

# Rotary



# Greater Portage County

Newsletter: December 14, 2018

## Greetings Rotarians and Friends!

Thanks to all who attended last Wednesday's Entrepreneurship and Membership Event and to Cara, Layne, and Mindy for presenting their inspiring and informative stories. It really was a nice evening! Mary and I have been enjoying the Tart Cherry Shrub from [Siren Shrub](#)--which is still available, along with many other cool locally-made products, at [Agora Makers Market](#)! Check out our [Facebook](#) page for more photos from Wednesday.



Mindy and Layne



Cara

## This Week--Sharing Joy

This week we welcome Jose Saul Vasquez, a UWSP student from El Salvador. Saul will talk about a project he started in 2013. Sharing Joy benefits children with disabilities and their families in El Salvador. Among other things, Sharing Joy provides toys for children at Christmastime. More information is attached.



We meet at 7:00 am Friday at MSTC (map [here](#)) in the Community Engagement Room and are done by 8:00. You are welcome to join us!

### **Toys For Tots**



Next Monday, December 17, is Box Collection Day. The schedule is filling up, but we are still in need of additional help. Contact [Joe](#) (or see him Friday) if you are available and not yet signed up. It's been a great TFT Season. Let's finish strong!



### **Little Stuff ...**

Barb is on for coffee pick-up Friday, right Barb? (Welcome back!)

We are off the following two weeks--Dec 21 and Dec 28. Club members, we will also talk about January 4 on Friday. I will be traveling that week. If someone wants to step up and host our meeting, let me know Friday. Otherwise, we will cancel and reconvene Friday, January 11, with a RYE student program. I'm OK with that. It's been a very active period for us and a break is OK.

Hope to see you Friday!

Bill

Bill Fehrenbach  
Rotary Club of Greater Portage County  
2018-19 President



Sharing Joy is a social venture in memory of the founder's sister to help people with disabilities and families with low income in Osicala, El Salvador. It was awarded in 2013 by the Resolution Project in the Clinton Global Initiative, class 5.

Jose Saul Vasquez is the president and founder of this organization. He is from a small community in Osicala, El Salvador. He grew up working in order to pay expenses for elementary school. He attended high school with a scholarship and discovered his leadership abilities. His dreams were big, but the resources were not enough. He didn't give up, and after hard work, he was awarded a scholarship to study business management at Northcentral Technical College, Wausau Wisconsin. He graduated with honors and received the Presidential Service Award by President Barack Obama for his leadership and enthusiasm to help others.

In 2013, he returned to El Salvador and founded his non-profit organization with 30 more members. Sharing Joy has provided mobility equipment, inclusion awareness, distribution of grocery baskets, cloth delivery and toys for Christmas. Jose Saul was part of a tourist committee that won two national contests. It leads him to a governmental job in the Ministry of tourism. After turning his idea into a Non-Profit Organization and contributing to the tourism field in his country. Decided to seek new challenges and continue his higher education.

Currently, he is achieving his bachelor's degree in business administration at the University of Wisconsin Stevens Point. He works for the School of Business and economic as Professional Pointer Event Assistance.

Jose Saul believes that even the smallest act of caring for another person is like a drop of water - it will make ripples through the entire pond. Quote by Jessy and Bryan Matteo

*Sharing Joy*