MARCH BIRTHDAYS AND CLUB ANNIVERSARIES READ, including 19 years of service by Jodie Gordon and 18 years by Ruth Bowers. We sang Happy Birthday, our second song of the day (another song sung during invocation).

ROTARY FOUNDATION PRESENTATIONS: Club Foundation Chair Jeff Romine presented engraved crystal recognition pieces and Bequest Society pins to Ralph Cupelli and Ruth Bowers for their Level 2 ($25,000-$49,999) giving via estate plans. He encouraged all of us to consider a bequest to the Rotary Foundation. Pictured from left are Jeff Romine, Ralph Cupelli, Ruth Bowers, and Ray Klinginsmith, Rotary Foundation Trustee Chair 2015-16. Contact Jeff <jeff.romine@gmail.com> or Ray <rayklaw@sbcglobal.net> for details if you would like to participate in the Centennial Legacy Dinner on April 30. District 6040 hopes to raise $2.65 Million from individual donations of at least $10,000.

HOST FAMILIES NEEDED FOR GSE TEAM FROM PARAGUAY/URUGUAY: Debi Boughton is looking for families to house team members for two or three nights in late April/early May. The dates are not confirmed yet but contact Debi <debi.boughton@visitkirksville.com> if you would like to help. She said it is a great experience.

NOMINATIONS SOUGHT FOR FOUR WAY TEST AWARD: See form and list of prior recipients attached to cover email. The deadline for nominations is March 17.

STEVE ELLIS ON “WETLAND MANAGEMENT”

In Wes Roper’s introduction, we learned that our fellow member Steve, a KHS graduate, attended Missouri Southern University in Joplin, Missouri and moved back to Kirksville in the mid-90’s. He worked with his family at Simpson Printing Company which merged in 2008 with Slaughter Printing to form S&S Printing and Graphics; he became sole owner of S&S in 2014. Steve has been an avid outdoorsman all his life and in 2015 he and his wife Melissa purchased some hunting ground in Livingston County (north of Chillicothe) which allowed him to pursue a new passion: Wetland Management under Wetlands Reserve Program (WRP). WRP is a voluntary Federal program offering landowners the opportunity to protect, restore and enhance wetlands on their property. There are currently 2.3 million acres in the program. Wetlands represent only 5% of all U.S. land. Once property becomes part of WRP, it remains there forever; although ownership can change hands, the land cannot be put back in production.

50-50 Drawing: David Nichols did not pull the ace of spades; pot now up to $305.

Guests:
Terry Combs (guest of Ray Klinginsmith)
Amanda Langendoerfer [proposed member (1st announcement)/guest of club]

Make Up Meetings at 1000 Hills club - NE Regional Medical Center cafe (Thursdays at 7 a.m.) or North Star club - Wooden Nickel (Tuesdays at 5:15 p.m.)

Upcoming Programs:
March 6-10: Literacy/Readings
March 8: Jacob Condon/TSU Press
March 10: BDay Party & Centennial Kick Off/Dukum
March 15: Parks & Recreation Tax
March 22: Youth Recognition Banquet/NO NOON MTG.
March 29: TBA
April 5: Zac Erwin/MU Ext. Livestock Specialist