Rotary Foundation Gala a Success!

Over 130 Rotarians and guests attended the Rotary District 6290 Rotary Foundation Seminar & Gala at Castle Farms in Charlevoix on November 12. The day and evening were filled with educational and inspirational presentations on Our Rotary Foundation.

During the afternoon seminar, Janet Newcomer, Rotary Foundation Major Gifts Officer, provided an update on The Rotary Foundation activities and programs. PDG Neil McBeth from District 6400, a Future Vision pilot district, provided a comprehensive presentation on Future Vision, including the inner-workings of the program, how grants are applied for, the six areas of focus and the education process involved in the changes. His details were instrumental in assisting our Rotarians in learning about the upcoming changes. The seminar also included great presentations on GSE, Grants, PolioPlus, Ambassadorial Scholarships and Opportunities to support TRF.

And then off to a fun and enjoyable evening of Rotary fellowship, sharing and fun! The Gala was so special with the tremendous support of so many Rotarians and friends from throughout the District. **With the combination of our sponsorships, basket raffle, PolioPlus “This Close” photo fundraiser, live auction and registrations; we raised over $14,000 for The Rotary Foundation! Great job and many thanks to all!!!** And to top it off an inspirational message from Ambassadorial Scholar Dr. Alice Chapman and Past Rotary International President Ray Klinginsmith.

So many Rotarians, clubs and businesses contributed to the success. Thank you to the following for their support:

**Gold Sponsor:** GMB Architecture & Engineering, Holland and Grand Rapids

**Silver Sponsor:** Bay Winds Federal Credit Union

**Basket Donors:**

**Auction Donors:**
- Lilac Tree Hotel and Pink Pony Restaurant on Mackinac Island, Wal-Mart, Detroit Lions, Wendell and Helen Christoff, Drs. Jane and Bill Millar, Chris Etienne and Dennis Lindeman, Ray Klinginsmith, Linde Furniture and Rotary Club of Cadillac.

A hard working group of Rotarians put these events together. Many thanks to PDG Bob Gandolfi, Diane Gandolfi, Barb Darrigan, Jackie Taylor, PDG Chuck Vonesh, Gernot Runschke, Ginny Ryan, DGN Jim White, DGE Lody Zwarensteyn, DG Jane Millar, AG Dianne Litzenburger, Kathy Hagedus, Kristy Beyer, Rotary Club of Charlevoix, Rotary Club of Petoskey, PDG Tim and Sue Knaggs, Charlevoix Cross Country Team, Howard Richards and Aaron and Amanda Wilkin.

Congratulations to our new Major Donors: Violet Rohrer, John Rohrer, RID Betsy and Ken Demaray, DGN Jim and Bobbie White. And a special recognition to our new Arch Klumpf Society members Wendell and Helen Christoff. Congratulations also to PDG Bob and Diane Gandolfi on their Bequest Society Level 3 recognition.

It was a special day to celebrate Our Rotary Foundation. Thank you so much to all who contributed to the success!