

Rotary Buzzer

Club Calendar

March 4
Mark Schneider, Iowa
Arboretum, Jeff
Anderson, Program
Chair

March 11
The Strength Shop—
Court Burkamper

March 18
Dean of ISU AG

March 25
Jojo's Coffee Depot
Mary Dufelmeier,
Program Chair

April 1
Networking: Troy,
Brian, and Steve

April 8
Jessica Stanley, Boone
County Historical
Society

April 15
Networking: Dave Cook
and Hans Pollard

April 22
Matt Elthon, program
chair

April 29
Cody Bowers, Program
Chair

Pres. Vicki Greco

DG Erna Morain

RI Pres. Mark Maloney

Jeff Anderson, Editor

Meeting Recap

President Vicki called the meeting to order and noted that the PETS (president elect training seminar) will be taking place the weekend of March 13-14 in Rochester. As the incoming DG Steve will also be there and he noted that they will be taking action to update the District 6000 bylaws to allow for three additional "at large" board members for the District board. He indicated that if anyone is interested in becoming a district board member or serving on any other committees to let him know as he will be working on committee assignments in the coming weeks.

Vicki tapped Cody to fill in as Sergeant at Arms and he paid a dollar for the "dress code" discussion that took place at his table. He did note that Phil was wearing a tie (but he was the only one) at his table on Wednesday. Steve was looking forward to PETS—and working on the budget for the district. Jane chipped in a \$5 just because it had been awhile since she'd last chipped in.

Vicki also shared that the Fairfield Rotary Club will be celebrating its 100th anniversary in March. Congratulations, Fairfield!

Cedar Pointe is also going to be holding a Leap Day Party with Potato and Aztec Soup starting at 6:00 PM on...Leap Day. They do ask that you RSVP if you would like to attend. It is nice that if February "insists" on adding an extra day this year that at least they made it a Saturday!

Sergeant at Arms

Phil did note that the "peer" pressure at his table to conform was pretty intense. Several members were looking forward to our speaker and Brian was happy to have travelled 9.5 (each way) to Ohio for parent's weekend at his daughter's college. He did note that his mother rode along with them and he seemed a bit non-committal as to how

Vicki informed the club that Brad Manard has resigned his membership, noting that he will be relocating to Colorado following his retirement. He shared that he has enjoyed his time in Boone and as a member of our club. Best of luck to Brad.

Vicki also thanked Janelle Patterson and the other members of the Scholarship Committee for getting the application materials online!

that went! Hutch paid a dollar at the end just to make Cody do his Phil Donahue impression by racing from one end of the room to the other.



QUOTE OF THE WEEK

Every kid has a bug period... I never grew out of mine.

E. O. Wilson, 1929-

Naturalist and world renowned ant researcher



Robin Pruisner, State Entomologist

Brian introduced State Entomologist Robin Pruisner, noting that she is from the same home town as his wife (Dike, IA). Robin shared that the state entomologist is an appointed by the Secretary of Agriculture and she was appointed back in 2003 by Patty Judge. New Ag Secretaries have the option of appointing their own picks but since it is not a partisan position she has been reappointed by Sec. Northey and Secretary Naig. She works with the Iowa Department of Agriculture and Land Stewardship and in addition to her duties as an entomologist she also is the state ag security officer, noxious weed commissioner, and, most recently, the state hemp administrator. Robin noted that at one time insect infestations (think: plagues of locusts) had the potential to destroy crops in entire regions but through better control (pesticides, etc.) that risk has been reduced, but there are still pests that can impact crops and trees such as the gypsy moth, emerald ash borer, and Japanese beetle. They can't always prevent the arrival of pest but they can "slow the spread" with early detection and interventions when possible. Robin shared that as ag security coordinator she has to deal with things like avian influenza (resulted in the death and destruction of 32 million chickens and turkeys a few years ago) and preparations to deal with African Swine Fever which has

killed almost half of all swine world-wide. Iowa is the largest swine producer so preventing an outbreak here is critical to our state's economy and nation's food supply. She noted that this is the first year that Iowans can grow hemp but it is a tricky process (the percentage of TCH must be below certain levels or the crop must be destroyed) and she did note that even though hemp production was only made legal a few years ago, there is a "glut" of hemp (much more than the demand requires). She has given herself the unofficial title of "hemp Czar". Thanks to Robin for a very interesting and informative discussion!



Brian Mehlauch with State Entomologist Robin Pruisner

SEE YOU NEXT WEEK!