye Country club at 5:30 pm. RSVP to Tom Marshall.
- 3) **Polio Plus Jazz Tour is a go!** The band leaves on July 23rd.
- 4) Ron McCabe, Foundation President presented a **Paul Harris Award to Dave Wesener** for his active involvement and his many Rotary contributions. **Congratulations Dave!**
- 5) **Rotary Club Outing is Monday, August 30th at Nepco Lake.** This is a casual, family friendly event.

**MAKE-UP at the following area clubs:**

Boy Scout Troop 105 Meetings, Huntington House, Lower Level  
2nd & 4th Wednesday of the month at 7:00 p.m.

Greater Portage County, Comfort Suites,  
300 N Division St., Stevens Point, Friday 7:00 a.m.

Stevens Point Noon, Stevens Point Country Club, Wednesday Noon  
W.R.Sunrise:Hotel Mead,Wisconsin Rapids; Thursdays 7:00 a.m.

Marshfield Breakfast:Best Western, Marshfield; Thursday 7:00 a.m.

Marshfield Lunch:Best Western, Marshfield; Monday Noon

Wausau Breakfast:The Rose Garden, Wausau; Thursday 7:00 a.m.

Wausau Lunch: Jefferson Street Inn, corner of 2nd Street & Jefferson, Wausau; Monday Noon

Waupaca Breakfast:Waupaca CC; Monday 7:15 a.m.

Appleton Breakfast:Riverview CC; Monday 7:15 a.m.

Appleton Noon:Paper Valley Hotel; Tuesday Noon