



Future Editors

May 27

Dean Somerville

June 3

Roscoe Streytle

June 10

Buzz Syria

Greeters

May 24

Bruce Walker
Matt Watne

June 7

Thomas Wentz Jr
Richard White

June 14

Tom Will
Roger Winkle

Upcoming Programs

May 24

Ward County
Sheriff Candidates
Kevin Howe, Todd Keller
Steve Kukowski

May 31

NO MEETING

June 7

Bruce Christianson
David Olson
Trip to India

Four-Way Test Essay Contest By Steve Tonneson

As I shared at our Rotary Club Meeting last week, this year marks the 26th Annual District “Four-Way Test Essay Contest.” As seen on the banner hanging at our club meetings from week to week, the Rotary Four-Way Test is made up of the following questions:

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?**

The contest is open to all students in their junior and senior year in high school. This year we received a total of 28 essays from Minot High, Surrey, and Our Redeemer’s Christian School.

The topic of the essay can be whatever the student wishes to write about, but the essay must include the principles of the Four-Way Test as it would relate to the topic the student has chosen. The judging criteria are based on utilization and

application of the principles of the Four-Way Test, creativity, organization, language and grammar usage.



The winners of the local clubs are then forwarded to the regional level where the winner will receive an additional \$100. The winners of the six regional contests are forwarded to the district contest where the winner received an additional \$1,000.

Our club gives out \$250 for the first place winner, \$175 for second place, and \$100 for third place. This year’s winners were:

- 1st Place – Hannah Bechtold, MHS
- 2nd Place – Max Boeckel, ORCS
- 3rd Place – Kelsey Aspaas, MHS

Over the next two weeks Max Boeckel and Kelsey Aspaas’s essays will be printed in the *Prairie Flower* for you to enjoy.

Cheating In School By Hannah Bechtold

I look to my left and someone is squinting to read a cheat sheet. I turn to my right and answers are being whispered back and forth. This is a classic example of what happens every day in high schools across the United States: cheating.

Although cheating in schools, businesses, and relationships to name a few, I am going to focus on cheating that goes on during school. Since the world has many different opinions about whether or not cheating is moral, I am going to apply the Rotary Four-Way Test to cheating in school.

The first question we must ask is, “Is it the **Truth?**” When analyzing the preva-

lence of cheating in schools it is definitely true that cheating is a problem. In a study by the Educational Testing Service, 20% of college students admitted to cheating in high school during the 1940s. Today between 75-98% of college students admitted to cheating in high school.

In past years cheating was associated with great shame (“Academic...”) However, copying worksheets and whispering answers have not become a normal part of a teenager’s everyday life.

A Duke University study shows that 75% of students admit to cheating on exams and

Secretary's Corner Om Madhok

5/17/2010

PRESENT MEMBERSHIP: 102

ATTENDANCE: 64.6%

GUESTS: Ryan, guest of Robin Thompson-Gordon.

MAKEUP: M. Berg, J. Guidinger, T. Hinzpeter, S. Johnson, K. Kitzman, J. MacMartin, O. Madhok, W. McLees, T. Myre, R. Streyle, R. White and D. Zimmerman—Joint Rotary Conference, May 13-16, 2010.

We Missed You!

D. Albertson	J. Haaland	Jarid Lundeen
T. Aldrich	K. Harmon	B. Mattson
K. Baker	K. Hegle	M. McMahon
M. Berg	D. Hodnefield	W. Magaster
R. Buchholz	T. Hoff	J. Olson
D. Bausman	R. Horne	R. Olson
R. Campbell	J. Jensen	S. Podrygula
D. Davison	J. Khalifa	T. Rafferty
R. Dick	M. Klier	C. Sem
D. Dufner	A. Krause	D. Somerville
D. Ellingson	A. Kurth	B. Thomas
B. Fedorchak	F. Lien Jr	K. Turneau
J. Feist	D. Looyesen	T. Wentz Jr
M. Gaddie	G. Lumley	K. Wullweber

THINK LOGO WEAR

WE ARE AT

94%

THINK 100%

www.ruh.com

ohmitt@juno.com

Give item #, color, price
That's all it takes to order!



SUNRISE ROTARY
THURSDAY, 7:00 AM
Grand International

NO MEETING MONDAY, MAY 31st—MEMORIAL DAY

The Prairie Flower is the official publication of Rotary Club of Minot, Minot, North Dakota. It is published every Thursday. Annual membership dues for the year 2009-2010 in the Rotary Club of Minot, ND are \$588. 6/28/09 Om Madhok, Secretary.

John Kenney of Grangemouth Central, Scotland— President, Rotary Int'l
Ajoy Chatterjee of Thunder Bay, Ontario, Canada—Governor District 5580

The Rotary Club of Minot meets 12:00 to 1:10 p.m. every Monday at the Grand International of Minot.

