Rotary Intro talk:

You all have been having a little fun at my expense as I take the presidency. I’ll remind you that you just gave microphone carte blanche to a pastor. May God have mercy on your souls.

1. Thanks to Devin: an excellent steward, a great Rotarian, an excellent citizen of GL, and a good man. You are deeply appreciated by all of us for the work you did the past year.

2. Thanks to all of you who have been president through the years. The club continues to thrive, and I inherit a presidency that has been influenced by the decisions and direction as each of you led in your time. Thanks for always leaving it in better shape than you found it. (Except Ron, who liked to spend)

3. Thanks to each of you for Every Rotarian Every year. This sets our club significantly apart, and I’m glad that we do it. At PETS, they talked about the eradication of Polio. There are projects for books, scholarships, Parks, community needs. You make that possible.

4. Thanks to each of you who serve in the various projects we take on: participation in 5 grand feast, chili cookoff, pavilion, stuff the bus, and other things. You make Grand Ledge a better place.

5. Special thanks to Tammy B., secretary, and Todd Baum, treasurer. Those are time consuming jobs and they have done them year after year. (Linda M. on youth, as well). Those three give continuity to the club that I think is helpful – we don’t ALL have to learn new things every year.

6. Upcoming programs:

7/6 Bill Archer, Roger as sarge.

7/13 Deb Lyon, Ron as sarge (thanks Ron)

7/20 Brian Metcalf, Ken as sarge

7. Rotary board: Lemke as prez, Rich Martzke prez elect and club Admin, Tammy Beson secretary, Devin L. Immediate past president, Todd Baum Treasurer, Brian Metcalf Foundation, Barb Frazier Service Projects, Tim W. as membership and pres nominee, Craig Parks Public Image, and Linda Mulder Youth services.

8. Goals: Members: 53. Annual fund: 6300. (ev rot ev year, plus Paul Harris Fellow)

9. Rotary challenges:

A. How do we change and grow younger. Spencer, Drew, glad you’re joining us. Hope you will help us understand some of this, and how we should change. We don’t need to recapture the glory days – we need to figure out, as a club, what the future will look like. That’s a long conversation, we’ve been having it, and we need to continue it.

B. Gender and racial diversity. Be welcoming.

C. Be club that embraces new members. We do that well, not all clubs do. Continue to welcome and embrace.