SHOES FOR ORPHAN SOULS CARAVAN: The shoes were loaded for their trip to St. Joseph on Thursday. Pictured from left in left photo: President Tim, Melissa Stuart, DG Ralph, ATSU-Rotaract Secretary-Elect Lisa Bosch, Chair David Nichols, Dana Delaware and Michael McManis. In right photo, DG Ralph is shown trying to hitch a ride on John Gill’s truck. David said we raised over $500 for this effort and ATSU Rotaract raised $150.

50-50 DRAWING: Jim LeBaron did not pull the ace of spades; pot now up to $432.00.

DONNA DAVIDSON is proposed member (second announcement).

VEDANT PATIL, EXCHANGE STUDENT FROM INDIA

Chair Annette Sweet began by thanking the members of her committee and also the host families. She then introduced Vedant Patil, our exchange student from the city of Nashik, Maharashtra, India. Vedant said India has a population of 1.2 billion people, representing 17.5% of the world’s population. He spoke and showed photos of various festivals celebrating all the religions of his country. He also spoke about wedding traditions. Vedant attends Symbiosis school, located near his house. Students attend their first 10 grades there, then attend two years of college (11th and 12th grades), before attending a four-year graduate college (equivalent to our four-year college).

Vedant’s grandfather, a Rotarian, encouraged Vedant to apply for the Rotary Exchange Program and he is very happy he did. It was an adjustment for him coming from a large city to a city the size of Kirksville. He said he has had wonderful experiences with his three host families (first, the Pultz family, then the Gordons, and now the Dan & Darlene Jackson family). He amused us with the story of his long air trip from Mumbai to the United States; he arrived on August 26. Vedant expressed his appreciation of Annette, John Dungan and his host families and particularly wanted to thank Rotary for this experience of a lifetime. Pictured above are Counselor John Dungan, Chair Annette Sweet, Greg Gordon, Ana Pultz, President-Elect Jacob Condon, Vedant Patil, Vaughan Pultz, Darlene Jackson and Imogene Handley.