Board of Directors: Reed Argent, President; Teal Myre, President-Elect; Ron Merritt, Vice-President; Om Madhok, Secretary; Dave Lehner, Treasurer; William McLees, Past President.

Directors: 2010 –Robert Dick and Brent Mattson; 2011—Mike Berg and Tom Will; 2012-Jen Guidinger and Dusty Zimmerman

Standing Members: Peter Hankla, Exchange Students, Ken Kitzman, Scholarship Fund; John MacMartin, and Rotary Foundation.

Birthdays

NONE



Anniversaries

May 27

Om & Urmila Madhok

SHA Park Volunteers

5:30-9:00 p.m.

Wednesday, May 26

Blaine DesLauriers
Kevin Harmon

Wednesday, June 2

Ken Kitzman
Roscoe Streyle

Fines

\$10.00 - Reed Argent

\$3.00 - Blaine DesLauriers

\$2.00

K. Krohn, and members of
Norwegian descent

\$1.00 each

Members of Scandavian descent, members whose relatives graduated from MSU, did not attend District Conference, did not know what happened on May 18, 1980, who are not Twins Fans and who were born after 1980.

TOTAL FINES:

\$167.00

Cheating in School *Cont'd from page 1*

90% admit to copying someone's paper. It used to be that only struggling students cheated, however, today there are more AP and honors students cheating.

Denis Pope, Adjunct Professor in School of Education at Stanford University found, "80% of honors and AP students cheat on a regular basis." One student claims, "There's so much pressure to get good grades, and to get good grades you have to cheat."

Cheating has become so prevalent because teenagers are under so much pressure for high grades (Pytel). Thus, cheating is definitely the truth in most schools.

The second question to analyze is, "Is it **Fair** to all concerned?" This question can be answered with a definite "No!" It is not fair to teachers or to the minority of students who do not cheat. In the perspective of a teacher, it is not fair because they spend so much of their time teaching a subject to students who don't listen. These students have now wasted the teacher's time and have jeopardized their own education.

Cheating is also unfair to other students who study so diligently yet still struggle to make a B. It is not fair that some students have to work so hard for their grades, and other students cheat and get an A. Those who have

cheated haven't put in any effort required to earn an A, yet that is the grade they will most likely get. Now that I have illustrated both teachers' and students' points of view, it is clear that cheating is not, by any means, fair to all concerned.

To continue examining cheating we must ask the third question, "Will it build **Goodwill** and **Better Friendships**?" In terms of building better friendships, the short term answer to this question is yes, however the long term answer is no.

In the short term the student who lets others cheat off his/her papers will acquire "friends." These new friends, however, are not true friends. Having all the friends and attention may be nice, but in the long run those friends will not be there. In the long term these so called friends will not stay around when they no longer need the answers.

Cheating also does not build goodwill. When a student decides to take the route of academic dishonesty his/her morality or goodwill has been compromised. The student will most likely get used to cheating and view as something trivial.

However, what is thought to be innocent cheating in high school can lead to more serious things like cheating on taxes, spouses, or job applications. Not only do people get into trouble for more serious cheating,

but they also hurt others. For instance, when a spouse cheats on their partner, the effects can be devastating. Thus, in order to build goodwill and better friendships, it is crucial not to cheat.

The final question in the Four-Way Test is, "Will it be **Beneficial** to all concerned?" Although students may think cheating is beneficial for them, it does not provide a solid understanding of what is being learned.

Cheaters may do well on simple worksheets and tests, however, when it comes time for difficult tests like the ACT or SAT they are not going to be successful. It may seem strange that schools which produce students with 4.0 GPAs don't have more Merit Scholars and high scorers on the ACT and SAT. There is an answer for this: cheating. Because no opportunities arise for students to cheat during these tests, they do not get very high scores even though they have good grades. From these examples it is apparent that cheating will not be beneficial to all concerned.

After evaluating cheating using the Rotary Four-Way Test, it is clear that partaking in academic dishonesty is not a good idea. We have found that cheating is a problem, is not fair to students or teachers, is not a builder of goodwill and better friendships, and is not beneficial to all concerned. Thus, cheating fails the Four-Way Test.

In order to lessen the prevalence of cheating in schools, we must stress how severe cheating is and make sure it has consequences. A study by the Josephson Institute of Ethics in Los Angeles found only 2% of cheaters get caught and of those only 1% get punished (Pytel).

All in all, when anybody is in a situation in which cheating is an option; they should remember that cheating won't benefit their morals or academics.

Works Cited:

Pytel, Barbara. "Cheating is on the Rise." classroom-issues.suite101.com 16 Sept. 2007 Web 16 Feb. 2010
"Academic Cheating Fact Sheet" ETS Research Center, Educational Testing Service, 1999. Web 16 Feb. 2010



Kelsey Aspaas, Max Boeckel, Steve Tonneson and Hannah Bechtold