



Club Number 3371, District 6540, Chartered June 17, 1944
January 14, 2008

President Christina Dougherty presided at the meeting, led the Pledge of Allegiance and the Four Way Test. **Doug Busby** gave the invocation. **Leigh Morris** led us in singing "Sitting on Top of the World".

Queen of Hearts – Tim Gropp had the lucky number but did not find the Queen.

Happy \$'s – Were contributed by **Christina Dougherty, Jeanne Howell, Andy Serafin, Charlie Nye, and Nancy Nelson-Taylor**

Sergeant-at-Arms Andy Serafin asked "What season has just begun?" Answer "Pothole Season"

Chili Fundraiser – Saturday, February 2 – County Fairgrounds – 11am to 4pm

Jon Salisbury, chair of this event, encouraged Rotarians to sign up to work at this event and to sell-sell-sell those tickets. **Lily Ake and Christina Dougherty** are asking Rotarians to bring baked goods, pre-packaged with 3 cookies per paper plate on that day. If you have cookers you can lend for that day, please contact **Joe Goepfrich**. Each member is responsible for selling 15 adult and 5 children's tickets, or for contributing the \$110 amount on or before Monday, January 28. This event provides major exposure for Rotary of La Porte and is one of its primary fundraisers.

Rotary Foundation – Linda Knoll, Chair "Every Year – Every Rotarian -- \$100"

At this point \$2630 has been contributed toward the \$4200 goal for the 2007/2008 year. Deadline for each Rotarian's contribution this year is June 30.

Program – Leigh and Marcia Morris – Recognition

Matt Cook, Human Resources Director for the City of La Porte, introduced Leigh Morris, former Mayor and newly-appointed executive for the Indiana Toll Road and the Regional Development Association and Rotarian, as a leader who was both "humbling" and "rewarding" to work for – "humbling" because Mayor Morris could out-work and out-think most employees half his age, and "rewarding" because he was such a great leader and encouraged staff to meet every day with energy and enthusiasm.

Morris centered his comments on three critical issues for the city of La Porte – Community, Leadership, and Future. La Porte is important to each of us and we want it to be vibrant and healthy – a great place to live, work and do business! In order for La Porte to achieve that goal it needs excellent community involvement and leadership. Changes over the past 25 years have resulted in the loss of many of the better-paying jobs, and the changes in La Porte's ethnic diversity have brought new opportunities and challenges. Committed and involved leadership has never been more needed or in shorter supply. Without strong leadership, La Porte will experience an irresistible pull toward mediocrity. About the future, he asked, "Will we do what is needed? Where will leadership come from? If we don't do it, who will? If it doesn't develop, how will we survive?" Rotarians responded to his message by giving Leigh and Marcia Morris a standing ovation in appreciation for their enthusiasm, dedication, and service to the city of La Porte.

MEMBERS PRESENT: LILIANA AKE, MIKE ARNETT, ED ARNOLD, JIM BLINT, DOUG BUSBY, RON CMIEL, CHRISTINA DOUGERTY, RON GIGLIOTTI, TIM GROPP, JUDY HAMILTON, CINDY HARTZELL, BILL HEDGE, JEANNE HOWELL, BILL KOLASH, YVONNE LINDBORG, ROY MCNEAL, LEIGH MORRIS, CHARLIE NYE, DALE PARKISON, NORM JUDAY, JOHN PROVAN, DAVE REES, JON SALISBURY, MIKE SEITZ, ANDY SERAFIN, ED VOLK. **PROPECTIVE MEMBER:** DEB VARNAK, LA PORTE SAVINGS BANK **VISITING ROTARIAN:** RITA DAGYS FROM MICHIGAN CITY CLUB **GUESTS:** MARCIA MORRIS, SISTER JUDIAN BREITENBACH, KAREN SOMMERS, BRUCE FISHER, MATT COOK