

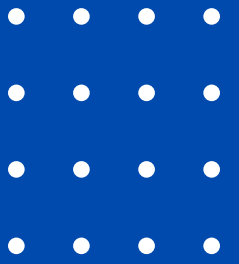
January 24, 2024

IRON WHEEL

Rotary Club of Ironton Newsletter



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The Last Couple of Meetings

Program: In Service Pancake Breakfast Planning & BARKer Farm

Guest: Joyce Rambacher

January 10th was a followup meeting on the Pancake Day Planning. Pres Marty had drafts for the posters and the tickets. The Printery at the Ironton Schools printed them. He passed out both at the January 24th meeting. If you haven't received yours, they are available both at Marty's office at the Chamber and at Mark's office. Each Rotarian is asked to sell at least 10 tickets, if possible. The Knight's of Columbus location is reserved. Boy Scout Troop 106 is scheduled to help. Pres Marty is finalizing ads for the place mat. This is the major part of the funds we raise, so if you can be of any help, please contact any potential sponsors. Ads are still \$55 per small block. Ticket prices have increase to \$7 this year due to the inflation. The Health Department will be participating by giving COVID and Flu shots. Jeff, Dan, and Carl will provide trucks on Friday, the 9th to move the grills and supplies from the storage building. Dan has arranged for the OUS Nursing Students to help again this year. Their help is invaluable, as is YOURS!

The January 24th program was Kate Barker, from the BARKer Farm. Kate owns the farm, along with her husband, Tony, and her father-in-law, Terry. They opened the Farm in 2017. The Barkers wanted to provide children with a fun, educational opportunity that was unique in this area. They're USDA-licensed and they possess a wildlife permit. They offer a mobile exotic petting zoo, Nativity animals, and private sloth encounters at the farm. They are located in Pedro, and are open by appointment only. They take some animals with them on arranged visits, to such places as to schools, churches, or civic meetings. Charlotte, a tarantula, came to the Rotary meeting. The farm has quite the menagerie. Included among over 40 animals are Daniel the camel, a sloth (Yeti), a white camel (Earl), a hghland cow (Simon), a capuchin monkey (Rufus), cavies (Barnum and Bailey), guinea hens, Jessie the dog, alpacas, a white rabbit, goats , porcupines (Ken & Barbie), a kangaroo (Emmitt), a Boa and a Burmese Python, a hairy armadillo, a prairie dog, a brown and white skunk named Covid. Also on hand is 39-year-old Sidney the Macaw. The Barkers are very meticulous about caring for the animals, keeping them safe, healthy, with the proper care and nutrition. It is a lot of work to maintain the proper enclosures for the animals. You can find more information at their Facebook page or contact them at barkerfarmzoo@gmail.com.

Additionally, John entertained us with a story he wrote reflecting on his childhood in Ironton. It is also attached for your enjoyment.

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- * This week will be a permanent change of venue. We will be meeting at the Frisch's Big Boy. Lunch will be from the buffet or order off the menu. Hope to see everyone there.
 - * It is less than a month until Pres Elect Sarah departs for her participation in this year's Natün Guatemala project, formerly Mayan Families. She will be accompanying the group from Upper Arlington for 1 week from February 25 to March 1, 2024.
 - * Wonder how Rotary is doing? Rotary's 2022-23 annual report is now available.
 - * Each One Bring One is Back! During the months of February, March, and April, District 6690 will once again run our Each One Bring One campaign. At the end of the three months, the club (per capita) that has the most guests will win a \$500 Social Visit with the District Governor.
 - * The Lawrence County DD Board Chili-Fest is March 9th, just a little over 2 short months away.
 - * Rotary International President-elect Stephanie Urchick announced the 2024-25 theme, The Magic of Rotary.
 - * The 2024 District 6690 Conference is scheduled for April 19-21 at the remodeled Deer Creek Conference Center.
 - * District 6690 Foundation Gala is this Saturday, Feb 3rd, 2024. The Gala is at the Ohio University Inn and will feature special guest Past Rotary Foundation Trustee Brenda Cressey
 - * A new collaboration with the United Nations Environment Program will empower Rotary members to clean up, protect, and monitor their local waterways.
 - * The Club Literacy Project is almost done. John should be doing Ironton this week. Jeff and Marty will be doing South Point.
 - * February is Peacebuilding and Conflict Prevention Month for Rotary International.
 - * The District is just about 50% towards its goal of \$400,000 giving to The Rotary Foundation. With just over half way through the year, can you help get us to the goal of helping people around the world.
 - * The District is not halfway to the \$250,000 goal for Polio Now! Much work is still needed to eradicate this horrible disease. Rotary International and our partners are "This Close" to eliminating it forever.
 - * The District 6690 Winter Assembly will be held Saturday February 24th, 9:00am – 4:00pm, in Newark. The purpose of the event is district and club leadership learning. The Winter Assembly will take the place of District Leadership Training held in February in Columbus last year. Each club will be asked to send at least two representatives.
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* Are you ready to join the 125 Club? Pres Marty is still encouraging all Club members to join by donating \$100 to The Rotary Foundation and \$25 to Polio Plus. Give at <https://givebutter.com/125> or log into your My.Rotary.Org account and donate. You can donate monthly or a one time contribution!

* Program Chair list: February is Sam Cramblit and Jeff Clark. March is Nathan Davis, Crystal Hemmings, and Evan Miller.

Next Meeting- January 31 - Tim A. Albert, Vice President of Manufacturing for ALTIVIA.

* Follow Rotary International, District 6690, and the Ironton Rotary Club on the various social media platforms.

There are many Rotary fellowships and action groups you may want to follow on these platforms. Search for one that interests you!

Find great information on numerous Vlogs and Blogs by Rotarians.



Club Officers

Marty Conley, President
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