



**Waunakee
Rotary
Club**

**July 16, 2009
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If successful, an endowment challenge started by the Madison Community Foundation would help the Waunakee Library provide the “icing on the cake” it is unable to provide now, director Susan Hedrick told the Waunakee Rotary Club’s July 9 meeting.

Hedrick said the Waunakee Public Library Forever Fund, the name of the endowment, was one of three such projects proposed in the county by the Madison Community Foundation last December.

The endowment would allow the library to provide different children’s programming, purchase equipment to digitize collections, bring in speakers and authors and other similar things they have been unable to do in the past, she said.

The best thing about the endowment is that it is an ongoing resource.

“It’s a gift that would give on to the community forever,” Hedrick said.

In 2008, 150,000 visitors stopped into the library and 260,000 materials were checked out.

“For a community of 10,000 that’s pretty impressive,” Hedrick said.

And so far the community has been supporting the drive to raise \$100,000 and receive a \$50,000 match from the Madison Community Foundation, donating and pledging \$23,000 so far.

Hedrick welcomed Bob Sorge from the Madison Community Foundation to tell more what the foundation does and what it’s doing.

Sorge said the Madison foundation is similar to the Waunakee Community Foundation and is actually working in tandem with them on this project. The Madison foundation has been around since 1942, Sorge said, and has built up a trust of about \$100 million to build assets and build

endowments to support those assets around the Dane County community.

The foundation has assisted groups in the Waunakee area in the past, including the Wisconsin Center for Music Education and Schumacher Farm, he added.

In the past, the foundation was looking for projects and decided to help the county’s 26 libraries and the bookmobile build their collections, Sorge said. But instead of having every library duplicate each other’s collection, the foundation gave \$27,500 to each library to develop a unique niche collection, he said.

Waunakee’s collection focuses on Wisconsin, while Verona’s collection, build by Hedrick, focuses on art and architecture.

After the success of that project, the foundation thought that libraries also needed support for operations. And that’s how the idea for \$50,000 challenge grants came into existence.

Three libraries were selected because of their leadership and need, Sorge said. Because of the foundation’s previous work with Hedrick in Verona, they selected Waunakee for one of the three grants because they were confident in her leadership abilities to lead a successful campaign in the village.

The goal is to raise \$100,000 by Dec. 31, but because of the dismal state of the economy throughout the campaign, the foundation will match every dollar not only donated but pledged through the end of the year, Sorge said.

The foundation accepts gifts in practically any form, he said, from electronic fund transfers and credit cards to real estate and charitable gift annuities. Typically they don’t accept personal property, Sorge said, but they did take a lawnmower last year.

Other items:

OFFICERS

TOM REIS, PRESIDENT • BRENT ZIEGLER, PRESIDENT ELECT
PHIL WILLEMS, CLUB SECRETARY
BOB PULVERMACHER, RECORDING SECRETARY • AL DASSOW, TREASURER

DIRECTORS

DAN MUXFELD • JOHN CULLEN • LINDA OLSON

Calendar of Events:

- July 23-26 – Waunafest.
- July 27-28 – Service Club Olympics.

• Lori Derauf was presented with a watch from the club for her past service on the board.

• Connie Blau reported that the Rotary Picnic went well and almost 150 seniors were served.

Guests: Travis Heiser, guest of Brent Ziegler; Katie Kennedy, guest of Michael Ableidinger; Helen Ecklund, guest of Shelley Moffatt.

Visiting Rotarians: Bob Jorge, Madison Downtown; Matt Wahoske, Madison Downtwon.

Birthdays: None.

Anniversaries: July 17, Allan and Lynn Dassow; July 17, Roberta Baumann and Tim Brubaker.

Prayers: July 16, Pat Durden; July 23, Susan Vergeront; July 30, Leonard Allen.

Programs: ???

Greeters: July 16, Joyce Maly and Traci Mann; July 23, David May and Joy McMurty.

**Make up
meetings online**

It’s easy to make up a meeting on the Internet. The site is www.rotaryclubone.org. Print out the form and give it to Phil Willems, the club secretary.