



NOON FORMATIONSM

Newsletter of the Rotary Club of Hudson, Wisconsin

ROTARY CLUB OF HUDSON, WISCONSIN

Established 1951

NOON CLUBSM

<http://hudsonrotaryclub.org>

11 August, 2011

VISITORS LAST WEEK

Hudson Daybreak Rotary
Dean Knudson

UPCOMING PROGRAMS

August 11- Senator Herb Kohl

UPCOMING BIRTHDAYS

Waiting for 24 August

This year's theme & logo



Legislative Update

Dean Knudson from the Hudson Daybreak club has been on the job in Madison for several months, during a legislative session what was unprecedented in many ways. We heard stories of both the good and bad sides of government – from the “phenomenal experience” of a 61 hour floor debate on a bill, to reports of some very bad personal behavior – which took place not in the areas in and around the capitol building packed with citizenry, but on the floor of the assembly chamber. We also heard a story about the “scrum” outside the capitol, which required a six person police escort to progress through the crowds. The extreme interest in the legislative activities resulted in a flood of visitors, voicemail, and email, which led to the hiring of two student interns – and even then it was not possible to keep pace.

On the issue of collective bargaining, Dean showed us a handout used at his recent listening sessions, comparing the state and federal and private sector approaches. Since Dean is a self-described “geek / nerd / numbers guy” quite a bit of time was spent on the steps taken to balance the budget, with views on where the state budget is spent, and how revenues are collected.



Visit Prep

Our meeting this week has a visit scheduled by our senior U.S. Senator, Herb Kohl. According to Wikipedia, Senator Kohl has long supported amending the U.S. Constitution to require a balanced budget, so we should hear quite a bit about recent budget negotiations in Washington, D.C. He initially ran on the slogan “Nobody's Senator But Yours” and has won each of his elections by an increasing larger margin:

- 1988 – 52%
- 1994 – 55%
- 2000 – 62%
- 2006 – 67%

He will not run in 2012, saying in 2011 that “The office doesn't belong to me. It belongs to the people of Wisconsin, and there is something to be said for not staying in office too long.”

Senator Kohl graduated from UW-Madison in 1956, and helped grow and run the family grocery and department store business through years before his senate career started. He purchased the Milwaukee Bucks in 1985, and in 1995 made a \$25M gift for construction of a sports arena on the UW-Madison campus, the largest gift to date to the University of Wisconsin System. Kohl Center opened in 1998, and has hosted many events, including the Jeopardy! College Championship in 2008.

According to the Senator's web site, he serves on these committees:

Appropriations, Judiciary, Banking.

Major areas of interest are serving as an advocate for children's issues, defending Wisconsin's farming tradition, helping America's manufacturers, and chairs the Special Committee on Aging. Senator Kohl also hosts Constituent breakfasts each Wednesday at 9 AM while the Senate is in session.

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Past President, * Paul Harris Fellow; Officers/Board: ¹ President ² President Elect/Sgt-At-Arms ³ Immediate Past President ⁴ Club Service ⁵ Community Service ⁶ Vocational Service ⁷ International Service ⁸ Program Director ⁹ Webmaster ¹⁰ Newsletter Co-Editors ¹¹ Membership ¹² President Elect Nominee ¹³ Youth Protection Office

THE 4-WAY TEST (first adopted by Rotary in January 1943): 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?

Meetings: Every Thursday (except holidays) at 12:00PM Central Time (Noon) @ Hudson Golf Club on Carmichael Road, Hudson, Wisconsin
 Known in Hudson as the Noon Club . Club #2177 - in District #5960, Rotary Zone #27, Rotary Area #8. Established 1951.
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Our Mission Hudson Rotary is a fellowship of engaged members, generous in spirit, committed to improving the world around us.

Our Vision We are a growing and diverse club of active and involved members. Our meetings offer fun, fellowship, and programs that are informative and inspirational. The ideals of the four-way test are encouraged by open communication among the board of directors, club members and the community. Our leadership structure fosters continuity of club goals. We are dedicated to helping people and non-profit organizations through focused local and international projects. Our club mentors local youth. We support international exchange students and programs. All members are encouraged to contribute to the Rotary Foundation and become Paul Harris Fellows. Above all, our members live Rotary's motto—Service Above Self.