



The Cornpicker

Bulletin of Fairbury, IL Rotary Club

"Celebrate Rotary"

Fairburyrotary.com

2004 - 2005 Officers

President John Strong
 Pres. Elect Mike Petersen
 Vice President
 Sec/Treas Leroy McPherson
 Editor Leroy McPherson



DATE/TIME/

PLACE: March 8, 2005 - 12:00 Noon at McDonalds

ATTENDANCE: 22 plus Martin Steidinger & Don Rutledge (Normal Rotary)

SING-A-LONG: In The Good Old Summer Time & When The Saints Go Marching In

LOTTO: Mike Petersen & Tracy Taylor

ACTION ON THE AVENUES

CLUB SERVICE

Programs:

03-15 - P.C. Contest Students

03-22 - OPEN

03-29 - Bill Fugate - Cowboy Poet
WILL BE HELD AT MARCHELLONI'S
12:00 Noon (no steps)

04-05 OPEN

04-12 P.C.

04-19 John Tollensdorf, Jr.

AREA CLUB MEETINGS

| | | | |
|-------------|------------|-----------|---------------------|
| Bloomington | 12:00 Noon | Thursday | Elks Club |
| Gibson City | 6:45 a.m. | Wednesday | The Country Kettle |
| Gilman | 6:05 p.m. | Tuesday | Gilman Lounge |
| Lincoln | 11:50 a.m. | Wednesday | Elks Country Club |
| Normal | 12:00 Noon | Wednesday | Bone Student Center |
| Piper City | 6:15 p.m. | Monday | Azz Izz Tavern |

Bits & Pieces

The greatest griefs
 are those we cause ourselves

Sophocles (c.496-406B.C.), Playwright

4-Way Test

Of the things we think, say or do:

1. Is it the Truth?
2. Is it Fair to all concerned?
3. Will it build goodwill and better friendships?
4. Will it be beneficial to all concerned

Motor Fuel Taxes & Street Upkeep

Martin Steidinger, Leroy McPherson and Don Rutledge



As I looked around I realized that no one had a program. I had brought a tape but Mike said "go for it". So out of an unprepared presentation and with the help of my guest came this . . . The

three of us were out riding the streets of Fairbury trying to figure out what we needed to do to keep up our streets. The State and Federal government collects taxes from fuel you purchase. Some of this money is brought back to counties, townships and cities to maintain their streets. State, county, and township get a certain amount of dollars per mile they maintain. Cities get paid per their population. We get about

\$28/person this year. Every year we have to look at the streets and decide if we need to put new oil and chips on our oil roads and what we need to do with our concrete and black top streets. There are several types of materials that can be used. By the high school, we use a non tracking type of oil to prevent problems in the school with oil, etc. Blacktop and concrete take special care. Don took over and discussed the procedures required by the state and the paperwork involved just to spend our money. He touched on moisture and what it does to oil, blacktop and concrete streets, the importance of a ditch and the separation of storm water and sewer. Martin is very important in the preparation of the streets before maintenance is performed. We touched on other items considered to be spent from this account and how Fairbury has geared up to spend this money only for street repair and or maintenance. As you all can see I am poor at taking notes while talking. I want to thank Don and Martin for their help and expertise.

BITS & PIECES

The Receiving End

Eric had a knack for cutting costs. For years he managed one of the largest departments at a manufacturing plant. His team always met its goals with money to spare. But Eric's subordinates loathed him and referred to him as the "Angel of Death" behind his back.

The productivity of his workforce was not fueled by motivation, but fear. They knew that every quarter, Eric would find a way to eliminate at least one job from their department, two if he felt that they could still meet their goals.

Through job cuts and reorganization, Eric was determined to make his department a lean, mean production machine. He was confident that his plan could be a model for the other departments, so Eric shared his views with several peers who eagerly adopted his method.

At the end of the fiscal year, Eric had a scaled-down crew of 10 employees who pumped out the same volume of work that had

previously taken 25 people to accomplish. The other department heads who followed Eric's strategy had similar results to report.

Upper management was so impressed by the efficiency of the new smaller workforce that they eliminated all of the midlevel management positions. Eric was shocked! His managers obviously had no appreciation for him and everything he'd done for the organization.

However, now that Eric had received a dose of his own medicine, he stopped to consider how his management choices had impacted his workers. How undervalued they must have felt, knowing their jobs were in jeopardy every few months for the sake of a larger profit margin. Eric finally realized that the real bottom line was more about people and less about profits.

Adopted from Don't Sweat The Small Stuff at Work
Richard Carlson, Hyperion