A SUCCESSFUL ROTARY CLUB OF KIRKSVILLE ROTARACT-INTERACT FUNdraiser for HAITI! See cover email for details. Pictured: Sarah Spencer, North Star Rotary; Karina Belino, ATSU Rotaract Secretary; Dave Koenecke, North Star Rotary; Kate Bonham; Stephanie Finn, ATSU Rotaract Vice President; Tyler Marler, ATSU Rotaract President; Andrea O’Brien, Noon Rotarian and Mission Team Member; Melissa Stuart, ATSU Rotaract advisor, Rotaract-Interact Committee Chair, Noon Rotarian; Christine Thomas, ATSU Rotaract liaison to the Rotary Park Committee; Lynn McAlister, ATSU Rotaract Treasurer; Dylan Thomas, ATSU Rotaract First Year Representative; and Kate Peacock, TSU Rotaract President.

50-50 DRAWING: Jim Hughes did not pick the ace of spades. Pot now at $445.

ROTARY REMEMBERS: The Belize Project - Founded in 1995 under Mark Burger’s presidency, the effort was spearheaded by Paul Hunt and Kees Koutstall to supply materials for and to address speech and hearing disorders among the population. It led to our club’s first ever Carl M. Miller RI Discovery Grant. Later the program provided training to on-site personnel so they could become self-sufficient. Just another example of the difference we have made an still do. Bob Behnen and Ron Gaber both thanked Gary Lloyd for his service as club president in 2005-06.

THANK YOU’S: President Bob thanked Matt Heeren and John Gardner for the Mentor Program, Dale Schenewerk for the Literacy Program, and Ron Gaber and the Park Committee.

RUBY GREEN-FRANK BALDWIN FREE ENTERPRISE AWARD: Submit applications to Chair Mark Burger by March 26.

MARK LAUGHLIN ON THE HISTORY OF KIRKSVILLE’S YMCA: Mark provided an interesting historical slide program on the YMCA - from its first incarnation in 1896 to the opening of its new facility in 1987. It is noteworthy that the YMCA in Kirksville began in 1896 as a student organization at the Normal School to promote religious and social life among men. (The School of Osteopathy had such an organization as well.) It consisted of Sunday afternoon study sessions, book exchanges, quarterly socials, and lecture courses (Helen Keller gave a lecture in 1915 and William Jennings Bryan in 1924!) After the fire at Baldwin Hall in 1924, the organization disbanded for 35 years. In 1963, a steering committee was formed to reinstate the YMCA, particularly to reach school children. (Harriet Beard was on the committee.) The YMCA operated at several downtown locations which Mark covered in his slide show before a permanent home was constructed. John Schneider donated 14 acres of land near the school complex and there was a major campaign to raise funds for construction. A building site was dedicated in the Spring of 1984. The storefront years ended with the move into the new facility in 1987. What a fascinating history! Mark is pictured above with Rotarian Harriet Beard who introduced him.