

# Rotary Express



Service Above Self

Rotary Club of Harrisonville - Rotary District 6080

www.harrisonvillerotary.com

May 9, 2007

## Please welcome the Lees to our club!



Karen and Brenda are the new owners of Cass County Color Center which is morphing to become the Lee Design Center. This new look for a long time business will merge a Benjamin Moore Signature Store with a Mohawk Carpet Color Center. The result will be a design center oriented to presenting flooring and wall covering solutions consistent with a total remodel or a needed touch up.

Karen and Brenda are sister-in-laws that found themselves in business when Greg

Lee, Karen's husband, purchased the Color Center to expand Midwest Environment. Then with the need to disburse inventory and take care of long time customers, he asked Karen and Brenda, a 20 year painting professional, to manage the store. However, these ladies took this project with the intention to upgrade the retail operations of Color Center with a total redesign of the business. The redesign will be completed by the end of the summer. In the meantime, don't hesitate to hurry in for the special gallon of paint for that weekend project.

Now that you know a little about their business, let's learn about the ladies. They are sister-in-laws. Until recently they lived on the family farm just outside Freeman. They love animals. While Karen concentrated on horses with her daughter, Kasey (24), and son, Taylor (17), Brenda has a passion for all critters – especially exotic cats and talking Macaws. Brenda is the grandma with her oldest daughter, Clarissa, carrying one and trying to corral 2 wild ones. With four children (2<sup>nd</sup> daughter Kaleena (24), works with mom at Lee Design), Brenda has balanced family and a painting business for years. Of course, her husband – Dan is there to help raise the kids and till the gardens. Gardening is another passion for Karen and Brenda, so anticipate lots of tomatoes, cucumbers and other greens soon.

Karen shares her love for water sports with her son, Taylor. He'll be a senior this coming year at Harrisonville. He's excited about playing quarterback and shooting the basketball since he had to sit out this past year with knee problems. Athletics runs in the family as Brenda's third daughter, Venessa (21), runs for Pittsburg State and her son, Travis, has just committed to Pittsburg to throw the javelin.

Karen is a second generation Rotarian. Her father, J.D. Frederick, is a long time member in the Wichita club. Brenda and Karen suggest we produce a membership directory with photo to help new members recognize members, what committees/projects we work on and what we do. A great suggestion: who volunteers to help build this directory? They have also volunteered to help with Operation Good Neighbor. Give them time to finish the Design Center and then they will be ready to join us on our many community projects.

Phil Klinkhardt

### Officers and Board Members 2006 - 2007

President: .....Tate Wood  
President-elect .... Phil Klinkhardt  
Vice-President .... Nancy Shelton  
Secretary ..... Jill Filer  
Treasurer:..... Lorene Wilson  
Sgt-at-Arms:..... Jim Corless  
Director:..... Dave Kauffman  
Director:..... Jim Murphy  
Director ..... Nancy Linthicum  
Past-President:.....Sam Styron

#### MEETINGS

Wednesdays at noon  
The Branding Iron  
in Landmark Plaza

#### THIS MONTH'S BIRTHDAYS

Pat Matthews 5/7

#### THIS MONTH'S ANNIVERSARIES

Richard Lloyd 5/14  
Jim Clayton 5/25

#### 4 WAY TEST

Is it the truth?  
Is it fair to all concerned?  
Will it build goodwill and better friendships?  
Will it be beneficial to all concerned?

#### UPCOMING PROGRAMS

May 9 Larry Chaney  
May 16 Jim Murphy  
May 23 Laurence Smith  
May 30 Lori Swopes  
June 5 Board and Classification  
June 12 ??????

#### Newsletter Contact Information

Helen Budinger  
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Proposed new members: Shannon Hudson ~ Boshann's Lawn Service ~~ Robert Belshe ~ Applebee's