



# The Cornpicker

Bulletin of Fairbury, IL Rotary Club

*Fairburyrotary.com*



2008 - 2009 Officers

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**DATE/TIME/** January 27, 2009  
**PLACE:**

**ATTENDANCE:** 26 plus Josh Smith, Daton Kuperschmid, Scott Altorfer & Norm Rittenhouse

**LOTTO:** K. Bahler & Daton Kuperschmid

## ACTION ON THE AVENUES

### CLUB SERVICE

**Programs:**

- 2/03 - OPEN
- 2/10 - OPEN
- 2/17 - Terry Casson - Brian Barnhart
- 2/24 - CARES Clowns & H.S. CAPTAINS
- 3/03 - OPEN
- 3/10 - P.C. Music
- 3/17 - 3/31 - OPEN

### Quips & Quotes

*There may be obstacles, but keep going because the struggle is continuous...Rachel Robinson*

### 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

### PRAIRIE THUNDER HOCKEY TEAM HOSTING A FAIRBURY COMMUNITY NIGHT



Bloomington Prairie Thunder Hockey Team will host a Fairbury Night, **Feb. 21st at 7:05** at the u.S. Cellular Coliseum. There will be special in-game activities featuring the City of Fairbury. All activities will feature local residents. Mayor Walter will do the puck drop and the high school pep band will perform. There will be a puck shoot at intermission. We will also have a "Fairbury Table" set up on the Concourse Level at center ice. The table would spotlight the City of Fairbury and the Fairbury Businesses who have sponsored money toward the price of tickets. Many of the sponsoring businesses will be giving away items or gift certificates. It will be a fun filled family evening and I encourage you to join us. Questions? Call City Hall @ 815-692-2743 or the Chamber @ 815-692-3899 (Tues & Thurs 8-2).

# NEW ELECTRIC MOTOR & PATENTS

## Norm Rittenhouse & Scott Altorfer



Norm noted there are three ways of realizing new wealth - Mining, agriculture or manufacturing. The Fairbury area looks at it through small innovating businesses. Since its beginning, the patent office has given out 7 million. Since 1973, 53 patents have been given to /Fairbury citizens. Norm said an inventor is like a cook. Norm started with diesel electric river boats and looking at fuel efficiency. The last 8 years he has been working on this project. Finally, the materials came about to make it happen with Neo Dynamic magnets and new switching. This allows them to make the motor and put it into the wheel. He has made 5 prototypes and has received 4 patents. He did notice at age 65 they do expedite the patents in one year instead of four years. This invention can be a wheel motor or used in wind turbins. Gear boxes are the problems in a wind mill. This unit

is a direct drive and requires no gear boxes. They are having the proto-types built in town by Double M Machine.

Scott Altorfer is in charge of marketing. He used to be with the Altorfers Implement and flew an F-14 in the service. This is revolutionary technology. The name of this unit is "Rittenhouse Drive". Current motors run at 1800 R.P.M. through a gear box and they tend to break down. Norm has invented a wheel motor that gives you full power and torch from zero up. The motors will actually be the wheels for a truck. There is no transmission to worry about. This is the final drive. It is all run on REOSTATS. This motor has a flat torch curve. This also eliminates the needs of brakes. Everything will run through a computer to eliminate drive lines. These motors are very efficient at 98%+. Norm noted that a patent is like a title to a car - once you get it, it is yours.

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## Bits & Pieces

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### When you're right . . .

College Athletic Director Dave Hart gives us a good example of why we should never allow doubt and peer pressure to sway our belief in what we know is right.

When Hart was in elementary school, he was called on to give an answer in class. Afterward, the teacher turned to the other students and asked them whether Hart's answer was correct. Some of Hart's classmates agreed with his answer while others did not.

A discussion followed. The teacher made arguments against Hart's answer. To the students who supported him, the teacher suggested that more time be taken to think the answer through. One by one, all the students who had initially agreed with Hart changed their answers to the opposing view.

The teacher then asked Hart if he wanted to change his answer. Hart declined.

The teacher goaded him further. "Everyone in the class says you must be wrong," the teacher argued. Hart would not relent.

The teacher shocked the students when he next told them that Hart was, in fact, correct.

The lesson was clear: It's better to stand your ground when you know you're right and not be cowed by popular opinion.

It's a lesson Hart has not forgotten - and one he enthusiastically passes along to the many students and athletes he works with. He says, "I think one of the most important things we can do in training young leaders is to praise them and encourage them when they make tough decisions and demonstrate the courage to not follow the crowd."

Adapted from Souls of Steel  
Pat Williams with Jim Denney